

**ATV Ad Hoc Committee  
Agenda  
April 12, 2018  
6PM  
North Collier Regional Park  
15000 Livingston Road Naples, Florida 34109**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**III. New Business**

a) Ad- Hoc Committee Applicants

**III. Old Business**

a) Tickets to Ride

**IV. Committee Comments/Public**

**V. Adjournment**

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION**

## **ATV Ad Hoc Committee Workshop**

**Naples, Florida, February 1, 2018**

The Collier County Parks and Recreation ATV Ad Hoc Committee, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 6:00 p.m. at North Collier Regional Park, Administrative Building, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, Florida with the following members present:

### **ATV Ad Hoc Committee Members:**

Mr. Joe Pelletier, Chairman

Mr. Mario Menendez

Mr. Josh Sturgeon

Mr. Greg Westgate

### **Also Present:**

Mr. Barry Williams, Division Director, Collier County Parks and Recreation

Ms. Jeanine McPherson, Assistant Director, Collier County Parks and Recreation

Ms. Ilonka Washburn, Operations Manager, Collier County Parks and Recreation

Mr. Miguel Rojas, Administrative Assistant, Collier County Parks and Recreation

Mr. Jose Gomez, Fun Park 74, Punta Gorda, Florida

**I. Call to Order**

The February 1, 2018 ATV Ad Hoc Committee meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Pelletier.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

*Mr. Menendez entered a motion to approve the February 1, 2018 meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Greg Westgate. All were in favor. The motion was carried.*

**III. Approval of Minutes**

*Mr. Menendez entered a motion to approve the January 11, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Westgate. All were in favor. The motion was carried.*

*Mr. Menendez entered a motion to approve the December 14, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sturgeon. All were in favor. The motion was carried.*

**IV. Old Business**

**a) Tickets to Ride**

The Executive Summary outlining the Tickets To Ride program that will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) for final review and approval was shared with the Ad Hoc Committee. Highlights include:

+Fun Park 74, Punta Gorda, Florida, Florida Tracks and Trails, Punta Gorda, Florida, and Big Cypress National Preserve, Ochopee, Florida have been identified as potential participants in the program, with additional parks eligible for consideration by the BOCC as identified.

+Ticket/voucher distribution will be done at Max Haas Community Park.

+Vouchers will be distributed free to the public after presentation of proof of Collier County residency.

+The vouchers will be numbered and bear a six month expiration date.

+2 tickets maximum per person, per visit, no limit as to number of visits.

+Collier residents who present a voucher for use at a participating park will pay a 50% face value entrance fee.

+The participating parks will present Collier County with an itemized invoice of redeemed vouchers on a monthly basis. Collier County will reimburse the park 50% of face value per voucher.

***Mr. Westage entered a motion to move forward with the Tickets to Ride program, accepting Fun Park 74 and Florida Tracks and Trails as participants in the program. Ticket vouchers will be numbered and bear a six month expiration date. Mr. Menendez seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 votes, with 1 dissent by Mr. Sturgeon.***

**b) Lake Trafford Site Update**

Mr. Williams provided an update following conversations with representatives from South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) with regard to possible development of the Lake Trafford site for the proposed ATV Park, discussing options to gift, sell, or lease the land to the County. SFWMD had previously worked with an outside entity to develop a similarly distressed property into an ATV park, segregating the trail system within the least distressed environment on the property. Panther mitigation requirements remain unclear at the Lake Trafford site. Mr. Williams requested feedback from the Ad Hoc committee with respect to interest in continued communication with SFWMD regarding the Lake Trafford property.

***Mr. Sturgeon entered a motion for Collier County Parks Division Staff to continue discussions with South Florida Water Management Staff with regard to the Lake Trafford property as a potential site for the proposed ATV Park. Mr. Menendez seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**c) Big Cypress**

A discussion was had regarding the inclusion of Big Cypress National Reserve as a possible participant in the Tickets to Ride program. Big Cypress presently offers a trail system and campsite amenities, however requires purchase of a yearly permit, as well as presents some park use restrictions. Mr. Williams will provide additional information on this topic at the next scheduled Ad Hoc committee meeting.

***Mr. Menendez entered a motion for discussions to continue with representatives of Big Cypress National Preserve for consideration of inclusion as a participant in the Tickets to Ride program. Mr. Sturgeon seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**d) Quarterly Meetings**

A possible adjustment to the frequency of Ad Hoc committee meetings was discussed, with quarterly or every-other-month meetings considered, rather than monthly meetings, in order to allow Staff adequate time to gather appropriate information for presentation to the committee.

