

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
Minutes  
October 7, 2009**

**Board Attendance Record**

Bill Coy (56/67)  
William Dryburgh (67/73)  
Eugene Leapley (42/46)  
Maria Greenberg (3/4)

**Present**

Bill Coy  
William Dryburgh  
Eugene Leapley  
Maria Greenberg

**County Representatives**

John Jackson, Director  
Commissioner Bob Starr, District 1  
Joanne Larson, Recreation/Athletics Manager  
Bonnie Blair, Administrative Assistant II

**Guests**

Dick Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee  
Ed Engel, Florida Paddling Trails Association  
Joe Mullen, Florida Paddling Trails Association

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Bill Coy stated that he will serve as the Interim Chair until all new members are appointed, at which time an election will be held.

Bill Coy, Interim Chair, asked the members to participate in a minute of silence in memory of Ann Dever.

**I. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

*A motion was made by Bill Dryburgh and seconded by Eugene Leapley to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2009 meeting. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

**II. Division Reports**

***Administration/Business Services*** – Michael Koenig, Business Services Manager - no report at this time.

***Cultural Resources*** – Angie Patteson, Cultural Resources Manager - no report at this time.

***Recreation/Athletics*** – Joanne Larson, Recreation/Athletics Manager

- PARKapalooza, Charlotte Sports Park on October 10, 2009 from 12 noon – 10pm. There will be live bands every hour with the headliner, The Little River Band, starting at 8:30 p.m. Ticket sales are going well but we expect most to purchase their tickets at the gate. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. We are hopeful to have a full house.
- Stone Crab games had a total attendance of 142,672
- Tringali Farmers Market, the second and fourth Friday of the month, is going well; participation is increasing with each event.
- The Disc Dog competition was very interesting and drew a few hundred spectators.
- Regional pools are in full swing and have had 6 high school dual meets so far.
- Harold Avenue, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 2 p.m., Healthy Kids Festival, 34 agencies and local

businesses participating.

- Adult Flag Football ongoing and NFL Punt, Pass and Kick at Franz Ross Park has 4 participants that have the opportunity to move on to the regional's.

**Support Services/Parks** – David Milligan, Support Services/Park Manager

- No report - David was wrapping up projects before he leaves on vacation today.

### III. **New Business** **Placida Bridge**

- David Milligan will address this item at the next meeting.
- Discussion ensued regarding the handout distributed from Dan Quick, Public Works.

#### **Park Maintenance Partnership**

- John was contacted by a representative from Scenic Highways about maintaining Bay Heights Park, which is one of the 16 parks that we have closed. Hopefully, they will step up and pick up that shortfall.

#### **Englewood Beach Dunes Crossover's**

- Discussion of the closing of the North and South dune crossovers
- Dick Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee, passed out a picture of the cut through the dunes. Tampering with dunes is not allowed in Florida and one of the ways to fix this would be to fill these areas in with sand, which would cost around \$5,600.
- Commissioner Starr thought this was already settled ... to use snow fencing.
- John will check into how the maintenance vehicles can access the beach if the gaps are filled in. He will report back at the next meeting.

#### **Handicap Accessibility/South County Pool**

- John relayed that a citizen has expressed a series of concerns about the pool's handicap accessibility. Some of the concerns are legitimate; some have been resolved already. The pool is handicapped accessible. We will continue to try to satisfy this citizen.

### IV. **Old Business**

#### **Status of Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center**

- Now under SMG management; started September 30<sup>th</sup>; several county staff members were hired.

#### **Update on Rotary Centennial Park**

- David Milligan will address at the next meeting.
- Related to Placida Bridge

#### **Charlotte Sports Park**

- Instructional league is here now and is a very active group
- The Rays are looking to take over grounds maintenance of the complex; we don't want to lose control during non baseball times. John feels we can work everything out.
- PARKapaloosa should be a very good time.

### V. **Sports Council Update**

#### **Advisory Board representative needed for both Youth and Adult Sports Councils**

Maria Greenberg attended the last Youth Sports Council meeting and agreed to be the representative from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

*A motion was made by Bill Dryburgh and seconded by Eugene Leapley to approve the appointment of Maria Greenberg as the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committees representative to the Youth Sports Council. A vote was taken and the appointment was unanimously approved.*

Bill Coy suggested that a member or two from this committee should also attend the Adult Sports Council meeting. John said we would appreciate the participation.

#### **VI. Member Issues**

Eugene Leapley talked about the light at the Harbor Heights boat ramp, which is now out. This is a great place to look for savings by turning this light off; it is a 1000 watt bulb that runs 24 hrs. He feels it is not needed because boaters carry their own lights. John said we will report back at the next meeting.

Dick Whitney asked if the committee was ready to endorse the closing of the dunes crossovers access. It was determined that more information is needed regarding maintenance vehicles access.

#### **VII. Director's Report**

John reported that he has been working with Human Resources on reorganization and consolidation of mowing and custodial services.

There has been no information on a memorial service for Ann Dever. When we hear something Bonnie will let everyone know of the arrangements. A proclamation is planned in her honor for the second BCC meeting in October. Eugene suggested that a letter from the advisory committee be drafted.

Bill Dryburgh asked if the old Placida Bridge could be used as a fishing pier. Commissioner Starr reported that this came up for discussion at the last BCC meeting and it was determined by the engineers that it had to come down.

#### **VIII. Citizen Input**

Ed Engle and Joe Mullen - representing the Florida Paddling Trail volunteer organization are looking for a contact for the Blueway Trails; David Milligan is the contact. John stated that working with this group is a great opportunity for the county. Joe asked about the Cape Haze Trail and if it will be continued to the Placida Bridge; Bill Coy said they are working together with the golf course; everything is in the works.

#### **IX. Announcements**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Historical Marker Dedication is today at 3 p.m. at the Indian Springs Cemetery in Punta Gorda, off of Jones Loop. The county has 40 acres; an active cemetery.

Commissioner Starr talked about the removal of the port-o-lets, which saved the county \$18,000. He has received negative feedback regarding the Tom Adams Bridge port-o-let removal. With a performance based budget, if we are not providing the level of service needed, we can fix that.

#### **X. Upcoming Events**

10/10 – 12noon – 10pm at Charlotte Sports Park - PARKapalooza

10/31 - Healthy Kids Festival - Harold Avenue Recreation Center - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### **Meeting Adjourned**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1:45 p.m. by Bill Dryburgh, seconded by Eugene Leapley with a unanimous vote.

CC: Commissioner Robert Skidmore, District 1  
Commissioner Adam Cummings, District 2  
Commissioner Robert Starr, District 3  
Commissioner Richard Loftus, District 4  
Commissioner Tricia Duffy, District 5  
Mr. Roger Baltz, County Administrator