

**NON-APPROVED
MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
GUMBO LIMBO NATURE CENTER
1801 NORTH OCEAN BOULEVARD
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**

Chairman Ronald Betters called the meeting to order at 5:18PM. Roll was called.

Members Present: Ronald L. Betters, Chair
Gordon Gilbert, Vice Chair
Peter Boylan
Dr. Dennis R. Frisch
Joseph Good
Hank Kreh

Members Absent: Dr. Trudi N. Stevens

Staff Present: Mickey A. Gomez Recreation Services Director
Buddy Parks Deputy Recreation Services Director
J.D. Varney Recreation Services Superintendent
Greg Stevens Recreation Services Superintendent
Ryan Butts Sea Turtle Rehab Coordinator
Stefanie Ouellette Gumbo Limbo Manager

Others Present: Evan, Rachel & Charley Bennett, Boca Raton residents
David Milledge, Boca Raton resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Dr. Frisch, seconded by Mr. Boylan, to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2015 Regular Meeting as submitted. **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

Mention was given to the other related board minutes in the packet.

PURPOSE: Regular monthly meeting.

WELCOME:

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Mr. and Mrs. Bennett spoke promoting expansion of the skate park and they were told that the expansion was on hold. Mr. Gomez told them about the times allocated for public to speak at the City Council's Goal Setting.

Mr. Milledge said he was interested in becoming more involved in the City.

REPORTS:

1. **Staff Updates – Gumbo Limbo – Ryan Butts**

Mr. Butts gave a PowerPoint presentation. He said that the turtle rehab was open in 2010 and there has been a good success rate. He said they often learn of injured turtles from the public. Mr. Butts spoke regarding bringing turtles back to health and releasing them into the ocean. He answered Board Member questions.

2. **Department Project Updates – B. Parks**

This item was heard after Mr. Varney gave his monthly report. Mr. Parks said that for **Gumbo Limbo Seawater Life Support Pumps**, we are moving forward with Applied Technology & Management (ATM) to do a final study and staff had a meeting with the consultant. For **Spanish River Library Mezzanine Enclosure**, Mr. Parks said the bid was advertised. A pre-bid meeting was scheduled for May 11th. The

bid opening is May 27, 2015. He said **Silver Palm Park Restroom Renovations** are continuing and doing well. Mr. Parks said for **Hillsboro/El Rio Master Plan** that they are just waiting for a Work Order. **Spanish River Park Tunnel Repair** shifted from Facility Maintenance to a CIP project. We have a quote from the same company that is doing the restrooms. Mr. Parks said that the bid package was sent to purchasing for **Patch Reef Park Tennis Center**. Mr. Parks answered Board questions.

3. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report – J. Varney

Mr. Varney noted that the October-March participation numbers for the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center have increased steadily for the past four years. The participation numbers for James A. Rutherford Community Center have decreased each year for the past four years. He said that staff are working to reverse the trend. Acknowledging the good work of Tennis Centers Administrator Jim Tierney, Mr. Varney reported that Boca Raton Tennis Center permit sales, revenue and participation has increased every year for the past four years. Mr. Varney answered questions from the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Athletic Field Maintenance – M. Gomez / G. Stevens

Mr. Gomez talked about some different techniques being used in other countries to get more usage out of the grass fields, that he learned about at the National Recreation & Parks Association conference. Mr. Stevens explained the Beach & Park District had hired a consultant who critiqued the maintenance practices being used at both Patch Reef and deHoernle Parks. And another turf grass specialist was invited to analyze Patch Reef fields and give us input on the alternative methods for implementing an aggressive maintenance program. He explained they learned several useful techniques about the ability to grow grass and keep it in playable condition all year round. Mr. Stevens answered questions of the Board. Mr. Gomez answered the question regarding the four fields at deHoernle Park. He said it would be discussed at Goal Setting. It is delayed because they need to decide on the type of playing surface.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Responses to March Meeting Information Requests

Mr. Gomez explained that he added this item on the agenda to assure that any questions requiring research to answer are responded to at the following meeting. Mr. Parks spoke regarding the question of installing lights at George Snow Park. He said that it would cost approximately \$80K-\$90K to light each of the two courts (one tennis court and one basketball court). He said that funds for this are not budgeted but that if persons are interested, they should speak during public speaking time at Goal Setting. Mr. Kreh asked about the usage of the two tennis courts at Meadows Park.

3. Extended Lifeguarding Hours (Ocean Rescue) – J. Varney

Mr. Varney spoke regarding the decision to extend ocean lifeguard service to 6:30pm during the spring and summer (26 weeks). He said that the cost for the additional hours will be approximately \$180K for the extra hours (\$120K from the City and \$60K from the GBRB&PD). Mr. Varney answered questions from the Board Members.

STAFF COMMENTS:

1. Employee of the Quarter – First Quarter 2015

Mr. Parks spoke about the employees from his area who won:

Employee **TEAMWORK** Leadership Award was won by Melanie Stadler.

Employee **INNOVATION** Leadership Award was won by Oyuki Poletz and Max LaMura.

Mr. Stevens spoke about the employees from his area who won:

Employee **MOTIVATION/POSITIVE ATTITUDE** Leadership Award was won by Wanda Harris, Jim Gannon, and Joel Etkie.

Employee **COMMITMENT** Leadership Award was won by Duane Dougherty.

2. Director's Report

Mr. Gomez spoke about the first day of Goal Setting. He gave the dates of the other two days for Goal Setting.

3. Various Letters of Commendation

Self-explanatory.

BOARD MEMBER INTEREST INITIATIVES & COMMENTS:

Dr. Frisch spoke about Rugby and that in his travels, his view was that Boca Raton had the best fields. He said that the 12 and 14 year olds from Boca all went to the state playoffs. The 12 year olds were the State Champs in their division. Mr. Kreh inquired regarding the Spanish River Library enclosure bids. Mr. Gomez said there were fewer bids with higher quotes. Mr. Good thought that Boca Isles might be a good site for a dog park. In response to a question from Mr. Good, Mr. Gomez responded that an Economic Development person was hired. Mr. Boylan mentioned that there was no Park Ranger Report in the package. Mr. Gomez said that crime seems to be down in the City. A discussion ensued about the three Board Re-appointments (Ron Betters, Dennis Frisch, and Hank Kreh).

MOTION was made by Mr. Boylan, seconded by Mr. Good, to draft a letter to the Mayor and City Council under Vice Chairman Gordon Gilbert's signature, to suggest re-appointing the three members of the Parks and Recreation Board whose terms are up. **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

ACTIVITIES:

City Council Goal Setting – May 5, 6 & 7, 2015 – Municipal Services
Parks and Recreation Board Re-appointments (Ron, Dennis & Hank)
City Council workshop on Monday, July 27th (Workshop is after CRA Meeting which starts @ 1:30) or City Council Meeting Tuesday, July 28th at 6pm

NEXT MEETINGS:

June 2, 2015 – Boca Raton Municipal Golf Course
July 7, 2015 – Boca Raton Downtown Library

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Mr. Boylan, seconded by Mr. Gilbert, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55PM.
MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Arlene Moskowitz, Recorder