

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes
June 3, 2015

Board Attendance Record

William Dryburgh (117/128)
Katherine Ariens (38/42)
Maria Greenberg (53/58)
Paul Bigness (14/22)
John Hitzel (53/56)
Fred Pazona (37/46)

Present

Bill Dryburgh
Maria Greenberg
Katherine Ariens
John Hitzel
Fred Pazona
Paul Bigness

County Representatives

Tommy Scott, Director
Maureen Broderick, Recreation Manager
Monty Rodriguez, Foreman, Parks
Bonnie Blair, Administrative Assistant II

Guests

Mike DeGeneres

Call to Order

Chairman Bill Dryburgh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

▪ **Chairman announced opportunity for public input on agenda items.**

▪ **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The May minutes as corrected were unanimously approved.

Change the word “where” to “there is a fine line” on page 2 of Katherine Ariens statement; change statement by Paul Bigness, page 2, from “restrict growth” to “balance of quality of life for the people who live here ... what is good for the citizens of Charlotte County”.

▪ **Division Reports**

- No comments

▪ **New Business**

▪ Sea Tow Life Jacket Kiosks Update – Mike DeGeneres

- Mike reported that the program is going very well with kiosks at five boat ramps.
- Tremendously positive feedback ... great program!
- All lifejackets have been returned for the past 10 or 11 months, none are missing.
- They have 600 new life jackets to distribute this year. The jackets last around 6 months and then are replaced. Old jackets are donated to the law enforcement to give to citizens they encounter who need one.
- Social media is used to promote the program.
- Mike presented an award to Tommy Scott for helping initiate this program at the 5 Charlotte County boat ramps. Pictured below are the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members along with Mike DeGeneres.



- Update on Parks & Natural Resources Division Manager position.
 - An extensive search brought applicants from all over the country.
 - Four applicants are scheduled for interviews; one on June 5th and three on June 12th.
- **Old Business**
 - Port Charlotte Beach Follow-Up
 - Tommy Scott distributed the memo he forwarded to Administration and the Commissioners with a history of issues Mr. Yancy has at the beach complex.
 - Maria Greenberg mentioned that Mr. Yancy's issues were thoroughly investigated. This is more of a nuisance issue.
 - Fred Pazona stated that Mr. Yancy bought a house 150 feet from the existing dock.
- **Sports Council Update**
 - Maria Greenberg attended the last meeting and reported it was a quick meeting.
 - There was discussion of changing the time of the meeting to 6 p.m. to make it easier for members arrive on-time.
- **Member Issues**
 - John Hitzel attended one of the Master Plan public meetings and was impressed with the professionalism of how it was put together. He noted the discussion between pickleball and tennis players, but learned a lot of good information.
 - Paul Bigness asked about the Gateway project – are we to be involved in the planning?
 - Bill Dryburgh mentioned that the phases have already been planned; 1A is under construction now; 1B is the connect under the bridge and is \$2.4 million short, currently looking for options and other funding sources. Debrah Forester is going back

to DOT asking for more money. Plans finalized for March 2016. 1C is the acquisition of the old motel site which has not been programmed yet. The Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee is coordinating programming. Integrating the Charlotte Harbor CRA and Parks & Recreation Advisory Boards makes sense.

- Tommy Scott will speak with Deborah Forester to arrange a meeting with the CRA before 1C is finalized.
- Fred Pazona suggested commercials to be made and run on Comcast. Tommy Scott will speak to the consulting firm about this. Fred also asked about the pickleball marathon and learned that 40-60 people participate, ending play at midnight.
- Maria Greenberg mentioned that Commissioner Duffy is looking for someone to fill our open member position and she is asking the members if they know of anyone, as she is having a hard time finding someone.
- Commissioner Doherty reported that he is taking a tour of the new improvements in Harbor Heights with David Milligan. He also noted that Steve Viera was very complimentary about our involvement in the April Autism Speaks run in Harbor Heights.
- Paul Bigness asked if we had heard anything more about Chadwick Cove.
- Katherine Ariens mentioned that Beaches & Shores Advisory Committee are not going forward with the mooring fields and have decided to drop the issue. The Sheriff's department is monitoring the area better and the need is not present anymore.

▪ **Director's Report – Tommy Scott**

• **Update on Parks Master Plan**

- Tommy reported that we are on-track for August or September having Jason Greene or Ginger give us a preview of where they are on the plan.

▪ **Announcements**

- Reminder: No July Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

CC: Commissioner Ken Doherty, District 1
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2
Commissioner Bill Truex, District 3
Commissioner Stephen Deutsch, District 4
Commissioner Tricia Duffy, District 5
Raymond Sandrock, Administrator
Kelly Shoemaker, Deputy County Administrator