

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUGAR SAND PARK - 300 SOUTH MILITARY TRAIL
October 20, 2014

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Steven M. Engel
Dennis R. Frisch
Earl L. Starkoff
Susan Vogelgesang

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Judy Gire

23121 Via Stel, Boca Raton

Ms. Gire, a member of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo Board of Directors advised that several members of the Friends and the Manager of the center met with Miller Legg to discuss the center's strategic plan. She thanked the Board for including the Friends in the information gathering process. Update: the shark involved in the recent "fishing expedition" is fine. The Friends has financed the purchase and installation of security cameras around the outdoor aquariums and is currently exploring additional security measures. Scheduled Family Events: Halloween in the Hammock and Halloween in the Garden.

Dr. Jody Forstot

711 Parkside Circle North, Boca Raton

Dr. Forstot has been involved with the Boca Hoops since its inception in 1989. He addressed the Board regarding the need for a second field house at Sugar Sand Park. The biggest concern for Boca Hoops is accommodating disabled children and adult players in its "High 5" program. There are approximately 80 participants in the program with a wait list of 25. As it is the only program available, players come from Hollywood to West Palm Beach. The Boca Hoops also sponsors a wheelchair program. Dr. Forstot offered input on the existing facility: seating is good; the court is excellent. The only limitations are a lack of storage and office space for staff. The lobby is too small to accommodate patrons, especially during inclement weather. He noted that the parking lot lighting and outside auxiliary lighting was inadequate. There is a need for lighted outdoor courts with adjustable baskets. Total of all Boca Hoops participants: 1,400.

Dena Nathanson

3200 N.W. 28th Terrace, Boca Raton

Ms. Nathanson, representing the disabled, expressed concern about the future closing of Strikes; the only bowling facility in Boca Raton. Her daughter is disabled and bowling is the only sport she participates in because it does not involve running or jumping. She would like the Board to consider a bowling facility as opposed to another ball field.

Adrienne Geffen

875 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton

Ms. Geffen stated that when she moved to Boca Raton about four years ago, she searched for a recreational bowling program for her son, a Special Olympics participant. No programs were available, so she started her own group with 4 bowlers and formed a Special Olympics team. Currently, there are 36 participants who bowl at Strikes every Monday evening year round. She extended an invitation to the Board to meet her group of bowlers and to learn first-hand how important the sport is to them. Bowling is a sport that anyone can participate in given any ability or disability. She would like the Board to consider either constructing a new facility or renovating Strikes.

Note - Commissioner Rollins arrived

Tom Thayer

4821 N. Dixie Highway, Boca Raton

Mr. Thayer took issue with the Patch Reef Park Project cost analysis presented by the design firm at the October 6th Board meeting. He felt that the District's selection process of awarding professional services needs to be re-evaluated. In his opinion, preference should be given in the bidding process to design firms/contractors that have a relationship with the District. Ex parte disclosures should also be a consideration.

Mr. Arthur C. Koski, District Legal Counsel advised that the State of Florida sets forth guidelines for the selection of professional services. The goal of the statute is to distribute the work, rather than to concentrate the work with one or two firms. He will provide Mr. Thayer a copy of the statutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

<p><u>MOTION</u> was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 6, 2014</p>

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Change in Briann Harms' designation to Assistant Director

Mr. Arthur C. Koski, Interim Executive Director, stated that Ms. Harms was originally employed by the District in the capacity of Information Technology Supervisor and has gradually moved into assuming greater responsibilities. He requested a modification to her designation to enable her to continue to expand her capabilities in working with other individuals and entities. Ms. Harms provided a resume.

Ms. Harms stated that in the year that she has been associated with the District she has learned a lot from Mr. Koski and the Board about all facets of parks and recreation. She commented that when she got into the field of Parks and Recreation what she really enjoyed was "doing things for people". The District focuses on a broad spectrum of items when they develop facilities to serve

the needs of the community. She noted her various certifications and designations both technical and park related, and continues to pursue her master level course work in public administration.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Engel to appoint Briann Harms as Assistant Director of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District.