*Mr. Menendez entered a motion to schedule Ad Hoc committee meetings on an every-other-month basis. Mr. Westgate seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.*

**e) Status of Ad Hoc Committee Members**

Mr. Williams reported that Staff had been in contact with three Ad Hoc committee members who had missed a consecutive number of meetings, inquiring as to their intentions to remain as members of the committee. Two committee members have expressed an interest in remaining active; however, Mr. William Coombs has tendered his resignation. This available position is presently being advertised on the County website. Any questions as to how to apply for the available position may be directed to Mr. Miguel Rojas, Jr., at the Parks Division at 239-252-4031.

**V. Committee Comments/Public Comments**

Mr. Jose Gomez, Partner, Fun Park 74 addressed the Ad Hoc committee to discuss his park's participation in the Tickets To Ride program. The park is officially open, with limited activities at this time due to delays with various permitting issues, however Phase II of park development is ready to commence at this time. Per Mr. Gomez, the mission of the park is for family participation of all ages. The park is located on 120 acres in Punta Gorda, Florida, with an additional 45 acres recently purchased. The park is planned to be open every weekend, with scheduled activities throughout the year. Primitive camping is presently available; however a formalized camping area with water and electrical hookup is planned. From a promotions perspective, the offering of several "free weekends" of park use for Collier residents was discussed. Mr. Williams stated that marketing materials crafted by Collier Parks Staff will be forwarded to Mr. Gomez for distribution at his park as well. Mr. Williams reiterated that the Executive Summary detailing the Tickets to Ride program, which had been written based upon Ad Hoc Committee feedback, will be presented to the BOCC on February 27, 2018 for final review and approval. Following approval by the BOCC, the Parks Division will work closely with Fun Park 74 to implement the program.

**VI. Adjournment**

*There being no further County business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.*

**ATV Ad Hoc Committee**

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**Mr. Joe Pelletier, Chairman**

**These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ as presented, or as amended \_\_\_\_\_.**

## Advisory Board Application Form

Collier County Government  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 800  
Naples, FL 34112  
(239) 252-8400

Application was received on: 2/1/2018 9:51:53 PM.

Name:  Home Phone:

Home Address:

City:  Zip Code:

### Phone Numbers

Business:

E-Mail Address:

NOTE: All advisory board members must update their profile and notify the Board of County Commissioners in the event that their relationship changes relating to memberships of organizations that may benefit them in the outcome of advisory board recommendations or they enter into contracts with the County.

Would you and/or any organizations with which you are affiliated benefit from decisions or recommendations made by this advisory board?

Not Indicated

Are you a registered voter in Collier County?  Yes

Do you currently hold an elected office?  No

Do you now serve, or have you ever served on a Collier County board or committee?  No

Not Indicated

**Please list your community activities and positions held:**

I am a very frequent attendee to the Advisory committee meetings already, just thought I might as well apply.

**Education:**

All schooling was within Collier County. No College.

**Experience / Background**

Enjoyed the outdoors of the South Blocks when we were allowed to go out there and ride around on OHV's. Look forward to trying to help give the future generations a place to go and enjoy the OHV experience within Collier county hopefully!

**From:** Jacob Winge [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 02, 2018 9:25 AM  
**To:** DL-Advisory Board On-Line Applications <DL-AdvisoryBoardOn-LineApplications@colliercountyfl.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: New On-line Advisory Board Application Submitted

Please consider my application again for the ATV committee. In addition to my other application for the Productivity Committee At- Large Seat

Jacob Winge

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** <advisoryboards@colliergov.net>  
**Date:** Tue, Mar 21, 2017 at 12:52 PM  
**Subject:** New On-line Advisory Board Application Submitted  
**To:** jacobwingecr@gmail.com

## Advisory Board Application Form

Collier County Government  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 800  
Naples, FL 34112  
(239) 252-8400

Application was received on: 3/21/2017 12:52:33 PM.

