MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

North Collier Regional Park

Naples, Florida

October 16, 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 1:53 P.M. at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, FL, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward “Ski” Olesky

Ms. Daphnie Bercher, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Phil Brougham, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Joshua Fruth, Advisory Board Member

Ms. Rebecca Gibson-Laemel, Advisory Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

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

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

Ms. Margaret Bishop, Principal Project Manager, Facilities Management

Mr. Michael Cherbini, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Division

Ms. Olema Edwards, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation Division

Mr. James Hanrahan, Sports Development Manager, Convention and Visitors Bureau

Mr. Rich Alvarez, Moto-Touring Officer, LAMA

Mr. Bobby Lynch, Business Manager, LAMA

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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.

**III. Approval of the Agenda**

A change to the agenda was requested by Mr. Williams, with an additional topic under New Business of an amended Concessionaire Agreement for East Naples Community Park.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to approve the October 16, 2019 meeting agenda. Mr. Fruth seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IV. Approval of October 16, 2019 Minutes**

***Mr. Fruth*** ***entered a motion to approve the October 16, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bercher. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**V. Capital Projects Update – Ms. Bishop**

+**Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park**: Phase 1 construction was approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on October 8, 2019. A construction “kickoff” meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2019, with construction anticipated to begin in November 2019.

**+Barefoot Beach Boardwalk and Pavilions:** The project is scheduled for TDC presentation for approval of additional funding in October 2019, with BCC presentation scheduled for November 2019. The project includes replacement of the boardwalk and five (5) pavilions. Infinity Construction is the contractor for the project, at a cost of $225K.

**+Tigertail Restrooms:** Two bids were received on October 14, 2019 for renovation of the restrooms; the low bid was for $156K from Capital Construction, followed by a bid of $189K bid from Compass Construction. It was noted that the project had been put out for the bid process a second time, with the initial cost estimate at $400K. Cost saving measures were subsequently implemented, including splitting the project and direct material purchase of the building. BCC approval will be sought in November 2019, with construction to begin in February 2020.

**+East Naples Community Park:** Despite 90% design plans, the project was put out for bid on October 15, 2019 in order to meet the schedule, with 100% design expected by October 18, 2019. Bids are due on October 30, 2019. BCC approval will be sought in November, with the commencement of construction anticipated in December 2019. Work on the electrical upgrades at the Park are expected to be completed in time for the 2020 Pickleball Tournament scheduled for April 18, 2020.

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A separate project for the construction of 10 additional pickleball courts is presently in the permitting stage, with bids to be solicited following the receipt of appropriate permits.

**+Sports Complex:** This project remains ongoing and on schedule, with the Great Lawn and four (4) fields scheduled to be open in June 2020.

**+Ann Olesky Park:** Confirmation was received by Staff from the Division of Historical Resources of a State requirement of a Cultural Assessment Survey, prior to permitting by the Army Corps of Engineers, a Federal Agency. The process of hiring a consultant to conduct the Survey is underway. Design plans are at 100%. The additional requirement of utilization of a State contractor was noted, at a cost of up to $23K. Upon completion of the survey, the project will move forward with the bid process.

**+Eagle Lakes Community Park Master Plan:** Mr. Brougham inquired as to the status of the Master Plan project. Mr. Williams stated that based upon the results of the feasibility study which had previously been done and which supported expansion of amenities behind the Community Center at ELCP, the County Manager’s office has directed Parks Staff to utilize reserves funds to begin the design process. Parks Staff is currently working with Facilities Management to develop the project, with suggestions including expansion of the fitness center, construction of a gymnasium, as well as the addition of extra rooms in support of community events. Staff was directed to also consider artificial turf for the second field. Mr. Brougham requested the opportunity for PARAB involvement in the design process, in coordination with community feedback, on desired amenities. Further, a copy of the feasibility study was requested to be shared with PARAB members.

**VI. New Business**

1. **AUIR:** The Annual Update and Inventory Report (AUIR), originating in the Planning Division in Growth Management, is a process for collecting, organizing, and publishing a summary report illustrating approved Level of Service Standards for the Parks Division. In the State of Florida, the acceptable level of service for the Parks Division is determined by the number of acres of Community and Regional Parks per 1000 of population. It was noted that the average cost per acre of Regional Park land is higher due to proximity to the coast versus the average cost per acre for more inland properties. Based on current metrics, the recommendation is to adopt a level of service for Community Parks of 1.2 acres per 1000, and for Regional Parks, 2. 7 acres per 1000. A 5-year projection of current and anticipated park land inventory yields an expected surplus of 56 acres of Community Park land and 216 acres of Regional Park land. 42.88 acres associated with the new Sports Complex was counted toward Regional Park land, as was the 167-acre Golden Gate Golf Course which was recently purchased. Further, additional access points at Vanderbilt Beach, previously left out of the AUIR, have been included in the current report. It was noted that the Level of Service Standard remains the same from the previous year.

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There are 77 total parks in the system, including neighborhood parks, which are not included in the Level of Service Standards, as they are not financed by impact fees.

Mr. Brougham inquired about $7,930,500 listed as the debt service payment for a 2019 loan. Mr. Williams stated that this amount included the debt service payment for the loan taken out for the purchase of the Golden Gate Golf Course, as well as the principle and interest being paid towards the loan used for the construction of North Collier Regional Park. Mr. Williams further noted that if areas of the Golden Gate Golf Course are apportioned for non-recreational use through the design process, such as for surtax projects, this acreage will be removed from Parks inventory, reducing the loan amount associated with it. A consultant has been hired to work with stakeholders to assess options for future use of the golf course, which includes the possibility of utilizing a portion of the land for golf. Ms. Gibson-Laemel noted the distinction between Park acreage owned in total, and not necessarily just developed land when calculating level of service standards.

Mr. Brougham pointed out the omission of the Golden Gate Golf Course as an anticipated change in Regional Park Land inventory for FY 19/20 to FY 28/29 within the AUIR report, page 148. Mr. Williams stated that the report had been compiled in July 2019 and that this would be appropriately updated. Mr. Brougham also noted that the AUIR only reflects acreage versus population, but bears no relationship to facilities and recreational opportunities on the ground. Mr. Williams acknowledged this distinction, but pointed out that the industry standard of acres per 1000 for level of service is tied to calculations for impact fees. Based upon State guidelines, 76 athletic fields were required to meet community needs in Southwest Florida in 2019, however there is a surplus of 12 fields, currently totaling 88. Revision of the report is being discussed for the next AUIR due to the utilization previously based upon grass field usage, however now with expansion of use of fields due to conversion to artificial turf, as well as with the anticipated addition of fields at the Sports Complex and Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park. Mr. Fruth inquired as to whether there were plans for additional turf fields at NCRP. Mr. Williams noted the $4M recently spent on the conversion of 4 fields to artificial turf and that renovation of an existing park disallows the use of impact fees. Mr. Fruth stated that tournament fees could possibly provide an excellent revenue source. Mr. Fruth also pointed out the reduction in cost of turf fields due to the volume purchased by the County, as well as coordinating with all parties to use the same products for standardizing cost and maintenance.

Mr. Williams was seeking an endorsement from PARAB of the AUIR Level of Service Standards as presented, with next steps of review by the Planning Commission and ultimately, approval by the BCC.

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***Ms. Gibson-Laemel entered a motion to approve the 2019 Annual Update and Inventory Report. Mr. Brougham seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was approved.***

1. **Vineyards Community Park Playground:** A new playground has been ordered for Vineyards Community Park and is scheduled for delivery in November 2019, however there is ongoing discussion of a possible re-design of the splash pad amenity. An email from a local constituent suggested consideration of a company which had constructed playgrounds in Indiana and Ohio, which were felt to be far superior to the playground/splash pad design at Vineyards Community Park. Ms. Bercher suggested researching Lakes Park in Lee County, which was noted to have an outstanding playground/splash pad, and with the same geographical and weather challenges as Collier County. Mr. Fruth recommended also researching the Fleischman Park splash pad, which has recently been renovated. Mr. Williams stated the new playground has already been purchased and will soon be installed, however noted the opportunity for further research of an updated splash pad design and for financing options for the renovation.
2. **Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park (BCRP) – Road Naming:** Two new roads leading into BRCP are planned as part of Phase II construction. A requirement for permitting of the project is that names be assigned to the new roads. Feedback regarding road names was solicited from PARAB. A list of suggested names to date will be shared with PARAB members, along with a brief history associated with any suggested family names.
3. **Alcohol in Parks:**
4. Mr. Richard Alvarez, Moto-Touring Officer for the Latin American Motorcycle Association (LAMA) addressed PARAB in order to request permission to serve alcohol at an upcoming charity event at Sugden Regional Park, February 15, 2019. LAMA is an international not-for-profit organization, with 27 chapters in Florida. A yearly anniversary celebration is held in order to raise money for the local community, with the biggest revenue earned from beer sales. The family-oriented event will be open to the public. Mr. Alvarez is working closely with Parks Staff in order to comply with all regulations and requirements.

***Mr. Fruth entered a motion to approve the sale of beer at the Latin American Motorcycle Association anniversary party at Sugden Regional Park on February 15, 2019. Ms. Gibson-Laemel seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

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1. Ms. Olema Edwards addressed PARAB in order to request permission to serve beer and wine at the upcoming SnowFest Celebration at the Golden Gate Community Center on Saturday, December 7, 2019, 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

***Mr. Fruth entered a motion to approve the sale of beer and wine at the SnowFest Celebration at the Golden Gate Community Center on Saturday, December 7, 2019. Mr. Brougham seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

Mr. Fruth inquired as to the status of the creation of a standardized policy regarding the sale of alcohol at County parks. Mr. Williams stated that Parks Staff is working on the methodology for the creation of a global policy. The BCC previously identified specific County parks at which alcohol may be served at special events; Immokalee Community Park, North Collier Regional Park, East Naples Community Park, Sugden Regional Park, and in Golden Gate. Policies regarding alcohol sales at County parks vary across the state, with questions remaining as to whether all Collier parks should be included in the policy, what types of alcohol would be permissible, whether there should be a specific location for the sale of alcohol identified within the parks, as well as allowable times, etc. Mr. Williams noted that prior to implementation of a new policy, approval would be required from both PARAB and the BCC. Mr. Olesky expressed a desire for PARAB to continue to review alcohol sale requests on a case-by-case basis, even with a new standardized policy.

1. **Pickleball Concessionaire Agreement: Mr. James Hanrahan**

The contract for the U.S. Open Pickleball Championship, a CVB sponsored event, has been extended, necessitating an extension of the Concessionaire Agreement for the East Naples Community Park as well. The Concessionaire Agreement encompasses year round play, in keeping with the design improvements planned for the park. Modifications to the Concessionaire Agreement reflect an extension in years, but also includes language that the CVB will match dollar for dollar, up to $20K, any promotional marketing done during off season to the South American and European markets. The promoter will also lease ENCP from the Parks Division for promoter sponsored tournaments, with reimbursement by the CVB. Mr. Williams noted a cost to the concessionaire of 15% of gross revenues, and a minimum of $900, which is utilized by the Parks Division to offset operating expenses at the park.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to approve the Concessionaire Agreement as presented. Ms. Gibson-Laemel seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

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**VII. 311 Report**

Mr. Williams shared a copy of 311 issues reported since the first of the year. Ms. Gibson-Laemel noted that the report does not always list the location of the reported issue, which would be helpful to know. Mr. Rojas noted that a GPS location is received with the request, however the report is generated by 311 Staff. Mr. Williams stated this request will be shared with 311 Staff, as the program continues to evolve. PARAB members were encouraged to continue to use the program.

**VIII. Director’s Highlights**

+The BCC approved the renaming of the specials needs sailing center at Sugden Regional Park in honor of Mr. Murdo Smith. A new sign is planned, with a ceremony scheduled for March 21, 2020. PARAB members and Commissioner Saunders were recognized for their efforts in this regard.

+The NFC grant will be reviewed at the next BCC meeting, with fitness court installations planned at the Sports Complex, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park, and North Collier Regional Park.

+A site visit at NCRP will be conducted in April 2020 as part of the accreditation process by the National Recreation and Park Association. The Collier County Parks Division has been accredited for 15 years, with this site visit being done for a third accreditation. A meet and greet will be planned during the visit in April, at which time PARAB members were encouraged to attend and discuss their role in influencing and directing Parks endeavors.

+The Collier County Parks and Recreation Division was recently awarded the Sports Star Award by the CVB, recognizing the efforts and hard work of all members of the Parks Division.

+Parks staff members were recently recognized by the Florida Southern Gulf Chapter of the American Red Cross, who presented the Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders to Aanika Sletta, Edward Flores, Joseph Logan, Samantha Molina, and Zachary Derk for their role in lifesaving measures for a visitor in distress at the Golden Gate Park Aquatic Center.

**IX. Public/Board Comments**

+There were no further comments made by members of the public or Board comments.

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**X. 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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