

**NON-APPROVED
MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
SUGAR SAND PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
300 S. MILITARY TRAIL
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014**

Dr. Trudi Stevens, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:17PM. Roll was called.

Members Present: Dr. Trudi N. Stevens, Chair
Peter Boylan
Dr. Dennis R. Frisch (*arrived 5:20PM*)
Gordon Gilbert
Joseph Good
Hank Kreh

Members Absent: Ronald L. Betters, Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Buddy Parks	Deputy Recreation Services Director
J.D. Varney	Recreation Services Superintendent
Greg Stevens	Recreation Services Superintendent
Shannon Lotito	Athletic Program Coordinator
Kevin Beckman	Athletic Programs Administrator

Others Present:

Dave Freudenberg	Boca Raton Resident
Dave Johnson	Boca Raton Resident
Michele Peel	Boca Raton Resident
Ken Hirsch	Architect for Rotary Peace Park

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Boylan, to accept the minutes of the July 1, 2014 regular meeting. **MOTION PASSED 5-0.**

PURPOSE: Regular monthly meeting.

WELCOME:

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Dave Freudenberg spoke regarding using vacant land owned by the City for a Rotary Club Peace Park. He said that the money is already committed from a company out of Dallas, Texas. He said they will build the park, maintain it, and cut the grass. The City would not have to contribute. He answered questions from the Board. Mr. Freudenberg said he is going to Dallas and when he returns, he will report to the Board. The members said that they would visit the site prior to Mr. Freudenberg's return.

CORRESPONDENCE: In the packet was the memo sent by Mickey Gomez to Dr. Vinci regarding croquet. The Chair directed the members' attention to the other related board minutes in the packet.

REPORTS:

1. **Staff Updates – Field Scheduling – Shannon Lotito**

Shannon Lotito spoke about her employment job responsibilities with the City. She explained all the mechanisms employed to successfully and fairly schedule the fields. She said that fields are closed for maintenance generally once a year. She explained all the recreation and sports programs offered by independent youth leagues, schools and the City for children and adults which require fields. She spoke about the insurance requirements for these fields and answered questions about rosters and interlocal agreements. Mr. Parks said that the City had an interlocal agreement with the School District. Shannon answered about residency status and stated that private schools have to be located within the City or the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District. She is aware of all the characteristics of the fields so she knows how to appropriately divvy them among the correct recipients for the correct sports.

2. Department Project Updates – B. Parks

Mr. Parks explained why **Gumbo Limbo Boardwalks** were on hold and said that **Red Reef Park – Restroom Renovations** would be pulled for a while from this report. Mr. Parks said that 8" lines and 2 new pumps were being fast tracked for **Gumbo Limbo Pumps**. **Gumbo Limbo – Doors, Windows & Gutters** were completed and waiting for a final invoice, then this project will come off the list. The **Playground Renovations** for South Beach Pavilion were being delayed due to the rain. For **Silver Palm Park Restroom Renovations**, Mr. Parks reported that the ADA analysis was complete. We got the proposal from the contractor and meetings were coordinated, we can move forward on this project. Mr. Parks spoke about a new project and he explained the \$800K which was approved by the City Council for the I95/Glades interchange beautification. Mr. Parks answered questions on the Gumbo Limbo Pumps. He pointed out that what was being done was not the long-term solution but rather an immediate fix. He answered that he would have discussions with FAU after he knows the final price.

3. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report – J. Varney

Referencing the October - May revenue Report, Mr. Varney noted that the Spanish Rive Library has experienced a recent decline. . On a positive note, every category experienced a four year high in FY 13-14. He credited the increases to good customer service. In response to a question, he indicated that revenue generated by the Dog Beach was a pleasant surprise.

NEW BUSINESS:

As discussed, concern was raised regarding the date of the next P&R meeting. Without objection, it was decided to propose changing the September 2nd date as it will be the day after Labor Day.

MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Kreh, to change the P&R Board meeting from September 2, 2014 to September 9, 2014 providing there are no conflicts from the City Clerk's Office or regulatory conflicts. **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

STAFF COMMENTS:

1.

Employees of the Quarter – Second Quarter 2014

Mr. Parks reviewed the awards presented to employees for the second quarter.

Motivation/Positive Attitude went to **Tiffany Lucia**, Recreation Center Supervisor (Sugar Sand Park). Mr. Parks said that she remains available to all staff at all times. Tiffany encourages staff to change or recreate or develop new programs and events for the patrons. She has created a transparent environment by allowing each area of Sugar Sand to read all other areas of Sugar Sand's meeting minutes. She is a forthright supervisor. This results in good morale, good employees, an excellent reputation, and job satisfaction.

Innovation went to **Stacey Lanz**, Special Event Coordinator (Sugar Sand Park). Stacey has made improvements and created in 2012 a completely new event "Snow Day" with real snow and other fun things. She eliminated the long running Puppifest and tried something completely new with "Arts Spark" festival. It was recently launched and was a huge success with a large audience.

Commitment went to **Kate Lasher**, Science Center Educator (Sugar Sand Park). Kate works long hours, juggling the AIHC Curator position as well as the Science Educator position, and has been doing so since October. Kate never complains about extra work time. Creating staff schedules was added to her responsibility and she ensures that coverage never lapses in spite of being down one full-time and one part-time person.

Communication went to **Andrew Bae and Ileana Miller**, both are Library Assistant II. A patron at the library did not feel well and Andrew realized he needed medical assistance. He called 911. As the patron spoke Spanish, Ileana translated what little information the squad was able to get from him before he was transported to the hospital. Their quick action may have saved the man's life. They communicate well and also with the ability to communicate in another language.

2.

Director's Report

Mr. Parks congratulated the Board Members who were recently re-appointed. He thanked everyone for their years of service. He answered some questions which were asked at the previous P&R Board Meeting. He said they did look into handrails for the south end of Red Reef Park. It was a good suggestion. He explained that the City did not post any "non-approved" minutes on their website. He explained the process, that after the P&R minutes are approved, they would be available for the City Council. Mr. Parks answered Dr. Frisch; that change of address could be given to him to be passed onto the City Clerk's Office or given directly to the City Clerk's Office. Dr. Frisch commented that Mr. Mike Woika attended a Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District (GBRB&PD) Meeting. He announced that money from the government for beach renourishment would be given to the GBRB&PD. Dr. Frisch said that this revenue source might move other items up on the "wish list". Recommendations like open play park for Hillsboro/El Rio were discussed and they talked about foot golf taking off in other communities. Mention was given regarding the article in the Board Packet regarding "A Special Day For A Special Boy".

3.

Various Letters of Commendation

BOARD MEMBER INTEREST INITIATIVES & COMMENTS:

Mr. Kreh said that scheduling fields is a pretty thankless job and appreciated Shannon Lotito's efforts. Mr. Boylan discussed the upcoming P&R Board's Special Meeting regarding Hillsboro/El Rio Park. Mr. Parks explained the City Council's directive. Mr. Johnson, a member of the public, spoke regarding opposition he encountered when he spoke about Hillsboro/El Rio. Mr. Parks told the Board that he would make sure the nearby neighbors are told of the September 16th meeting that will encourage public comments either for or against the park. Staff will give a presentation and then time will be allotted for public comment.

ACTIVITIES:

September 16th @ 7:00PM – P&R Board Special Meeting – Re: Hillsboro/El Rio Park (Downtown Library)

NEXT MEETINGS:

September 2, 2014 – Community Center Annex (date changed to September 9th)
October 7, 2014 – Patch Reef Park/James A. Rutherford Community Center

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Boylan, to adjourn the meeting at 6:37PM.
MOTION PASSED 6-0.

Arlene Moskowitz, Recorder

