

**NON-APPROVED
MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
PATCH REEF PARK/JAMES A. RUTHERFORD COMMUNITY CENTER
2000 YAMATO ROAD
BOCA RATON, FL 33431
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 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

Members Absent: Hank Kreh*
*Informed the City prior to absence.

Staff Present: Mickey Gomez Recreation Services Director
J.D. Varney Recreation Services Superintendent
Greg Stevens Recreation Services Superintendent

Others Present: Sandra Gottfried, Advisory Board For People With Disabilities

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Betters, to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2014 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: Sandra Gottfried gave a PowerPoint presentation on Mobi-Mats. The City has a two-mile stretch of lifeguard protected beaches and these Mobi-Mats would provide ease of access on the sand for all - not just for people with disabilities. There are people who use crutches, walkers, push baby carriages, ice chests on wheels, etc. She gave examples of some neighboring cities that already use these mats as well as some states. She answered Board questions. Mr. Gomez said that the City bought some for Gumbo Limbo. Greg Stevens read from an e-mail he received regarding the costs for Mobi-Mats. Estimates needed for South Beach would be 150', 100' for Red Reef and 200' at Spanish River.

CORRESPONDENCE: From Dan Grippo to Leif J. Ahnell regarding Florida Bicycle Month – March 2014

REPORTS:

1. **Staff Updates – Administration – Diane M. Yeager**
Mr. Gomez said that Ms. Yeager was unable attend this evening. This item would be postponed until next month.

2. Department Project Updates – B. Parks

Mr. Gomez said JD Varney would give the updates. Mr. Varney reported that Clay Tennis Court Resurfacing for Boca Raton Tennis Center & Racquet Center has been completed. Discussion ensued regarding both dams being removed and the lakes behind the Spanish River Library and at de Hoernle Park being connected. The pumps at Gumbo Limbo were also discussed. Mr. Gomez said that the Board would visit Gumbo Limbo on Saturday and Mr. Parks would explain the situation regarding the pumps.

3. Parks & Recreation Monthly Report – J. Varney

Mr. Varney reported that dog beach figures have appeared on the Monthly Participation Report for the first time. Since the dog beach opened, 520 dog visits have been recorded. He also reported that the City sold more annual and weekend permits than anticipated. He recognized the contributions of Community Center staff and the Park Rangers in making the dog beach a success.

Mr. Varney told the Board that during FY 12/13, programs conducted by the Recreation Services Department generated \$2,440,600 in revenue. Among the programs conducted were learn to swim classes, tennis lessons, athletic leagues and a variety of classes at the community centers. Expenses related to providing programs were \$1,767,500. These expenses included class instructors, officials and equipment such as tennis balls. The net financial impact was a positive \$673,100.

NEW BUSINESS:

P&R Board Tour – Agenda – M. Gomez

The P&R Board Tour agenda was in the Board packet. The tour will start at 8:00AM with breakfast at the Spanish River Library & Community Center. If there was anything else that someone wanted added to this agenda, to please contact Mr. Gomez.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dog Beach – M. Gomez

Mr. Gomez distributed a picture of the dog beach. He said there was only one complaint about the Dog Beach. However, many people come to just watch the dogs and their families have fun. On another note, Mr. Gomez said he would have the hose checked at the Dog Park.

Youth Sports Ad Hoc Board – M. Gomez

Mr. Gomez reported that they met on January 9, 2014 with a focus on roster validation, field allocation, and definition of a registered resident participant in the youth sports associations. All youth sports groups were there. He did get a definition of a resident participant and read that into the record. Field allocation would be based on the previous year's number of residents in the program and then taking into account any growth the next year. Rosters are supposed to be handed in four weeks before the first practice. Mr. Gomez explained that they were working on the minutes from the meeting and it would go out with the next agenda. There would be another meeting to firm up the definition of resident participant and field allocation. What wasn't decided was how to validate the rosters. The current rate for the youth sports card was \$40/season and no fee for a resident. The different sports associations would talk it over and come back to the next meeting to finalize. Dr. Frisch said there was good discussion.

STAFF COMMENTS:

1. Employees of the Quarter – Fourth Quarter 2013

Mr. Varney spoke about Alvina Washington who works in the Boca Raton Community Center. She earned the Commitment award. Not only does she do her own work well, but took over custodial duties when the center was short on custodians.

At Gumbo Limbo, Patricia Clenzi was recognized for Innovation. She is a Science Educator. She sets up the programs well and is flexible with all schools. She expanded the grades that can come to the nature center.

David Anderson, who is a Marine Turtle Specialist, was recognized for his Motivation and Positive Attitude. He covers shifts for anyone else. He volunteers to feed the animals and always has a pleasant demeanor.

Mr. Varney distributed a photo of the whale that washed up in Spanish River Park and shared with the Board the story about how the whale was removed from the beach following the necropsy. Mr. Varney named the staff that contributed to the effort (Joe Corey, Patrick Adolphe, Tim Fry, LeeAnn Carpenter, Mike Clark, Jean Desmorne and Donald Singleton) and explained what each did to get the carcass back into the ocean and off Boca's beach. They received the Teamwork Leadership Award.

Greg Stevens said Anthony Reliford won for Communication. Anthony always makes sure he is aware of what is going on so he is ready to assist where needed and keep up with his regular duties as well. He is always helpful and volunteers. He never refuses additional requests or responsibilities.

2. Director's Report

Mr. Gomez said that next week he would be presenting beach concession information at the City Council Workshop. He showed the Board Members pictures of beach chairs, umbrellas, and little cabanas. A decision would have to be made to either piggy back off of Pompano Beach's beach concession or use our own RFP. Mr. Gomez answered that Delray and Fort Lauderdale do not have problems during turtle season. We could also put the concession items in areas where it is not highly nested. The concessionaire from Pompano Beach said he would handle Boca's needs and give the City about \$24,000 per year.

Mr. Gomez showed a brief video from Trust For Public Land. It showed that the healthiest place in town to get fit is public parks. This was a recent study in preventative medicine.

3. Various Letters of Commendation

Self -explanatory.

BOARD MEMBER INTEREST, INITIATIVES & COMMENTS:

Tongva Park – Santa Monica, CA. This is the park that Peter Boylan spoke about at the last meeting. Mr. Gomez downloaded a picture from their website.

Dr. Frisch inquired about the incident report regarding the coral snake in Sugar Sand Park. Mr. Gomez said that the City brought in an expert. Mr. Gomez said he would talk to Risk Management.

Mr. Boylan wanted to know about Boca Del Mar. Dr. Frisch said that the District would not choose sides between the residents and developer.

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

NEXT MEETINGS: March 4, 2014 – Community Center Annex
April 1, 2014 – Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Mr. Boylan, seconded by Mr. Good, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45PM. **MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Arlene Moskowitz, Recorder