

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUGAR SAND PARK - 300 SOUTH MILITARY TRAIL
March 2, 2015

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: None

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Jim Miller

480 E. Boca Raton Blvd., Boca Raton

Mr. Miller, President of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, stated that approximately 3,000 visitors attended the Sea Turtle Day Festival held on February 28. Former Beach & Park District Commissioner Gordon J. Gilbert attended the event in celebration of 30 Years of Gumbo Limbo. Sea turtle nesting season is underway. He offered the support of the Friends in moving the boardwalk renovation process forward.

Commissioner Frisch inquired about any potential problems with the opening of the turtle nesting season and dogs on the beach. Ms. Michele Peel, Friends of Gumbo Limbo liaison to the District, offered that this would be the first season for dogs on the beach and that she was unaware of any special considerations.

Tom Thayer

4821 N. Dixie Highway, Boca Raton

Mr. Thayer referred to Commissioner Starkoff's recent presentation to the Golden Harbour Homeowners Association. Noting that City/District parks all work together, he reminded the Commissioners of the positive benefits of Lake Wyman Park: athletic amenities; floating docks; canoe trails; the planting of four-acres of sea grass. Several Golden Harbour residents objected to the project as they felt that the lake would create a breeding ground for mosquitoes. However, engineers have testified that the two outlets into and out of the lake would keep the lake water fresh and free of mosquitoes. He hopes the funding will be reinstated for FIND and Palm Beach County so that only minimal funding from the City and District would be required.

In addition, Mr. Thayer extended an invitation to the Board to attend the monthly Boca Raton Federation of Homeowners meeting on March 3, at 8:30 a.m. at the Boca Raton Community Center.

Michele Peel

7391 NE 8th Court, Boca Raton

Ms. Peel amended the report given by Jim Miller on the Turtle Day Festival by acknowledging the excellent support received from the Park Rangers as well as members of the Boca Raton Police Department. This was the first year without a pedestrian, vehicle or bicyclist incident in front of the center.

Rick Zimmer

Zimmer Consultants, PA

Having previously documented the low illumination levels at Sugar Sand Park, Mr. Zimmer was asked by Mr. Koski, interim Executive Director, to survey the illumination levels at other District facilities. In addition, he conducted general observations at City and County facilities.

Spanish River Library - A survey of the Spanish River Library, a newer facility, indicates a much higher illumination density. The translucent globe fixtures broadcast a lot of light with a much more intense frequency of fixtures. Illumination readings at the library were three times higher than the average at Sugar Sand Park. Mr. Zimmer suggested that the Board view the lighting at the library to determine if that is the level of lighting they might want to consider.

Red Reef Park - Red Reef Park utilizes a very low style fixture called "Chinese Hats" provided by Florida Power & Light which has very limited broadcast. Walkways have a much higher level of illumination out towards the covered gazebo. The Pro Shop has the same style of lighting system as Sugar Sand Park; low box type fixtures with a down cast light.

Patch Reef Park - Trees are not a factor with regard to lighting at Patch Reef Park. The Tennis Center has a much better illumination level than the parking lots at Sugar Sand Park. Due to age, some of the fixture lens are clouded and opaque. There is limited walk-way illumination at the park except for around the community center and Pirate's Cove Playground.

DeHoernle Park - Although the parking lot at DeHoernle Park has a higher level of illumination than Sugar Sand Park, street illumination readings range from a minimal light broadcast of .12 up to an intensity of 1.2 which is above the standard.

Commissioner Rollins asked Mr. Zimmer what his recommendation would be to increase the level of illumination in the parking areas of Sugar Sand Park. Mr. Zimmer responded that the light fixtures would need to be changed and the tree canopy trimmed.

For maintenance purposes, Commissioner Frisch inquired about the feasibility of standardizing the types of lights (both high and low) throughout all District parks. Mr. Zimmer responded that it would be a significant capital investment as three of the four parks would need to be retooled.

Mr. Koski advised that uniform product and specifications for lighting upgrades at Sugar Sand Park should be consistent with those at DeHoernle Park. The same specifications could be incorporated in the amended master plans for Patch Reef Park and the Swim & Racquet Center. Red Reef Park would have to be an exception due to surrounding environmental concerns.

Commissioner Engel inquired about making the product specifications for the upgrades at the three parks part of the bid. Mr. Koski replied that the products could be sole-sourced. In addition, Commissioner Engel also asked about the status of the tree trimming at Sugar Sand Park. Assistant Director Briann Harms advised that the work has been completed.

At the March 17th Board meeting, Mr. Koski will present a proposal for Board approval to engage Mr. Zimmer to upgrade lighting at District facilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 17, 2015.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Consider Gumbo Limbo Boardwalk Replacement

Mr. Koski stated that the City of Boca Raton has concluded that certain boardwalks at the center are in need of replacement to the degree that certain sections of the boardwalk have been taken out of service. The City is seeking Board approval for the entire replacement of the boardwalk as initially designed a number of years ago. Miller Legg has indicated that the boardwalk replacement would not negatively affect the improvements they envision for Gumbo Limbo.

