

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes
January 6, 2010**

Board Attendance Record

Bill Coy (59/70)
William Dryburgh (70/76)
Eugene Leapley (43/49)
Maria Greenberg (6/7)
Marcus Norman (2/2)
Lou Spacco (2/2)
John Hitzel (2/2)

Present

Bill Coy
William Dryburgh
Maria Greenberg
Marcus Norman
Lou Spacco
John Hitzel

County Representatives

Michael Koenig, Business Services Manager
Angie Patteson, Cultural Resources Manager
David Milligan, Support Services/Parks Manager
Jacqueline Vazquez, Business Services Supervisor
Randy Cole, Foreman
Andy Stevens, Natural Resources Department
Bonnie Blair, Administrative Assistant II

Guests

Gwin Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee
Bob Leonard, Marine Advisory Committee

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.
Eugene Leapley did not attend.

- Bill Dryburgh and Lou Spacco were nominated and members unanimously approved as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

I. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the December 2, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

II. Division Reports

Administration/Business Services – Michael Koenig, Business Services Manager

- Oyster Creek Underpass Trail, grant was awarded, agreement to BCC next week
- G. C. Herring Park, submitted agreement for an ozone monitoring station
- Sponsorship letter and levels, independent contractor contract has been revised
- The ice vendor contract have been finalized
- Skate Park management contract maybe finalized today

Cultural Resources – Angie Patteson, Cultural Resources Manager

- The Big Read
 - April Gallery Walk in Punta Gorda will be tied to this event
 - Stephen King will appear on March 20; there will be a lottery for tickets

- “Florida Boys, Girls & their Toys” is exhibiting at the Historical Center

Recreation/Athletics/Aquatics – Randy Cole, Foreman

- Winter break was well attended at the South County Recreation Center
- Pancake Breakfast with Santa at Tringali had 100 participants
- Mini Basketball Camp had 16 attendees at Harold Avenue Recreation Center
- Organization for Senior Games in January

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

- Need volunteers to help with the Universal Trail Accessibility Program
- Landscape renovation projects ongoing
- Getting ready for spring training with a dozen projects scheduled
- Federal Energy Efficiency Block Grant – met with Musco Lighting, the county energy coordinator and grant specialist to discuss - some matches required, one time grant
- Re-inspection of SWFLWMD permits every 18 or 24 months

Department Administration - Jacqueline Vazquez

- Disney “Give a Day, Get a Day” an exciting volunteer program which runs from 1-1-10 to 12-31-10; a program to attract new volunteers.
 - Have over 60 responses already
 - A lot of management goes along with this program
 - A link to the county web pages soon
- Adopt-a-Park
 - Brett Clark, Scenic Highway Committee, who are interested in Bay Heights Park
 - Adopt-a-Park Program is moving forward; we are already getting requests
 - Mike K. talked about the need for a 501c3 designation to partner with organizations to qualify for grants

III. New Business

Timbering – Andy Stevens, Natural Resources Department

- Report given earlier in the meeting; handout was distributed
- Selective thinning of pines at 4 environmental parks will reduce density and provide safer controlled burns.
- At Cedar Point there are 100 trees per acre; 40-50 trees per acre are more beneficial to diversify the habitat. They will be following best management practices.
- Andy is working with a county forester and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (there are two active eagles’ nests; all work will be done outside of nesting season).
- Charlotte Flatwoods will be thinned as soon as possible; Cedar Point in May; each park will be done differently according to what is beneficial.
- Commissioner Starr mentioned that he is comfortable that this thinning will be beneficial.
- Bill D. expressed concern that members did not receive this information in advance.

Field Trip February 3

- East and South County will be toured; discussion ensued
- David will compile the route/itinerary and email to Bill Dryburgh to approve
- Members will meet at the Sports Park
- Bill D. agreed to buy a box lunch for everyone to be eaten on the way

IV. Old Business

Gift Catalog and Corporate Partnerships

- Now advertising in the Allegiant Air Travel magazine for large events
- Program Guide advertising - RFQ was submitted
- Seeking alternative funding sources for portable toilets
- Jacqueline reported on our targeted marketing for sponsorship
- Gift Catalog is already in use although not officially launched

V. Sports Council Update

- Youth Sports Council next meeting for January 13 at 6:30 p.m.
 - Marcus agreed to attend
- Adult Sports Council next meeting is January 20, 2010 at 6 p.m.

VI. Member Issues

- Lou S. asked about the Event Center electronic sign not being operational
- The Chair told staff they could leave at the end of their reports; David stayed to talk about the field trip.
- Bill D. doesn't feel all staff members need to attend each meeting to give their reports; an emailed report in advance of the meeting would suffice. Members agreed.
- John H. talked about the contingency fund of 50 million

VII. Director's Report - None - Director is on medical leave

VIII. Citizen Input

- Bob Leonard, Volunteer Liaison, Marine Advisory Committee, stated that he appreciates staff asking for the members opinion at the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meetings
 - Members are being told, not being asked in advance for their opinion for MAC
 - Agrees that at his meetings also, a lot of staff time is used by staff giving reports
- Dick Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee, stated they have the same difficulties and feels they need to cut down on staff at meetings also
 - Asked about the Joint Advisory Committee scheduled for April and the need to request agenda items from the chairmen

IX. Announcements

- March 3, 2010 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting location is changed to the Mid County Library, Meeting Room C

X. Upcoming Events

No other events were added to those listed on the agenda

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 2:30 p.m.

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
Kelly Shoemaker, Assistant County Administrator