

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUGAR SAND PARK - 300 SOUTH MILITARY TRAIL, BOCA RATON
September 8, 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 Road

Mr. Miller, President of the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, thanked Chairman Vogelgesang and Commissioner Frisch for attending the turtle hatchling release. He reported a 14% increase in attendance at the center compared to last year. More than 200,000 visitors are anticipated for the year. Staff is hopeful that Board approval of items two and three on the agenda will help to move both short-term and long-term projects forward. He thanked the Board for supporting the needs of the center in the 2015-2016 budget.

Joe Pedalino
2121 N. Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton

Mr. Pedalino, a Gumbo Limbo volunteer, acknowledged the substantial increase in visitation at the center and supports the efforts of the District to get the boardwalks open.

Mr. Pedalino stated that Boca Raton City Council Member Scott Singer advised him that the District was contacted with a proposition to place a restaurant on the Ocean Strand property. Swapping the Ocean Strand property for the Wildflower property was also a consideration. He inquired if the District had been approached, and if there was any interest in pursuing such an endeavor.

Commissioner Rollins responded that he had been contacted by Council Member Singer about putting a restaurant at Ocean Strand. He advised Council Member Singer that the City had asked the District to rezone the property for recreational purposes only. The issue of a land swap was not discussed. Commissioner Rollins expressed concern about the neighbors living on both the north and south sides of the property. Council Member Singer did not appear to share the same concerns.

Commissioner Frisch advised that he was also contacted by Council Member Singer and that a similar conversation occurred. In addition, a resident contacted him about putting a restaurant at Red Reef Park where the ruins of a former restaurant exist.

Tom Thayer

4821 N. Dixie Highway, Boca Raton

Mr. Thayer advised that September 19th is International Ocean Clean-up Day. The program will take place at Spanish River Park between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. The park entrance fee has been waived for the event. The clean-up areas will include the Intracoastal and ocean side.

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 August 17, 2015.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Approval of District 2015-2016 Budget for Public Presentation

Mr. Arthur C. Koski, interim District Executive Director advised that the Board is required to adopt a budget for presentation to the public at its first public hearing on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the community center at Sugar Sand Park. He recommends approval of the proposed 2015-2016 Budget Summary.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the proposed 2015-2016 Budget Summary with a millage rate of 0.9676 mills.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. Approval of Red Reef Park Work Order (Boardwalk) – Miller Legg

Mr. Koski presented the Additional Services No. 2 agreement which authorizes Miller Legg and its sub-consultant ATM to provide assistance to the District with regard to design plans, permitting activities and construction observation to facilitate an expeditious reopening of the boardwalk at Gumbo Limbo. The project conforms to the three phases presented by Mr. Daniel Grippo, City of Boca Raton Director of Municipal Services on June 8, 2015. Mr. Koski has reviewed the agreement and recommends approval.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the Additional Services No. 2 agreement for the Gumbo Limbo Boardwalk Project.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

3. Approval of Applied Technology Management (ATM)/Gumbo Limbo Agreement

Mr. Koski presented the Agreement for Services between ATM and the District to develop a short-term solution [Task #1, to be completed by November 2015, will provide sufficient salt water to support the marine life in the tanks] and a long-term solution [Task #2 to be completed February 2016, to conduct a thorough investigation of the pumping and piping system] at Gumbo Limbo. The fee for Tasks #1 and #2 total \$63,224. This amount does not include Task #3, the final permanent solution, which will be conducted after Tasks #1 and #2 are completed.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the Agreement for Services between Applied Technology and Management and the District.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

4. Sugar Sand Park Lighting Improvement Update – Zimmer Consultants

Mr. Rick Zimmer of Zimmer Consultants advised that due to non-performance, it was necessary for him to dismiss the sub-consultant responsible for the lighting construction drawings. On September 9th, he will meet with the second bidder who submitted a proposal to review the information developed to-date. He anticipates the completion of construction drawings by the end of September. The project should be completed sometime in November.

To assist City staff in trimming the trees along the roadway, Mr. Koski will contact Mr. Mickey Gomez, City of Boca Raton Recreation Services Director to confirm the location of the replacement lights.

Swim & Racquet Center Update: Mr. Zimmer advised that the Swim & Racquet Center Project has received final approval from Fire and all the City planners and he is ready to move forward with schematic drawings. The drawings should be available by the end of September.

5. User Fee Discussion

Mr. Koski suggested that the Board consider developing a policy/philosophy on user fees; not the exact amounts of what each user fee should be, but to center the discussion around the fees itself. As a basis for moving forward, he suggested the following: consider whether user fees are something that you would want for District facilities; are they necessary; should taxpayers who have paid for the facilities over the years be entitled to use District facilities without a fee; should taxpayers get beach stickers free of charge; should adult and youth groups be able to use District facilities free of charge. What is the definition of a resident and non-resident? Aside from active participants, passive participants should also be included in the discussion.

