

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes
March 3, 2010**

Board Attendance Record

Bill Coy (60/72)
William Dryburgh (71/78)
Eugene Leapley (45/51)
Maria Greenberg (8/9)
Marcus Norman (2/4)
Lou Spacco (4/4)
John Hitzel (4/4)

Present

William Dryburgh
Maria Greenberg
Lou Spacco
John Hitzel
Eugene Leapley

County Representatives

Bob Starr, Commissioner
John Jackson, Director
Jane Ravella, Administrative Assistant I

Guests

Dick Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.
Dr. Bill Coy and Marcus Norman did not attend.

I. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the January 6 and February 2, 2010 meetings were unanimously approved.

II. Division Reports

Reports were distributed by email to members before the meeting.

- John gave Joanne Larson's report as follows:
 - Feb. 13 at the Sports Park, Little League Opening Ceremonies, went over well, an annual event.
 - Rays Spring Training underway with a good turnout so far, tomorrow first home game at 1:05 pm against the Orioles
 - Recreation Centers - 11,022 participants
 - Athletics - 12,560 participants
 - Over 29,000 people were served last month

III. New Business

None

IV. Old Business

Park/Facility Naming

- Park Naming Application

A motion was presented by John Hitzel, seconded by Maria Greenberg, to approve naming a pavilion at Englewood Beach for Samuel C. Harris and work together on signage with Mrs. Harris. Approved 4-1 (Lou Spacco - dissenting).

Charlotte Sports Park Naming Rights

- Bob Starr reported that the next time a naming opportunity presents itself, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will be notified before it goes to the BCC.

Member Attendance

- John talked about the member attendance policy
- The school representative membership was discussed noting that the meeting time is not convenient sometimes to a school schedule resulting in absences.
 - John suggested possibly making this position an ex-officio position i.e. without a vote but able to participate

V. Sports Council Update

- Youth Sports Council next meeting for March 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 - Well attended meetings
 - Good attitude and participation
- Adult Sports Council next meeting is April 21 at 6 p.m.

VI. Member Issues

- John Hitzel talked about items in the staff reports
 - Open container ordinance - approved by the BCC for the public right of ways, not in the parks or at the beaches
 - David's report on the San Domingo Master Plan - covered by the MSBU, presented to the public
 - Lou Spacco requested notice of events such as this
 - John H. reported that the disc golf expansion is a contentious issue in the community
 - Bob Starr explained that the funding is sales tax monies already appropriated.
 - Rays parking fee increase
- Eugene Leapley asked about volunteers working at the parks; John said they are helpful but cannot replace a 40 hr. employee. The libraries are the biggest user of volunteers. We are always looking for more opportunities.

VII. Director's Report

- Sports fields gearing up for Rays; improvements every year; maintenance of the sports field has now been transferred to the Rays.
- Eugene Leapley talked about the waters usage in Punta Gorda.
 - CRA - Bayshore Park, Debrah Forester works on this on a daily basis for special events; development is handicapped by it being a residential area
 - A gateway project is being planned for the area per Bob Starr but we need to prioritize development. Economic Development is looking at this area.

VIII. Citizen Input

- Dick Whitney, Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee
 - Marking kayak trails
 - Volunteerism
 - Senior Games - next week
 - Kayak Festival - renewal of an old festival from the past

IX. Announcements

- The Big Read, Stephen King Lecture at Cultural Center, March 20
- Bayshore First Annual Dog Show, March 20
- Florida Frontier Day, Bayshore Park, March 25 - 27

X. Upcoming Events

- John Hitzel announced the Wild Hog Wild event where the Commissioners are doing the cooking.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1:50 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