

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes
August 1, 2012

Board Attendance Record

William Dryburgh (93/103)
Vacant
Maria Greenberg (28/33)
Lou Spacco (26/28)
John Hitzel (27/28)
Fred Pazona (15/20)
Katherine Ariens (16/17)

Present

William Dryburgh
Maria Greenberg
John Hitzel
Katherine Ariens
Lou Spacco

Absent

Fred Pazona

County Representatives

Andy Stevens, Acting Director/Pks. Nat. Manager
Jane Ravella, Administrative Assistant
Bob Starr, Commission Liaison
Todd Taylor, Financial Consultant

Guest

Jonathan Rodriguez
Karlin Jeffery
Terry Danley
B Matri
BMX
B Hyma
Lenny D North Port Parks & Rec
Chris Constance BCC
Lorah Steiner, Tourism

Call to Order

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

I. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Corrected Minutes from the July 11, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

CORRECTION to Minutes: New Business – reference Katherine should be Katherine Ariens so the public knows that she is part of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. And under Member Issues reference to Kathy, asked to use full name Katherine Ariens.

II. Division Reports

Reports were distributed by email to members before the meeting.

➤ John Hitzel – Had questions:

- Status of PCB – Deck – Pool repairs? The decking is from way back in the day that General Development had their home base there and due to the wave action on the decks they need repairs and possibly some of the pumps for the pool.

Katherine Ariens – Had questions:

- Garden? Katherine Ariens asked how they are handling how a person is able to get a plot to use to garden? Right now there is a waiting list and there has been talk about a lottery system. Andy will get a report from South County to report on the Garden. There is a possibility of an expansion to Florida Street Yard? The plots are partnered and the plots are 5x20.

III. New Business

- Lorah Steiner – Tourism is in its 15/16th consecutive month of positive numbers. The impacts of the Snowbird Classic Baseball events have made very positive numbers for our area and

continually have gone up each year they have been here.

- Lorah also commended Parks for the QR codes in the parks, and hopes in the future we can make the QR codes available in different languages because the percentage from foreign countries continues to increase.
- Re-energized Englewood TDC – It's our #1 product – Beaches – Teams came up with a beach ambassador – Ask me questions. Trying this for a pilot program.
- Parking Program – parking program is going well.
- Tina Powell – we are moving onto our next phase of the Blueway Trails, Tina is here to speak on the signage for areas that have conflicts with boats – She passed some samples around and asked which color would you, the Board, prefer – count was 3 yellow 2 green. MAC has provided the money for the pilings and installation of the signs. In the future they will be adding QR codes.

IV. Old Business

Pool update – Andy Stevens

- Reviewed the suggestions for North Port and we will have to set up a meeting with North Port Parks and Recreation.
- Reviewed the School Board Agreement – we have made revisions to the Agreement.
- Increased marketing – CCTV and radio have been involved – Sun newspaper has covered a few of our events in the Let's GO section, and Parrot Magazine.
- Reviewed fees and annual fees, recreation fees are all being benchmarked and will then be brought in front of this Board, before the BCC approval.
- Sell Advertising at the Pools. Looking into that.
- Repair work – it's through our facilities management.
- The recommendation of the geo thermal systems – we are moving ahead with that.

V. Sports Council Update

- Katherine Ariens attended last month's meeting and discussion was mostly how they are trying to rotate fields. Short meeting, but a good group of people that work together.
- Youth Sports Council next meeting set for August 8th at 5:45 p.m. at Mid-County Library Administration Conference Room. Maria will be attending.

VI. Member Issues

- Lou Spacco - apologies for missing last meeting and being late to this one, busy season now.

VII. Director's Report –

- Met with our Recreation Coordinators to look at how we can focus more resources more efficiently, scale back on some old programs and focus on new events such as our Adaptive Easter Egg hunt which was a huge success.
- Lorah asked about Brochures - Specifically with Bike trails. She would like to get together about it.

VIII. Citizen Input

- Jonathan Rodriguez – brought back the BMX issue to be able to ride in the Skatepark. He has met with Katherine Ariens and working on a project for the future but Jonathan wants to be able to have the Skatepark open at least one day a week for BMX riders. Jonathan had several people who spoke on the subject of there being no reason for them not being able to have at least one day a week to ride; the County has supervision and they can charge a fee to admit each rider with the proper attachments to their bikes and helmets. They also asked to meet with Mrs. Berlin, set up an expo so she could see what they are all about. Andy will try to set something up. A

representative from Ft. Myers shared his experiences with the parks in Ft. Myers and there they are able to share the same park for skate boarding as well as BMX riders. John Hitzel asked how come we haven't heard from Mrs. Berlin, I'd like to hear from her at the next meeting if possible. Andy said he's been in touch with Mrs. Berlin and hopes to convince her to set a date for an expo. A representative from North Port Parks and Recreation said he has had a day set for BMX bikes to use the Skate Park and they haven't experienced any damage to bowls. The discussion ended on a note that Andy would call Mrs. Berlin and asks her to a meeting, or if she would agree to an expo, then Andy will be in touch with Jonathan. Katherine Ariens is still going forward with her meetings in trying to get donations to create a BMX park.

- Lorah received from Sean the statistics on Economic Impact from the Snowbird Classic Baseball:

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
3.1M Dir. Exp.	3.8M	4.5M	Est. 6M
217T Sales Tax	266T	315T	Est. 420T
3,000 Room Nts.	3,000	7,000	Est. 9,000

IX. Announcements None

X. Upcoming Events - Events as listed on the Agenda

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1:57 p.m.

CC: Commissioner Robert Skidmore, District 1
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2
Commissioner Robert Starr, District 3
Commissioner Stephen Deutsch, District 4
Commissioner Tricia Duffy, District 5
Raymond Sandrock, Administrator
Kelly Shoemaker, Assistant County Administrator