Discussion:

Commissioner Starkoff commented that even without the designation, whenever asked, Briann stepped up and said yes, even if it wasn't her job - it didn't matter; it was the District. The Board is formalizing what she has shown the initiative to take on herself.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. Authorization to procure contractors for Sugar Sand Park Science Playground

Mr. Koski advised that today he received 100% of the work product and that he will undertake an internal review of the plans and specifications. Assuming that the plans and specs are satisfactory, he requested authorization to initiate the procurement process which is to advertise the bid.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Frisch to authorize the procurement of contractors for the Sugar Sand Park Science Playground.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

3. Consultant engagement for artificial turf analysis

As a follow-up to Mr. Thayer's comments under Public Requests, Mr. Koski offered that the consultant acknowledged that there was a mathematical computation error in the \$11 million figure; it should have been \$5 million to \$6 million less than represented. He felt that the error was significant enough to consider the possibility of somewhat segregating out the artificial turf vs. natural grass engagement.

The District currently has Stantec under contract. The company is presently performing some Phase II work at DeHoernle Park. Two individuals within their Boca Raton office have significant experience in the issues of the economic and practical analysis of artificial turf and natural grass. Mr. Koski sought authorization to initiate discussions with Stantec to extend their existing contract with the District to include an analysis of the artificial turf vs. natural grass issue and assume the responsibility for the report. In addition, Stantec would also assume the responsibility for overseeing the public input that would be necessary to be included in a final report and recommendation. Stantec has expressed a willingness to undertake the task.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to authorize Mr. Koski to initiate discussions with Stantec and provide a proposal and consultant's agreement with Stantec to perform the artificial turf vs. natural grass analysis.

Discussion:

Commissioner Frisch inquired about the cost of the analysis and whether Motre has to-date received any financial compensation for the analysis. Mr. Koski responded that he will engage in discussions with Stantec to keep the amount similar to the amount discussed with Motre. He will verify with Motre that no financial expenditures for the turf analysis have been incurred.

Commissioner Engel inquired about the timeline for the analysis. Mr. Koski stated that the initial step would be to obtain public input sometime during the second week of November.

Commissioner Rollins would like assurances that the date, time and place of the public input meeting is released early enough so that the public and the various sport group leaders are properly informed.

Commissioner Starkoff referred to a study on artificial turf undertaken by NBC News over several months which concluded that the scientific evidence was not complete with regards to the safety of certain types of artificial surfaces such as that used at Sand Pine Park. He questioned whether the information provided by NBC News could be incorporated into the consultant's analysis. Mr. Koski stated that Stantec has the type of experience that will be able to comment on the reports, studies, and analyses that have been done to date relative to public health and safety without reaching any conclusions.

Mr. Koski advised that the intent of the exercise is to do a macro analysis of artificial turf vs. natural grass [economic benefit, pros and cons from a universal prospective] and then to do a micro analysis as it pertains to Patch Reef Park [what the rectangle fields will be used for, and who will be using them]. Both the macro and micro analyses can move forward concurrently.

At the November 17th meeting, Mr. Koski will furnish a proposal from Stantec to perform the turf analysis. In the meantime, Motre will be asked to stand-down until the Board receives the Stantec proposal at which time a comparison and decision to move forward can be made.

**Commissioner Starkoff withdrew his MOTION
Commissioner Rollins withdrew his second to the MOTION**

4. Resolutions for Wells Fargo as a District Depository

Mr. Koski stated that CenterState Bank is a successor to First Southern Bank, one of the District's financial depositories. The District has been advised by CenterState Bank that they do not service accounts that require two signatures which is the standard operating procedure of the District. In lieu of CenterState Bank, Mr. Koski suggests executing the resolutions to establish a banking relationship with Wells Fargo.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Engel to execute the bank resolutions for Wells Fargo.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the invoices as presented totaling \$57,005.63.

Discussion:

Commissioner Starkoff noted that the revised invoice disbursement list indicates check number 1219 was voided.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director - None

District Counsel - None

Commissioners

Patch Reef Park

Commissioner Engel inquired about the cost of the renovation project. Mr. Koski responded that he anticipates providing the Board three concepts and a very detailed matrix. Each concept will be broken down with detailed items such as infrastructure to allow the Board to pick and choose from the menu.

Commissioner Rollins stressed the need to appropriately publicize the turf analysis meeting to the community. Mr. Koski advised that the meeting notification would be handled by the District.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

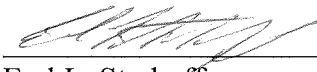
November 17 - Consultant Engagement Proposal for Artificial Turf Analysis
User Fees

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Earl L. Starkoff Secretary-Treasurer