

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUGAR SAND PARK - 300 SOUTH MILITARY TRAIL
July 22, 2013

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

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

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

At the request of Arthur C. Koski, acting Executive Director, the following two items were added to the agenda: Patch Reef Park and Special Interests.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Tom Thayer

4821 N. Dixie Highway, Boca Raton

Mr. Thayer believes that the former Chuck's building at the Swim & Racquet Center is salvageable. He suggested that the location and existing parking could accommodate a restaurant.

Commissioner Rollins offered that the cost to renovate the building would be substantial. Twice, the District sought Request for Proposals for a restaurant on the site and there were no submittals. The 2013-14 Budget does include funding for a master plan of the entire site.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the 2013-2014 Budget:

Patch Reef Park

Commissioner Engel suggested that next year he would like to see a comparison in the budget draft showing the actual expenses for the year.

The Board is awaiting the management and cost analysis for personnel from the City to determine the need for existing personnel or any excess personnel.

Commissioner Vogelgesang inquired about the County's participation in funding any of the expenses at Patch Reef Park.

Mr. Koski stated that Palm Beach County contributed \$1 million when the park was originally acquired, and leased their interest to the District for 99 years with the understanding that the District would be responsible for all of the costs and that service would be provided by the City of Boca Raton.

For informational purposes, Mr. Koski provided a draft of the 2013-14 budget. He remarked that in the future, the District may take a more global approach to the budget by offering the City a set amount of funds to service all of the District parks.

Mr. Koski will meet next week on site with Mr. Phil Busey, Agronomist, to review City maintenance policies and procedures.

Discussion ensued about the strategic location of maintenance facilities such as employees meeting at a central location and then dispersing to the parks with specific assigned tasks.

Special Interests

Tennis Facilities

Commissioner Vogelgesang inquired about the cost of the merchandise and the revenue generated at the Tennis facilities.

Mr. Koski advised that the merchandise offered is a convenience to the patrons.

Willow Theatre

Mr. Koski was asked to determine the major participants at the Willow Theatre.

Commissioner Starkoff remarked that the Willow Theatre is a specialized facility in the community which requires specialized personnel. In his opinion, a cost and benefit analysis is needed to better guide the City in its programming

Mr. Koski stated that the District needs to debate its philosophical goals at all of its facilities to determine if it should be a) a revenue generating entity b) an entity that provides facilities to the public as close to free of charge as possible, or c) somewhere in between. The discussion should also apply to user fees and youth sports agreements.

Commissioner Engel felt that a pattern exists in all of the District park budgets wherein the City requests increased funding for items above approved 2012/13 expenses even though actual expenses were less.

Mr. Koski will request City staff to furnish a monthly report to the District indicating the special interest activities being conducted at its facilities.

Information Technology (IT)

Mr. Koski gave an overview of his meeting with Sandra Stevens, City of Boca Raton Information Technology Director. The City's annual Information Technology budget is \$4.4 million; approximately 50% is for personnel. The District's allocation of the IT budget is based upon personnel costs which includes vacant positions; not on the number of computers. Questions still need to be debated regarding 1) duplicate charges; such as reimbursing the Recreation Services Department 40% of their costs, plus their IT, and the District's IT, and 2) how money is credited for the disposal of equipment purchased by the District.

Mr. Koski will provide copies of the City's policy on tuition reimbursements/professional development.

Capital Projects

Major capital funding will be expended by the District for its projects: Spanish River Athletic Facilities Phase II, the Science Playground and various master plans.

IRIS Water for Estridge

Mr. Koski advised that the City's original request for this item was \$35,000. A re-analysis has yielded a cost of \$6,000. This item will be included in the City's capital requests. Subject to approval by the School Board, this \$6,000 item will be brought before the Board at the appropriate time for approval.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the invoices as presented totaling \$2,054,562.47.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT:

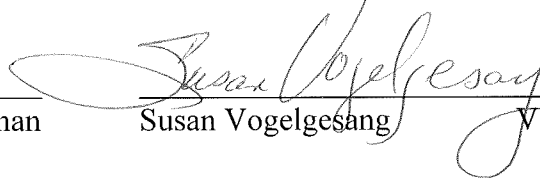
MOTION was made by Commissioner Starkoff and seconded by Commissioner Engel to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:25 p.m.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED



Robert K. Rollins, Jr.

Chairman



Susan Vogelgesang

Vice-Chairman