**Name:**  **Home Phone:** [REDACTED]

**Home Address:** [REDACTED]

**City:**  **Zip Code:** [REDACTED]

### Phone Numbers

**Business:**

**E-Mail Address:** [REDACTED]

**Board or Committee:**

**Category:**

**Place of Employment:**

**How long have you lived in Collier County:**



How many months out of the year do you reside in Collier County? I am a year-round resident

Have you been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offense (any level felony or first degree misdemeanor only)? No

Not Indicated

Do you or your employer do business with the County? No

Not Indicated

NOTE: All advisory board members must update their profile and notify the Board of County Commissioners in the event that their relationship changes relating to memberships of organizations that may benefit them in the outcome of advisory board recommendations or they enter into contracts with the County.

Would you and/or any organizations with which you are affiliated benefit from decisions or recommendations made by this advisory board? No

Not Indicated

Are you a registered voter in Collier County? Yes

Do you currently hold an elected office? No

Do you now serve, or have you ever served on a Collier County board or committee? Yes

CLAAC – 2016-present; GMOC – 2017-present

**Please list your community activities and positions held:**

Board of Directors, Friends of the Collier County Museum- Member- 2009-2013, 2016-present -  
Manages a nearly two-hundred thousand dollar budget and plans events, festivals, and fundraisers for  
the museum system between five locations. Board of Directors, Greater Naples Better Government  
Committee – Member- 2014-present - Interviews, endorses, and evaluates elected officials and  
candidates for state and local office, as well as lead advocacy efforts on state and local issues effecting  
Collier County and Florida government.

**Education:**

M.S. Management – Organizational Leadership- Hodges University- 2018 expected B.A.S Supervision &  
Management- Florida SouthWestern State College- 2015 -Dean’s List- Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014,  
Spring 2015

**Experience / Background**

Employment: Florida SouthWestern State College- Office of Student Life Assistant- June 2014-July 2015 -

Organized and planned events and activities on campus, managed the day-to-day operations of the office including customer service, budget, and student development programming. Coordinated marketing plans and developed leadership training programs. Collier County- Volunteer Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Division- July 2015- March 2016 - Managed, developed and marketed the Department's Volunteer Program to attract potential volunteers and established volunteer work programs. Managed expenses associated with the Department's Volunteer Program budget. Developed strategic plans for the division. Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens- Development Associate –April 2016- April 2017 - Processes gifts and acknowledgements, grants, press releases, and provides administrative support. Cultivates donor relations and community support. Ave Maria School of Law – Admissions Recruiter – March 2017 – Present - Targets and Markets prospective students, develops recruiting strategies, maintain marketing plans and budgets, give tours, meet with students. Internship: Hon. State Representative Kathleen C. Passidomo (R-106) –District Office- July-August 2011 Student/Collegiate Organizations: Edison State College Student Government Association- Collier Campus- President- 2012-2013 Edison State College-Wide Student Government Association- Founding Chairman- 2012-2013 Florida College System Student Government Association- State President- 2013-2014 Avid outdoorsman, deeply involved in the rural community and ATV owner.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Recommendation to reestablish the “Tickets to Ride” Program and authorize staff to develop a use agreement with participating locations for Collier County citizens recreational amenities for All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) use in Southwest Florida at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 annually and suspend site evaluations.**

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**OBJECTIVE:** To provide opportunities for ATV enthusiasts to ride their vehicles at ATV riding locations in Southwest Florida using funds from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Settlement Agreement.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** In 2011, Collier County and the SFWMD entered into a Settlement Agreement wherein SFWMD paid Collier County \$3,000,000 to dispose of litigation arising out of a 2003 Agreement between the parties in which the District was to convey 640 acres to Collier County for recreational ATV use. Since that settlement, the Collier County Growth Management Department and Collier County Parks and Recreation Division have been tasked with searching for land appropriate and suitable for an ATV Park site. To date, and despite an exhaustive search, no land suitable for an ATV Park has been located within or outside of Collier County.

On October 24, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) voted 4-0 with Commissioner McDaniel abstaining to re-institute a modified version of the “Tickets to Ride” Program without advanced purchases and an easy voucher process (purchase or reimbursement) that can be done from a website application. In addition, the Board directed that the newly minted “Tickets to Ride” Program be vetted with the ATV Committee and brought back to the Board for their approval. The Board also requested staff discuss with Big Cypress Basin lands associated with the original site identified for the ATV Park by SFWMD near Lake Trafford.