Significant issues noted by the Board for discussion include the Boca Raton City Council's position that user fees comprise an integral part of each department's' budget; the fact that the District maintains Patch Reef Park, Sugar Sand Park and DeHoernle Park and yet the fees are not set by the District; the definition of who is and isn't a resident; determine if resident/non-resident participants have a nexus to the community; the inconsistent application of user fees among different groups; the philosophy as to age making a difference if you are an adult or youth using facilities; should residents of the District who are not residents of the City be entitled to apply for and receive library cards; establish a philosophy on user fees and communicate that policy to City Council;

Mr. Koski will set up an agenda to devote a segment of the meetings to specific areas of discussion on user fees and the District philosophy.

6. Request to Re-Bid Sugar Sand Park Science Playground

Mr. Koski stated that numerous detailed meetings have been held with the architects and various consultants, contractors and people in the construction industry to review the plans that went out

to bid and came in over budget. A repackaging plan has been developed which will be implemented. The first phase of the repackaging is to rebid the “super structure” [the renovation of the four-story structure and construction of the three-story addition to the four-story structure]. By segregating these items, the bidding process will be simplified, attract more bidders, and hopefully, the project will be at or near the original budgeted amount. He requested approval to rebid the project.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to re-bid the Sugar Sand Park Playground Project.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Frisch and seconded by Commissioner Starkoff to approve the invoices as presented totaling \$304,246.35.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director

Interlocal Agreements

Mr. Koski stated that he was informed by Mr. Mickey Gomez that within the next two weeks the City will forward to the District the interlocal agreements for beach renourishment and DeHoernle Park Phase II.

Mr. Gomez also indicated that the issue of the conversion of the supervisory, technical and administration charges in the budget to a simplified percentage is of interest to the City and that agreement can be reached on a percentage figure.

Patch Reef Park

An RFP for architectural/engineers for the design of the three artificial turf fields at the subject park is ready to be advertised.

Sugar Sand Park

An RFP for architects/engineers to design the second field house at the subject park is ready to be advertised.

District Counsel - None

Commissioners

Restaurant at Ocean Strand

Addressing the issue that was brought forth by Mr. Pedalino under Public Comments, Commissioner Starkoff stated that he has no problem with Councilman Singer, nor any other public official, seeking a one-on-one conversation to get a sense of things. He counseled that plans

should be developed and taken to the people who are most immediately affected, as well as the general community, to determine their thoughts before any action is taken.

Change in Meeting Date

It was the consensus of the Board to move the regular of October 19th to October 26th.

Mr. Gomez stated that at the Boca Raton City Council Work Shop meeting today, the City Manager, Leif Ahnell, gave reference to a joint City/District meeting sometime in November.

Sugar Sand Park Playground

Commissioner Rollins referred to correspondence received from Ms. Brenda Balme of Boca Raton, a volunteer who helped build the playground. She inquired about having the residents once again participate in the building process. He suggested contacting Ms. Balme to discuss volunteer opportunities that may exist in the current build.

Mr. Koski noted that the Rotary will be participating with portions of the science playground such as installing pickets around the entire playground. The pickets will give the community an opportunity to place their names on them.

Use Fees

Commissioner Rollins referred to the City/District partnership and felt that the District should be given an opportunity to review the user fee schedule prior to the City taking any action on the matter.

Commissioner Starkoff commented that under the DeHoernle Park contract, the City sets the fees for usages at those fields. However, part of the contract states that all of the monies collected are returned to the District. He inquired if the District could expend the returned funds at their discretion. Mr. Koski responded affirmatively.

Swim & Racquet Center

Commissioner Vogelgesang was asked by a constituent the reason why the Racquet Center cannot hold men's night tennis on a holiday Monday. Mr. Koski will investigate the matter.

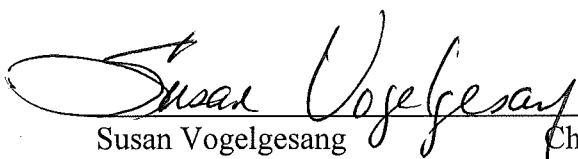
FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

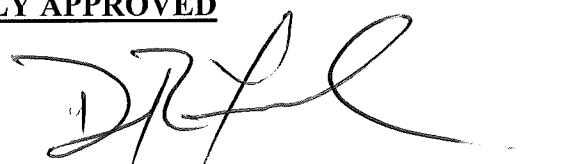
September 21 – User Fees

ADJOURNMENT:

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Dennis R. Frisch Secretary-Treasurer