Correspondence was received from Mr. Steve Alley, a naturalist and volunteer at the center, who disagrees as to whether or not the boardwalk design as proposed by the City of Boca Raton is the most economically feasible boardwalk and whether it is the best boardwalk location for the center.

Mr. Koski recommends deferring action on this matter and having Miller Legg get more involved in this particular issue so that they can provide the District with the appropriate course of action. It would not be prudent for the Board to spend over one million dollars without having all the facts.

A still unresolved issue is receipt of the Association of Nature Center Administrators Report (ANCA) regarding the nature center. The Board and Miller Legg need to review the report to determine if there is anything that would affect the Board's decision on the boardwalk replacement requested by the City. Mr. Koski will make another request for the report. If not received within 48 hours, he will make a formal written request.

Commissioner Engel noted that the bids received by the City for the boardwalk replacement project were approximately a year old. He felt that unless there was a price guarantee on the bids, the bids were virtually useless. Furthermore, he noted that there appears to be a wide divergence in the cost of several items in the bid.

Commissioner Starkoff stated that the Board received the boardwalk project bids almost a year later and cannot determine if the \$1.2 million bid price is for the entire boardwalk replacement or part of the boardwalk. He would like the project done under District control. The District needs input from Miller Legg, the City, Mr. Alley and the Friends to know what the project entails.

Additionally, he would like to know if there are any interim measures for mitigation that would allow the boardwalk to be open to the public.

2. Discuss Resident/Non-Resident User Fees

This item was deferred.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Starkoff to approve the invoices as presented totaling \$36,904.30

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director

Joint City Council/District Meeting

Mr. Koski advised that staff will contact the City Clerk's Office to arrange for potential dates for a joint City Council /District Meeting. The dates will be circulated to the Board.

Science Playground

Mr. Koski stated that he has received the final drawings and specifications for the playground renovation and improvements. He is making one final review of the documents before sending them to the plan room for prospective bidders. Ms. Sandra Gottfried has been updated on the project and its timetable and will pass the information along to the City Council at its meeting.

Swim & Racquet Center

Mr. Koski and Ms. Harms, along with the project designers, met with Mr. Buddy Parks and City staff to review the proposed plans. Some requests were made, and the designers will incorporate those requests into the plan. The City's Development Services Department has indicated that the site plan approval process will take approximately three months. Once the site plan is complete, the designers will be concurrently working on completing the construction drawings. It is anticipated that the project will go out to bid in four months.

District Counsel - None

Commissioners

Beach Tractor

Commissioner Frisch inquired about the status of the beach tractor. Mr. Koski responded that there is no pending CIP request from the City other than the boardwalk replacement.

Lake Wyman Project

To clarify his comments on the Lake Wyman Project, Commissioner Starkoff stated that the impression he got from Golden Harbour residents was not that the project wasn't a good project, but that their concerns had to do with the acceptance of responsibilities for on-going maintenance. There was not a clear acceptance by the Palm Beach County Health Department for mosquito control to keep the channels clear. At the time the project was brought forth, concerns existed

about the on-going, never-ending responsibilities being shifted to the City and the District by other entities. Hopefully, those issues can be resolved and the project will be reintroduced.

User Fees

In an effort to resolve the issue of user fees, Commissioner Engel would like to get the Board's prospective on the matter before the joint City Council/District meeting.

30th Anniversary of Gumbo Limbo

Commissioner Rollins congratulated Mr. Jim Miller President of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo on the 30th anniversary of Gumbo Limbo.

Sugar Sand Park Air-Conditioning

Commissioner Vogelgesang inquired about the status of the air conditioning at the field house. Mr. Koski advised that at the last meeting the Board authorized a \$5,000 payment to the consultant to prepare the necessary paperwork and design for the interim fix for the air conditioner and that is in progress.

Privatization of the Park Rangers

Commissioner Vogelgesang raised the issue of privatizing the Park Rangers. Mr. Koski stated there were a lot of issues relative to that topic that the Board will be discussing over the course of the next few months.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

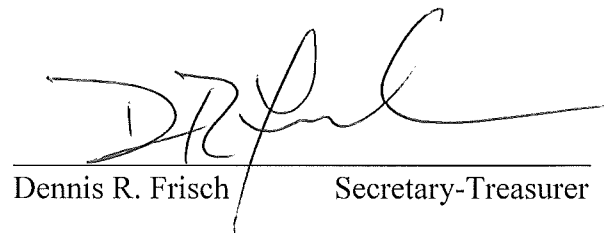
March 17 - Sugar Sand Park Lighting Proposal – Zimmer Consultants
Red Reef Park Presentation – Miller Legg
Discuss Athletic User Fees

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Frisch to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Dennis R. Frisch Secretary-Treasurer