

**NON-APPROVED
MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
BOCA RATON COMMUNITY CENTER ANNEX
260 CRAWFORD BOULEVARD
BOCA RATON, FL 33432
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014**

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

Members Absent: None

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
Tom Cargill	Chief Park Ranger
Mo Noor	Park Ranger Supervisor
Kevin Beckman	Athletic Programs Administrator
Jim Thomas	Athletic Supervisor I

Others Present: Robert Weinroth, Boca Raton Resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Kreh, to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2013 regular meeting as submitted. **MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

Mention was given (later on in the meeting) to the other related board minutes in the packet.

PURPOSE: Regular monthly meeting.

WELCOME:

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Dennis R. Frisch 2013 Chairman – M. Gomez
Mr. Gomez presented Dr. Frisch with a plaque to commemorate his dedication and service as the 2013 Chair of the Parks & Recreation Board.

PUBLIC REQUESTS: No one from the public wished to speak.

REPORTS:

1. **Staff Updates – Park Rangers – T. Cargill**

Mr. Cargill said that the Park Rangers provide service at forty different sites. He added that the Park Rangers are on duty from 8:00AM to 11:00PM, seven days a week. They also support

125 special events per year. Chief Cargill noted that his staff work closely with the Police Services and other divisions within the City.

He spoke of the level of revenue generated. He also spoke of the challenge of scheduling 43 part-time Park Rangers and 17 part-time Gate Attendants. The task being especially challenging due to the limit of 1,300 hours per year per employee.

Chief Cargill spoke about the Park Rangers' role in operating the dog beach.

2. Department Project Updates – B. Parks

Mr. Parks reported that for the **Red Reef Park Maintenance Enclosure**, the contract was signed in November. They had a pre-construction meeting in December and the contractor appeared before CAB. They will issue a Notice to Proceed. For **Gumbo Limbo Boardwalks**, Mr. Parks stated that the plans and specs were sent to Purchasing. It will go out soon to bid. The contractor was taking measurements and ordering stuff for **Gumbo Limbo – Doors, Windows & Gutters**. They will issue a Notice to Proceed. The punch list is being finalized for **Red Reef Park – Resurfacing Parking Lot**. Both dams breached and lakes connected for **Blue Lake/de Hoernle Lake Connection**. They are moving forward very well.

3. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report – J. Varney

Mr. Varney reported that revenue generated by the Downtown Library has declined steadily for the past several years. He indicated that FY 13/14 will be the first full fiscal year with the new facility and that an upward trend is expected.

Discussing FY 12/13 revenue, he reported that, for the first time ever, the Recreation Services Department generated over \$8 million dollars in revenue. Significantly contributing to the accomplishment were the Boca Raton Tennis Center, the Sugar Sand Park Community Center and Athletics programs

Mr. Varney answered a question regarding revenue used to fund capital improvement at the golf courses.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

STAFF COMMENTS:

1. Director's Report

Mr. Gomez spoke about the dog beach. He said that 429 resident permits at \$30 each were sold. There were seven non-resident permits sold at \$165 each. Weekend permits are sold at the gatehouse for \$10 and could be used towards buying an annual permit. They are looking into selling weekend permits at a kiosk. A maintenance crew comes in and cleans the beach when the dog beach time is over in the mornings.. Mr. Gomez said there were two dog wastes that had to be cleaned up and the people were reminded that Bark Beach is a pilot program and people need to clean up after their dog. He also reported two dog bites. A lady and a seven year old boy were bitten and they are fine. People know that they come to the dog beach at their own risk. It was suggested to Mr. Gomez to have a sign posted counting dog waste at the beach and dog bites so that permit holders are reminded to do the right thing. Mr. Gomez answered that Tower 18 and Tower 20 have washing stations.

Mr. Gomez then reported on the Youth Sports Associations - Ad Hoc Board which will be held on January 9, 2014 at the Boca Raton Community Center Annex at 7:00PM. He went over Resolution No. 72-97 which was distributed. . He said there were to be three members of the Parks and Recreation Board at the meeting. Dr. Frisch will chair and Mr. Good will be in attendance. Mr. Boylan volunteered to be the third member from the Board. Mr. Gomez explained that the purpose of the ad-hoc meeting was to develop recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Council for roster validation and field allocation based on consensus building within the group. He discussed a spreadsheet in the packet showing non-resident and resident participation numbers from 1998/1999 through 2012/2013. Non-resident participation has increased and resident participation has decreased in independent youth sports groups. Mr. Gomez answered that the numbers representing the football leagues did include cheerleading. Discussion ensued that because Boca has great teams and facilities, this attracts non-residents. Mr. Gomez answered that non-residents pay \$40 extra per child per sport season. It was suggested that maybe the non-residents want their children on traveling teams and that the City residents are getting older with less children for sports. It was noted that in some places parents must volunteer to line the fields or work concessions. Discussion ensued that non-residents usually are good for the Boca teams.

2. **Various Letters of Commendation**

Two are self-explanatory.

The wedding was discussed. Dr. Frisch wanted to know if there were provisions for rain and/or tents. Mr. Parks explained how tents were set up. He spoke about future plans for the Spanish River Library. He also discussed insurance.

The tour on February 8th was discussed and that the next meeting would be February 4th.

BOARD MEMBER INTEREST INITIATIVES & COMMENTS:

Dr. Stevens read about New Years.

Mr. Betters commented on how fantastic the **RECREATOR** is.

Mr. Boylan spoke about the new park he visited in Santa Monica with concrete and steel with very little grass. It is a wonderful concept for a park in a community with very little grass.

ACTIVITIES: 2014 Parks and Recreation Board Tour – Saturday, February 8, 2014 (8:00AM to 12:00PM)

NEXT MEETINGS: February 4, 2014 – Patch Reef Park/James A. Rutherford Community Center
March 4, 2014 – Community Center Annex

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Mr. Boylan, seconded by Mr. Betters, to adjourn the meeting at 6:25PM. **MOTION CARRIED 7-0.**