

Parks and Rec Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2017 6:00 PM

Harvey Government Center

Minutes recorded by Chris Rivera Monroe County Project Management

Meeting began at 6:00 PM

Board Members in attendance:

Steve Miller

Jim Boilini

Margie Smith

Gayle Glover

Board Members not present:

Bob Mock

Media Present:

None

Monroe County was represented by:

Chris Rivera- Project Manager

Johnnie Yongue- Project Management

Patricia Eables- County Attorney

There were 2 members of the public in attendance

Meeting Minutes:

- Meeting began with review of previous minutes being accepted. Motion made by Dr. Bolini and Seconded by Margie Smith. All approved.
- Chris Rivera discussed Board members stepping down from with the Board. Informed board that they need to request to leave the board in writing.
- Steve Miller asked to move the presentation from Coach Peter Triado to a later time as he was not present. All approved.
- Johnnie Yongue asked the Board members to review a scope of work for the possibility of hiring a manager to run programs out of the Bernstein Park.

Discussion- Margie mentioned that there needed to be child care as a priority as it is much needed for working parents. After school programs and programs for vacation and school closed days.

Gayle – Liked the thought of a manager having kids programs. Want to include the adults as this is a community center also. Had some concerns about a manager prioritizing their events and not allowing the community to have full use of the facility.

Diane Beruldsen, a member of the audience spoke about the park. Diane is the president of the International Women's Flag Football Association. Diane made a strong suggestion of not giving the management position to organizations like the Boys and Girls club and the YMCA. She did speak of the need for someone at the park to prevent vandalism. Diane wanted to say that a person such as she should run the park. She is planning on responding to the RFP/RFQ.

In addition, she said that construction is moving quickly but they need to do a better job keeping the dust down.

Parking is an issue in the neighborhood. Diane asked why residents couldn't park in the parking lot overnight. There is a new low income development that does not have enough parking. It would help with when the neighbors have parties. It was explained that there was no overnight parking at the park and when the park closes all vehicles should be removed. Diane suggested that the neighborhood residents could have stickers and be able to park in the lot at night.

Lastly, she asked if there was going to be a walking/running path at the park since there was one before. Johnnie Yongue responded and said Yes there will be a path. Dr. Bolini initially made a motion to proceed with an RFP to obtain a manager for the park. Gayle seconded the motion. The board had further discussion to not have the proposed scope be an RFP. Their recommendation is to put out a RFQ and choose from the qualified respondents and then negotiate a price with the best qualified respondent.

Dr. Bolini amended his previous motion to have Project Management proceed with the RFQ.

Margie Smith seconded.

All approved.

Coach Peter Triado gave a presentation on the Sugarloaf School Athletic Area/Park to the board. He asked that the board recommend further developing the Sugarloaf school park. The County could add exercise stations along the pathway and add a basketball court and some vegetation. He believes there is an ILA between the county and the school board for the park that is out of date and probably needs to be updated. Patricia Eables said she will look into the ILA. Coach proposed that the county would be able to split the funding with the school board to get this done. The Board asked if this is on school property how can it be a public park. Coach asked if it can be used after school for the public. The board said that is a hard sell and asked Patricia if it is possible to have an ordinance to only have this park be used during non-school hours. Patricia said she will look into it. Coach finished by stating that the Sugarloaf community needs a park and is supportive of the idea. Coach also advised that an architect is preparing some conceptual designs.

Discussion of Park ordinances were brought to the board as a walk on and the Board approved.

Discussion of Palm Villa park ordinance allowing dogs at the park. Project Management suggested that if the portion of the current Big Pine Park dog ordinance could be used for Palm Villa Park, then it would simplify the process. The Board agreed.

Bernstein Park- Change the park hours. Board agreed to have park hours be 7am to 10pm.

Pets in the park-Currently there are no pets allowed by ordinance. Discussion followed. It is an athletic field and you can't clean up all the dog waste said Dr. Bolini. What happens if someone does not clean up after their dog and there is a game scheduled. Should park staff have to clean up after people? Board recommended to leave it as No Pets. Children's play area-Project Management recommended an ordinance similar to Higgs Beach. No one over the age of 14 allowed in the play area without the accompaniment of a child under 14. Board agreed. Bathrooms. Have the inside bathrooms mirror the operational hours of the community center. Leave the downstairs bathroom open during Park hours. Board agreed.

Parking. The board did not want to change this parking ordinance at this time.

Dr. Bolini made a motion to adopt the approved ordinance as stated.

Margie Smith seconded.

All approved.

Review of the parks.

- Reynolds Street Pier is at 95% drawings and starting permitting.
- The sand re-nourishment at Higgs Beach is being drawn up by TYLinn Engineering. It is for above and below mean high water.
- Atlantic Street relocation has 100% drawings done and is in permitting
- Pines Park- Working on parking lot drainage between the park and the East Martello.
- Bernstein Park update was given by Johnnie Yonnuge. Park is moving along the fields have been raised. Irrigation is going in. The community center is just about done with concrete work.
- Gulf View Park- Received FBIP Grant to construct new accessory pier. Have not received funding as of yet
- Palm Villa Park- Legal is reviewing the policy on allowing dogs at this park
- Blue Heron Park- Looking into placing pickle ball courts at this park. Dr. Bolini spoke and asked why not just make the whole basketball court pickle ball. No one uses those courts. Dr. Bolini made a motion to have Project Management remove basketball and have only pickleball. Margie Smith seconded.

All approved.

- Big Pine Swimming Hole- Construction documents about 95% complete. Working with County to change the zoning to allow it to become a park. Starting the permit process
- Watson Field Park- Renovations being done to the Bark Park. Permitting to place pavers for a wet area for the dogs.
- Veterans Memorial Park- Existing Aerobic Sewer system will be taken over, upgraded, maintained and operated by the FCAA as part of the County wide sewer project. A flag pole is being added and discussion was held on the various flags to fly. Dr. Bolini made a motion to include a POW/MIA flag. Margie seconded. All approved.
- Harry Harris Park- Obtained a FBIP Grant for replacement of the ramp above mean high water. Have not received funding as of yet.
- Rowell's Waterfront Park- Contracting with S&ME, formerly known as Little John Engineering, for the design.
- Rowell's Bathroom- Have received \$247,000 from the TDC for the design and demolition of the existing building at the park.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM