MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

North Collier Regional Park

Naples, Florida

April 17, 2019

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 2:00 P.M. at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, FL, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward “Ski” Olesky

VICE-CHAIRMN: Ms. Mary Bills, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Phil Brougham, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Joshua Fruth, Advisory Board Member

Mr. David Saletko, Advisory Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

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

Mr. Rick Garby, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation Division

Ms. Jeanine McPherson, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Division

Mr. Miguel Rojas, Jr., Administrative Assistant, Parks and Recreation Division

Ms. Nancy Olson, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation Division

Ms. Erin Murphy, Supervisor, Immokalee Sports Complex

Ms. Kim Sblendorio, Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club

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**I. Call to Order**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence observed.

Mr. Murdo Smith was recognized by Mr. Williams as a highly regarded member of the Parks family, having served on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for many years. Mr. Smith passed away unexpectedly at his home the week prior. Mr. Smith was remembered as a thoughtful and insightful individual who contributed significantly of his time, energy, and expertise to further Parks endeavors. Mr. Smith was greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed. A celebration of life memorial service will be held for Mr. Smith at North Collier Regional Park on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

**III. Approval of the Agenda**

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to approve the April 17, 2019 meeting agenda. Ms. Bills seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IV. Approval of March 20, 2019 Minutes**

***Ms. Bills entered a motion to approve the March 20, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brougham. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**V. Capital Projects Update - Mr. Williams**

**+**Mr. Williams noted several administrative changes within Facilities Management. Mr. Michael Cherbini has been hired as a replacement for Mr. David Berra, and has been assigned to Parks and Recreation projects. Ms. Margaret Bishop will also be working on more Parks related projects and is planned to attend future PARAB meetings.

**+Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park (BCRP) –** Mr. Brougham attended the Surtax Oversight Committee meeting to speak on behalf of PARAB in support of use of surtax funding for the construction of BCRP, as approved by Collier voters. Extended discussion was had by the Committee regarding ballot language and whether the BCRP project met all parameters for funding eligibility. Mr. Brougham pointed out that $40M had been earmarked for BCRP within the referendum, with strong community support in Eastern Collier County for the project. This funding would in turn allow for the use of impact fees for other Parks projects. The Committee ultimately voted in favor of use of surtax funding for the BRCP project by a 4-3 margin.

Construction bids for the BCRP project will be solicited June 1, 2019. The winning bid will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in September 2019, with construction of Phase I anticipated to begin on October 1, 2019. Planning of Phase II of the park is underway and is presently in the permitting phase.

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**+Sports Complex –** This project is advancing, with fields anticipated to be available for play in early 2020. Discussions are underway between Collier County representatives and SFI, a private firm based in Atlanta, Georgia for management of the Sports Complex facility. A site visit by a Naples contingent was recently done in Sandusky, Ohio at a facility managed by SFI.

Feedback regarding this site visit will be presented to PARAB at the May 2019 meeting. SFI brings much experience and extensive contacts within the sports community and is anticipated to work with the Naples Convention and Visitors Bureau in attracting large events to the Sports Complex venue.

**+Clam Pass Parking Garage –** Three meetings have been held to date between Parks Staff and the Pelican Bay Foundation Board regarding the lifting of deed restrictions to allow for the expansion of parking at Clam Pass with the addition of a parking garage. These discussions have included traffic, environmental issues, beach access, etc. Various meetings between Parks Staff and local area businesses and housing communities have also been had in order to solicit feedback regarding the possibility of a parking garage, with concerns voiced of increased traffic congestion, as well as a potential for exceeding park capacity. Parks Staff remains tasked with addressing significant beach access challenges, with the growing County population, as well as booming tourism. Q Grady Minor & Associates have been hired as consultants to conduct a feasibility study of the parking garage concept. Another meeting is scheduled with the Pelican Bay Foundation Board in May 2019 for further deliberation regarding lifting the deed restriction, with disposition to be presented to the BCC in June 2019 for panel discussion and further direction regarding this issue.

Mr. Brougham inquired as to the possibility of increased beach access via ferry by water, with construction of a pier or dock; however, the shallowness of the water near the beach presents a challenge. Mr. Fruth inquired as to the size of the area in question for the proposed parking garage. Mr. Williams reported that the parking area is presently comprised of 198 spots. Mr. Fruth suggested consideration of a stacking, serpentine roadway behind the parking area in order to alleviate traffic concerns in that the “stacking” of traffic would occur onsite and not on the roadway. Mr. Williams stated that several design options to address congestion and noise have been discussed and these ideas will be presented to PARAB at the May 2019 meeting.

**+Manatee Community Park –** Mr. Brougham requested clarification of the notation on the Capital Projects list of a study done regarding Manatee Community Park. Mr. Williams suggested a meeting in early May, to include Mr. Brougham and Mr. Elliott Miller, to begin to conceptualize next steps, including possible community meetings. Mr. Brougham was in favor of this idea and suggested the initial meeting include ideas for multiple local community meetings, as ultimately, the design should encompass feedback from all East Naples residents.

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**+Eagle Lakes Community Park expansion –** Mr. Brougham inquired as to the status of plans for expansion of the park. Mr. Williams noted having received ideas and feedback at a town hall meeting led by Commissioner Fiala. Parks funds have been budgeted for the next fiscal year towards this end. An engineering firm will be utilized to conceptualize the plan, with further feedback solicited from the community following this. Expansion of the fitness center, possibly with a gym, as well as additional classrooms have been suggested to address current deficits in the community center. Advancement in terms of funding will occur October 1, 2019.

**VI. New Business**

1. **TDC Grants – Ms. Nancy Olson**

**+**TDC grant funding in the amount of $170K is being requested in support of the Sea Turtle Protection Program for beach renourishment and Pass maintenance, to commence October 1, 2019, for a period of one year.

***Ms. Bills entered a motion to approve the Tourist Development Council grant application in the amount of $170,000 for Beach Renourishment and Pass Maintenance of the Collier County Sea Turtle Protection Program/Environmental Compliance. Mr. Saletko seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**+**TDC grant funding in the amount of $185K is being requested to replace 7 Parkeon Strada Pay Stations at Beach Park Facilities due to age and for technology upgrades, as well as to purchase 3 pay stations for additional coverage (not including boat launch meters). The upgraded pay stations will have report generating capabilities, as well as be adaptable over time. The meters will continue to be maintained by the Park Rangers.

***Ms. Bills entered a motion to approve the Tourist Development Council grant application in the amount of $185,000 for the replacement of (7) Parkeon Strada Pay Stations at Beach Park Facilities and the purchase of (3) additional Pay Stations for ancillary coverage. Mr. Fruth seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

1. **Alcohol Permission –** Mr. Williams clarified that permission to serve alcohol

must be granted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board prior to any event held on Park premises, with the groups/vendors following all specified guidelines. **Mr. Williams will provide PARAB with a current listing of specific requirements which must be met by groups or vendors requesting to serve alcohol at Park site events.**

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+Ms. Erin Murphy, Supervisor, Immokalee Sports Complex addressed PARAB to request permission for the sale of alcohol at the upcoming Cinco de Mayo Festival being held on May 4, 2019 at the Immokalee Sports Complex from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., sponsored by the Immokalee Chamber of Commerce. A beer garden will be provided, with appropriate security on hand.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to approve the application for the sale of alcohol at the Cinco de Mayo event on May 4, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Immokalee Sports Complex. Ms. Bills seconded the motion. All were favor. The motion was carried.***

+Ms. Kim Sblendorio of Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club addressed PARAB to request permission to serve alcohol at a Staff Appreciation event to be held at East Naples Community Park on May 14, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Approximately 40 participants are expected. All licensing, insurance, and security parameters will be met.

***Ms. Bills entered a motion to approve the application to serve alcohol at the Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club Staff Appreciation Event to be held at East Naples Community Park on May 14, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mr. Fruth seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**VII. Director’s Highlights**

**+**The 2019 U.S. Open Pickleball Championship will be held April 27-May 4. Mr. Garby was commended on the upgrades done at the park, including additional ADA accessibility. The promoters of the event have signed their commitment to the County to continue to hold the event in East Naples. Mr. Brougham stated that shade structures had been recommended by Mr. Ludwig, concessionaire. Mr. Williams noted that temporary shade structures had been put in place. A request had also been made to add plastic rolltops to the chain link fencing surrounding the courts. Mr. Williams noted that the East Naples Community Park master plan included these types of amenities, with five phases of the plan. Phase 1, following the 2019 U.S. Open includes electrical upgrades, as well as a focus on improvement of bathrooms and the maintenance facilities. Phase 2 will address the need for expanded parking. Discussion and negotiation of a possible land swap with the School Board for property adjacent to the Park remains ongoing. The largest phase of the master plan involves the replacement of the existing community center and rebuilding it elsewhere on the property.

+Mr. Jim Ludwig, concessionaire at East Naples Community Park, has also begun work at Veterans Park as well.

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+Consideration for the purchase of the Golden Gate Golf Course will be given by the BCC at the April 23, 2019 meeting. The property is eligible for purchase with impact fees. How the property would be developed remains a question, with input from the sellers, the County, as well as neighboring residents. Under consideration is a large portion of the property used for recreation, as well as potential surtax funded projects for the land along Collier Boulevard.

+Preparations are underway for upcoming summer camps, including the addition of approximately 150 part-time employees. Mr. Williams noted that the lifeguard deficit continues. The current salary for the lifeguard position is $11.87, with the hope to increase to $13-$14 in order to remain competitive. Outreach for potential lifeguards has been done to local high schools, swim teams, and fire stations.

+Mr. Fruth inquired as to the status of the Golden Gate Community Park kiddie pool. Mr. Williams noted that the kiddie pool will remain closed for a period of time. Parks Staff is working with a consultant who has been contracted by the county, Omni Aquatics, who will obtain an engineering assessment as to the scope of work. The assessment is being done in order to circumvent issues similar to those recently experienced with repair of the kiddie pool at the Immokalee Aquatic Facility. Further, management and responsibilities of the aquatics facilities is being restructured, with Public Utilities assuming responsibilities for pumps and motors, Parks managing pool maintenance/cleaning, and capital projects shifted to Facilities Management. Mr. Garby noted that it will be at least three years before useable data may be ascertained from the Asset Management program, with new information being added weekly.

**VIII. Board/Public Comments**

**+**Mr. Michael Cherbini introduced himself to PARAB members as the replacement for Mr. David Berra, Facilities Management. Mr. Cherbini previously worked with Collier County for two years in the Public Utilities Division and has recently been named Parks Project Manager.

+Ms. Bills requested confirmation that all Adopt A Park issues are to be entered in to the 311 system and no longer brought to PARAB meetings. Mr. Williams confirmed, however stated that he would bring a report of PARAB 311 entries to the monthly meeting for discussion.

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**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned.

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

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**Edward “Ski” Olesky, Chairman**

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

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