

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUGAR SAND PARK - 300 SOUTH MILITARY TRAIL
July 21, 2014

The MEETING was called to order by CHAIRMAN Vogelgesang at approximately 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Steven M. Engel
Dennis R. Frisch
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Earl L. Starkoff
Susan Vogelgesang

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Mr. Arthur C. Koski, Interim Executive Director, advised that the Patch Reef Park Presentation by Motre' (Regular Business: Item 3), has been deferred until the August 4th meeting.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Michele Peel

7391 NE 8th Court, Boca Raton

Ms. Peel, liaison to the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, advised that over four years ago, the pumping system at Gumbo Limbo was identified as being a critical needs item. Two years ago, the City decided to take on a project to address the system. After four years, there is still no short-term or long-term solution to the problem. Due to the lack of progress seen to date, she is concerned about the City continuing to attempt to tackle the project. She reported that the City does not have work orders or contracts in place to furnish a report due in August on the final recommendations to replace the 8" pipe. She asked the Board for its continued support in finding a way to help the City to turn the project into a reality.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 7, 2014.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Adoption of Proposed 2014-2015 Millage Rate

Mr. Koski advised that the District is required to furnish to the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's office 1) the proposed millage for 2014-2015 and, 2) the time, date and place of the First Public Hearing on Proposed 2014-2015 Budget and Taxes. At the July 7th meeting, it appeared that the Board was in favor of assuming the current year's millage rate for fiscal year 2014-2015. He provided a 5-year projection based on the current millage rate of 0.9676.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to adopt the proposed 2014-2015 millage rate of 0.9676.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. Set time, date and place of First Public Hearing on Proposed 2014-2015 Budget and Taxes

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Frisch to hold the First Public Hearing on 2014-2015 Budget and Taxes on September 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sugar Sand Park Community Center.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the invoices as presented totaling \$57,063.66

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director

Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

Mr. Koski stated that very little has been done over the past five months to solve the pumping and piping issues at the nature center. In an effort to expedite the project, he suggested to City staff that it may be more efficient to have the District solve the problem through its consultant, Miller Legg. Miller Legg is willing to engage the City's sub-consultant on the project to complete the work. The City has declined the offer, and advised that they will continue to work with their consultant, GlobalTech, through its existing contract to resolve the issues. The District will continue to maintain its position that the issue is one of its priorities in the upcoming fiscal year.

At the suggestion of Commissioner Rollins, Mr. Koski will correspond with the Boca Raton City Manager reiterating the District's offer and inquiring as to how the City expects to resolve the problem.

DeHoernle Park – Phase II

Mr. Koski advised that two formal documents with the City remain outstanding: 1) the proposed interlocal agreement for beach renourishment which increases District funding from 33% to 50% for all future beach restoration projects, and 2) the proposed interlocal agreement for construction of Phase II at DeHoernle Park. In addition, the City requested an interlocal agreement that the District consider and install artificial turf at Patch Reef Park.

Mr. Koski stated that he met with the Boca Raton City Manager and suggested moving forward with the interlocal agreement for the beach renourishment project and that the interlocal agreement for the installation of artificial turf be deferred until completion of the District's consultants' report and economic analysis comparing natural versus artificial surfaces. The City Manager verbally responded to the District's request by indicating that the City wants the interlocal agreement for increased District funding for beach renourishment and the \$2 million for beach renourishment before discussing the other items. The City Manager also advised that the area for development of

Phase II may not be available because historically, it has been used as a hurricane debris disposal site.

Mr. Koski noted that the District has been in informal talks with Florida Atlantic University to consider opportunities that may exist on their campus for construction of athletic facilities. FAU has extended to the District a willingness to use certain parts of its campus for some form of a joint program for community usage if the facilities at Phase II are not available.

Commissioner Rollins stated that the District has agreed to increase its level of funding for beach renourishment and the Board concurred to provide \$2 million for beach renourishment. He stated that this is the first time he has heard of the issue of using the Phase II site for hurricane debris disposal. Phase II is the ideal location for the athletic fields, however, the District is not in a position to continue to wait as more fields are needed to meet the demand.

Mr. Koski advised that this year's current budget includes \$2 million for reimbursement to the City for beach renourishment. Further, the District was planning to pay the \$2 million to the City for beach renourishment this year, and if not paid this year, it would be carried over into the 2014-2015 budget. \$6.6 million is in the current budget to build Phase II at DeHoernle Park, and if it is not paid in the current fiscal year, it will be carried over to fiscal year 2014-2015.

Commissioner Engel feels that the ideal solution to gain additional athletic fields is to build Phase II. If the City is reluctant to go forward on Phase II, the District should pursue more serious discussions with FAU as we need the fields and a place to put them.

Mr. Koski remarked that priority number one is building Phase II. The fallback position if Phase II cannot be accomplished, is to do something, and the only alternative available to the District is to continue its partnership with FAU.

Commissioner Starkoff referred to the hundreds of adults and families that will be relocating to Boca Raton as a result of the numerous residential projects planned and under construction. The growth will exacerbate the high level of demand on existing facilities. He would like the City to consider other alternative hurricane debris disposal sites. As an indication of the District's desire and good faith, he suggested leaving all items in the 2014-2015 budget.

Mr. Koski will correspond with the Boca Raton City Manager outlining the District's position with regard to Phase II, setting forth District priorities, and indicating a time certain response.

District Counsel - None

Commissioners

Patch Reef Park

Commissioner Rollins encouraged the Board members to visit Patch Reef Park and compare the condition of its fields with the new, and heavily used, fields at DeHoernle Park. Patch Reef Park needs a lot of work to improve conditions as indicated in both Motre's and the Police Department's reports. He is anxious to begin the clean-up process.

Maintenance Plan

Commissioner Engel commented that the theme of the Motre' report is that there is no plan for maintenance. Items are maintained haphazardly. He finds the same maintenance issues exist at Sugar Sand Park. A maintenance plan is needed to assist the Board in budgeting maintenance priorities on an on-going basis.

Commissioner Starkoff suggested budgeting for the removal of exotics District wide. During the budget process, it should be determined whether sufficient funds have been budgeted to improve conditions at Patch Reef Park.

DeHoernle Park Field Usage

Commissioner Rollins expressed concern about field usage limitations in effect at DeHoernle Park. After several noontime visits to DeHoernle Park and documenting the field activity going on at that time, he questioned the need for the signage advising that the "fields are closed between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. unless a permit is obtained". The public should be able to use the fields during the day. He requested a review of the City's list of field restrictions and whether the requirement for a permit is applied uniformly.

Commissioner Frisch stated that it appears that the City should be enforcing the use of the fields at DeHoernle Park selectively. The City needs to clarify the restrictions. Mr. Koski will pursue the matter.

Park Security

Commissioner Vogelgesang suggested that the Police Department conduct a security check at all District Parks. Mr. Koski will make the necessary arrangements.

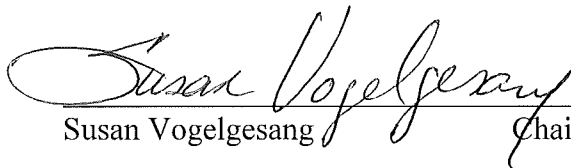
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:


- August 4 – Motre' Presentation – Patch Reef Park
- Zimmer Presentation – Swim & Racquet Center
- Budget Discussion

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Starkoff to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Earl L. Starkoff Secretary-Treasurer