

**NON-APPROVED
MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
GUMBO LIMBO NATURE CENTER
1801 NORTH OCEAN BLVD.
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014**

Dr. Trudi Stevens, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:15PM. Roll was called.

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

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
Kirt Rusenko Marine Conservationist
Stefanie Ouellette Manager, Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

Others Present: A. J. Abbott Fox Victor Ltd.
Gerry Angers Boca Raton resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Dr. Frisch, seconded by Mr. Boylan, to accept the minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular meeting as submitted. **MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

Mention was given to the other related board minutes in the packet. Dr. Stevens said that one might have the wrong title on it. The correct title on the Special Meeting held 1/9/14 is: Youth Sports Ad Hoc Board.

PURPOSE: Regular monthly meeting.

WELCOME: Dr. Stevens welcomed the board's visitors.

PUBLIC REQUESTS: A. J. Abbott said he worked for minor league baseball and said that the City of Boca Raton has wonderful fields. He discussed different fields in Boca that would be good for these games.

REPORTS:

1. **Staff Updates – Gumbo Limbo – Kirt Rusenko**

Dr. Rusenko gave a PowerPoint presentation on Sky Glow, a phenomenon created by distant lighting that causes illumination of light in the night sky. He showed the types of fixtures that tend to add to the problem, and discussed the types of bulbs, and the color of the lighting spectrum that bulbs emit. Several types of bulbs, and many fixtures affect the sea turtles. He stated that he has worked with the condo owners along the Boca Raton beaches, and they have been very cooperative in changing bulbs and reducing lights adjacent to the beach. He was also working with FP&L on the issues of energy savings, safety, and sky glow for the next generation of streetlights.

2. Department Project Updates – B. Parks

Mr. Parks reported that for the **Red Reef Park Maintenance Enclosure**, a Notice To Proceed was issued today. For **Gumbo Limbo Boardwalks**, boardwalks were out to bid. For **Gumbo Limbo Pumps**, Mr. Parks said that they met with consultant. There would be a work order to look at two more options that may be better. **Gumbo Limbo – Doors, Windows & Gutters** are almost completed. For safety concerns, the heavy wood doors are being replaced with glass window that meets hurricane standards. The lake connection pathway was almost finished for **Blue Lake/de Hoernle Lake Connection**. Mr. Parks answered Board questions. He said they would look into distance markings for people who walk. Mr. Gomez said they were looking into lighting for that area. Mr. Parks said they were also looking into shoring up the banks and connecting lighting with the bridge. They discussed the great biking pathways in Boca Raton.

3. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report – J. Varney

Mr. Varney commented on recent increases in participation at Hillsboro/EI Rio Park and at Lake Wyman Park. He indicated that revenue figures will be available shortly.

Mr. Varney pointed out that YTD participation at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center was consistent in FY 2010-11, FY 2011-12, and FY 2012-13. However, it increased considerably in FY 2013-14. He then pointed out the participation numbers for the two libraries, combined. While combined participation was steady for the past three years, it rose sharply in FY 13-14, primarily as a result of the new Downtown Library.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

STAFF COMMENTS:

1. Director's Report

Mr. Gomez said that Bark Beach is still very popular. There were no new incidents reported and more permits were being sold. The Youth Sports Ad Hoc Board was meeting again on April 10th at the Community Center Annex at 7:00PM. Mr. Gomez said he would report back at the next meeting. Mr. Gomez mentioned that a survey would be sent to members to see if they want tournaments at their tennis facility or not. This was regarding the complaint by a tennis member who could not play on his courts due to the tournament. Mr. Varney said that an RFP went out for the beach concessions. They would make a recommendation to City Council, once they get all responses from vendors. Mr. Gomez answered that re-nourishment was going on now at the beach. Red Reef would be skipped due to environmental issues. Mr. Parks and Mr. Gomez explained that the City was still working through the new State insurance requirements. They were still trying to work out the issue with rugby.

2. Various Letters of Commendation

BOARD MEMBER INTEREST INITIATIVES & COMMENTS:

Dr. Frisch said the rugby state semi-final game between Boca Raton vs Fort Lauderdale would be 3:00PM this Saturday at Don Estridge. Mr. Kreh mentioned how people were complimenting the library amenities. The different fees were discussed for residents of the City, Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District, and the County. Mr. Good further complimented the libraries. Mr. Betters commented on the fewer amounts of vandalism. Mr. Boylan commented that residents love the MobiMats at South Beach. Mr. Gomez said staff would consider purchasing enough to go all the way out to the water in the new budget. Mr. Gilbert asked Mr. Gomez to find out when the interviews would be for the board members who were coming up for re-appointment. Chair Stevens talked about the upcoming activities and meeting.

ACTIVITIES:

April 4-6 – The 2014 South Florida Open Wheelchair Championships
(Patch Reef Park Tennis Center)
April 10, 2014 – Youth Sports Ad Hoc Board Meeting – 7:00PM @
Community Center Annex

NEXT MEETINGS:

May 6, 2014 – Red Reef Park/Pavilion
June 3, 2014 – Boca Raton Municipal Golf Course

ADJOURNMENT:

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 PM.

Arlene Moskowitz, Recorder