The ATV Ad Hoc Committee has met and is recommending the institution of the Tickets to Ride with the following stipulations:

- Max Hasse Community Park will be the location to pick up a ticket for participation at Family Fun Park and Florida Tracks and Trails.
- To allow for fair distribution, participants, who are 18 years old or older, will be limited to a maximum of 2 tickets at a time that will be validated by the vendor and returned to Parks Administration for reimbursement. Tickets will have an expiration date and must be used within 90 days of issuance.
- Family Fun Park, Florida Tracks and Trails, and Big Cypress Preserve were identified as potential parks to participate. At this time, the committee is recommending working with just Family Fun Park and Florida Tracks and Trails; however, it is recommended that all parks willing to participate be considered. Additional information regarding Big Cypress Preserve will be sought and discussed with the Ad Hoc Committee for future consideration.
- Staff will provide bi-monthly reports on the program to the Ad Hoc Committee.
- Parks and Recreation staff will reimburse the participating park(s) for admission of all Collier County residents, who would receive a \$20 ticket/pass for admission to be used at the participating park. Collier County residents will pay the respective park their portion of any additional admission fee at the respective park.
- The participating park will provide Collier County Parks and Recreation Division with an invoice for tickets/passes presented and receive reimbursement on a monthly basis.
- Persons identified who have an ATV, side-by-side, jeep, motorcycle, or other off-highway vehicles not already identified are eligible to participate.

Only interest income associated with the ATV Settlement cost center will be used to fund the program. Once the funds have been expended for the fiscal year, the program will end. While the committee recommended only two parks for the program, staff cannot support only allowing select parks to participate without a Board approved solicitation with fair and equitable criteria.

Staff met with Lisa Koehler, Executive Director of Big Cypress Basin. Ms. Koehler provided the attached document regarding the status of the Lake Trafford site for potential ATV use. The report identifies a need to study the lands to determine mitigation strategies to alleviate hazardous materials associated with the site. Ms. Koehler also indicated a

willingness of the Basin to work with the County to develop the site with a lease, sale, or potential donation for the use of an ATV Park. If the lands were acquired by the County with a long-term lease (25-years), they would be eligible for state grant funds to develop the site for ATV use. The ATV Ad Hoc Committee is recommending to the Board that staff continue the discussions with Ms. Koehler to determine if it is feasible to acquire and use the site for ATV use.

Staff wishes to identify with the Board, the length of time involved in the unsuccessful acquisition of suitable property to develop an ATV Park in Collier County. Since 2003, there have been several private entities that have developed OHV parks in southwest Florida. In addition, Big Cypress Preserve provides permits for ATV use as part of the mission of that National Park Service operated facility and is in Collier County. While pursuing the potential use of the Lake Trafford site as a suitable location, there are tremendous hurdles to be overcome, specifically the remediation of lands affected by being the spoil site related to Lake Trafford cleanup. Estimates from the report attached suggest a range of options that are priced between \$3M and \$12M. In addition, if a park were developed, an initial business plan created to operate the park at the Immokalee Airport would require a general fund subsidy for operations and maintenance of the facility. The only ATV park in Florida operated by a local government entity is Bone Valley ATV Park in Polk County. The Parks and Recreation Director met with representatives from Polk County last August, and they indicated that the current operations of that facility returned 40 cents on the dollar of operating expenses, thus 60 cents on the dollar were subsidized by their respective general fund.

Given these circumstances, staff recommends not further pursuing the Lake Trafford site, look at developing the "Tickets to Ride" Program as a permanent fixture in providing support for this recreational pursuit and avoiding the creation of an ATV park within the Collier County Parks and Recreation System. With the development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park and the creation of the Sports Tourism venue, resources from the general fund will be required to support these major initiatives. Opportunities for this specialty recreational use are available, but not at a cost to the general fund. Using interest funds to support the "Ticket's to Ride" Program will provide support for this recreational pursuit until a more favorable approach (should the Board, in the future, choose to operate a facility) present itself.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** \$3,016,261.52 is currently available in the ATV Settlement Fund. The estimated interest for FY18 is \$18,000; however, this is dependent on the market conditions and that amount can be larger or smaller based on those fluctuations.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:** This Item has been reviewed by the County Attorney and is approved as to form and legality and requires majority vote for approval. -JAK

**GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPACT:** There is no Growth Management impact.

**RECOMMENDATION(s):** To:

1. Direct staff to develop a standard use agreement with willing ATV facilities that will allow Collier County citizens to recreate at these facilities as part of the Tickets to Ride Program, and authorize up to \$20,000 annually to fund the program.
2. Suspend site evaluations until such time a viable project is brought forward.

Prepared By: Barry Williams, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division