

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 – 3:00 p. m.

Centennial Park Recreation Center – Large Administration Room

Minutes

Board Members

William Dryburgh, Chairman

Maria Greenberg, Vice Chairwoman

Steven Leskovich

Kay Tvaroch

Bernard Deitering

Robin Cyphert

County Representatives

Ken Doherty, Commission Liaison

Tommy Scott, Director Comm. Svcs.

Maureen Broderick, Rec. Manager

Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Res. Mgr.

Leah Williams, Recreation Superintendent

Joele Kirkpatrick, Comm. Serv. Coord.

Ben Hess, Recreation Superintendent

1. Chairman to Announce:

Anyone wishing to address the board during this portion of the meeting must state one's name for the record and what agenda subject is to be discussed. Discussion is limited to matters identified on this agenda.

These gentlemen are here to discuss the issue of South County Pool. Tom Massolio, Athletic Director CHS is looking to get some answers as to when the pool would be done, he's heard it's in bad shape; We have to travel the kids from Charlotte High to Centennial Park for practices, and we need to know if they could hold a water safety class, which was supposed to be held in the spring, but the pool is not ready. Jim Lindberg, Swim Coach CCS/CHS is more concerned that will the pool be certified for them to hold meets; and Paul T. Jensen, Punta Gorda Isles resident was there for the reason of all the people that haven't been able to use the pool for aerobics, swimming and for the kids that aren't able to take swim classes. Tommy Scott gave a report: this started June 2024 with the expectation to be done March 2025; unfortunately, this February 2025 we started seeing problems; workmanship not up to par; and as of today they still have not finished the project. This has gone to the Board of County Commissioners and will be on every meeting until this is completed. The Contractor has been asked to be at the next Board hearing on June tenth. We are trying our best to get this pool up and running.

2. Roll Call by Jane Ravella

Board members present were William Dryburgh, Maria Greenberg, Erick Toth, Robin Cyphert. **Absent** –Bernard Deitering, Steven Leskovich, Kay Tvaroch

3. Approval of April 2025 Minutes

The chairman asked if anyone had any questions? None. Motion to approve by Maria Greenberg and seconded by Robin Cyphert. Motion passed without objection.

4. Division Reports

Bill Dryburgh was surprised to see pictures of our tour we took in May. He asked if any residents had come out for the meeting that night at Englewood East Park, Tina replied that about 10 residents came and gave input to what they would like to see in that park. They had scheduled a meeting for the Rotonda Park but had been rained out. There were no questions on the Division Reports.

5. Old Business

Hurricane Updates – Ian repair/design projects

- Freestanding Shades – Gone thru purchasing, coding through our financial system to procure these to get the projects started. Timeline coming soon.
- Integrated Shades – Gone thru purchasing, coding through our financial system to procure these to get the projects started. Timeline coming soon.
- Flagpole Repair/Replacement – Still defining project to get work scoped for completion.
- Boardwalk Repairs – Putting together bids packet now on 5 Environmental Parks and Larry Taylor Kiwanis Park.
- Misc. Repairs – Higgs shuffleboard bumpers – Putting together packets now
- Boca Grande revetment and parking lot – Awarded, work starting in coming weeks (2 weeks)
- Live Oak Point – Waiting on ROW consent from DOT & FPL
- **Hurricane Milton design projects** – Englewood Beach – RFP complete, selecting vendor next week; Placida Fishing Pier – RFP complete, vendor selected, entering fiscal sys.; El Jobean Fishing Pier – RFP Complete, selecting vendor soon; Bayshore Fishing Pier – RLI awarded, negotiating with vendor; South Gulf Cove boat ramp – RLI awarded, negotiating with vendor.
- **Port Charlotte Beach – this is work completed** – Site clean debris and damage area; Opening sport courts, playground, one boat lane, pavilion at sailing center for rentals; full post-storm assessment with consultant, Site inspection with FEMA, RFP submitted to purchasing to secure design & permitting for the boat lane damaged by Ian.

- **There is much more work to be done** – Raking beach, move fence, clean out pavilion, remove grills, bollard replacement, demolition of the undermined pavilions, and waterway dredge/beach restoration project.
- **Englewood Beach** – Post Hurricane Milton Sand Operation – Public Works department staffed a sand collection, sifting, beach placement operation to assist the residents and businesses on Manasota Key in storm recovery. They also assisted in demolition of damaged amenities at Englewood Beach Park concurrent to the sand operation. Englewood Beach Park was turned over to Community Services to begin site inspections and recovery efforts in Mid-March.
- **Work that has been Completed** – Parking and Public access to the southern section of Englewood Beach Park, Pilot Park-n-Ride Circulator from Tringali Park to Chadwick Park, a public ‘walk out’ access point on the north end of Englewood Beach Park: Chadwick Park available for public parking and use, Restroom amenities will be provided by temporary services; this phase was completed the first week of April.
- **Work that needs to be done** – Full environmental fencing of park with windscreen – (completed); Removal of damaged boardwalk – (completed) Stormwater clean out – (completed); Requests for proposals for sitework, concrete, curbing and asphalt – (completed); Pre-construction meetings with concrete & curbing vendor – (completed); Notice to proceed for concrete & curbing vendor – (issued yesterday); Vendor to begin concrete & curbing work **today**; Asphalt work will begin upon completion of concrete and curbing; Restrooms amenities will be provided by temporary services. Restroom building reopening, site lighting, Boardwalk replacement.

6. New Business

Spring Training Summary – Jill Boyd stopped by to introduce Ben Hess, our new Recreation Superintendent who is taking over the Charlotte Sports Park. Spring Training is held from February 10-April 3 of each calendar year. This year the Tampa Bay Rays arrived on February 12 and departed on March 25. There was a total of 15 Spring Training Games scheduled with no other post-game events. The attendance came out to be 61,811 with 15 Games, and one Rainout.

Community Services Summer Camp 2025 – Leah Williams and Joele Kirkpatrick gave information of the start of Camp – June 2-August 8 -for children ages 5-14 at Centennial Park; Harold Avenue Regional Park; Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park; and South County Regional Park. The program is available Monday through Friday from 7:15 am – 6:00 pm. Summer camp operates for 10 weeks, lunch is included, at this moment they are full, with a wait list at all the parks. They have special programs, field trips, and Guest Speakers. We have a **Kid’s Camp Connection**

Scholarships which allowed 11 children from 5 families; Grandparent Scholarship is awarded through Human Services, we received 3 campers.

7. Sports Council Update – Erick Toth

Erick said not much going on because it's summer. But we did go over a lot of reminders on light box being secured and locked and, checking the fields for safety issues, reporting them to us immediately, we made sure all the documentation is in order, reviewed schedules for the summer. Some facilities are being renovated at Ann & Chuck work being done on Football Field 1 through August; Franz Ross field 1 is also being done through July 15; New lighting is coming into ACD fields and at Carmalita Horse Arena.

8. Members Issues

Maria Greenberg asked Tommy to send them updates on the South County Pool from time to time during their time off in July and August. Everyone agreed.

9. Director's Report

Tommy told the board remember you have the next two months off! Be Safe! Also, we have reviewed the Ordinance of this Board, and it has come to the attention that Mr. Deitering has not been at the last 3 meetings, and this makes the 4th he will no longer be a member.

10. Citizen Input

11. Announcement

12. Upcoming Events

13. Adjournment – 4:10 p.m.

There may be one or more Board of County Commissioners in attendance at any given meeting.