MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

North Collier Regional Park

Naples, Florida

December 18, 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

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Ms. Mary Bills

Ms. Daphnie Bercher, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Phil Brougham, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Joshua Fruth, Advisory Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Barry Williams, Director, Parks and Recreation Division

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

Ms. Margaret Bishop, Principal Project Manager, Facilities Management

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

Mr. Casey Doyle, Sports and Special Events Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Division

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

Mr. Rick Garby, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation Division

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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**

***Ms. Bills entered a motion to approve the December 18, 2019 meeting agenda. Mr. Brougham seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

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

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

**+Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park:** A groundbreaking ceremony was recently held on December 16, 2019, with Collier County Commissioners Mr. Bill McDaniel, Mr. Tim Nance and Ms. Penny Taylor in attendance at the event.

**+East Naples Community Park:** Electrical bids have been received, with the project soon to commence at a cost of $517, 382.08. Bids have also been received for the construction of 10 additional pickle ball courts and the new maintenance building, with work to be done by Compass Construction at a cost of $619K.

**+Paradise Coast Sports Complex:** Phase IB plans, which includes construction of the stadium and the Great Lawn were approved on December 19, 2019 by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), at a cost of $19.6M. Work is scheduled to begin on January 6, 2020.

**+Ann Olesky Park:** Bids have been received by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for the cultural survey which is required by the Florida Division of Historical Resources. FWC is currently in the process of identifying funding for the project. The Army Corps of Engineering permit remains contingent upon completion of the cultural survey.

**VI. New Business**

1. **SnowFest Update – Ms. Edwards and Mr. Doyle**

The 2019 SnowFest event was deemed to be a great success, with approximately 5700 people in attendance at the event. 20 bicycles were raffled off, sponsored by Bikes for Tykes, Inc. The addition of live band entertainment, as well as the availability of beer and wine were new components of the event, with alcohol sales netting a profit of approximately $500, after expenses.

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It was noted that the necessary insurance coverage associated with the availability of alcohol was paid for by the Naples Kiwanis Club.

Marketing strategies are being considered for next year’s event; to more effectively inform the public of live musical entertainment, as well as the availability of alcohol, but without direct promotion of alcohol at the Park event. The “beer garden” concept, as well as procedures followed at other similar venues which offer alcohol were discussed. Chairman Olesky was again recognized for his excellent performance as Santa Claus. Mr. Olesky recommended that Santa’s location be moved closer to the Christmas inflatables, which would provide a good photo opportunity for families prior to exiting the area. A survey of SnowFest participants is currently being processed, with results to be shared with PARAB at a subsequent meeting. General feedback solicited by Parks Staff during the event was of overall satisfaction by participants. The hope is to continue to grow the SnowFest event, with the possibility of eventually relocating the event to a larger venue in the future.

**VII. Old Business**

1. **Naming of BCIRP Roads**

Mr. Williams stated that the names previously chosen by PARAB for two roads which are to be constructed as part of the Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park project were rejected due to “overuse” within the county. A list of overused names was shared with PARAB, with a request made for two new names to be chosen with this parameter in mind. Following a brief discussion, “Big Corkscrew Way” and “Regional Park Lane” were agreed upon.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to endorse “Big Corkscrew Way” and “Regional Park Lane” as the names for the two roads to be constructed as part of the Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park project. Ms. Bills seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

1. **ENCP – Tennis**

Data was shared with PARAB which reflected court usage for pickleball versus tennis play at East Naples Community Park from 2015 through 2018, at which point all courts had been converted for pickleball play exclusively. This data had been requested for review by PARAB following presentation by a small group of local citizens who stated a desire for a single court at ENCP to be retained for both pickleball and tennis play. A meeting was subsequently held between the concerned citizens and Commissioners Taylor and Fiala to discuss their request further. Mr. Williams notified the Commissioners’ office that the data on court usage had been requested for review by PARAB prior to consideration of a possible recommendation for a change to the previously approved Master Plan.

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It was discussed that the Master Plan for the park, which had previously been approved by the BCC, reflected the change to pickleball courts exclusively. Mr. Brougham reiterated the availability of courts for tennis play within the area; at Eagle Lakes Community Park and Golden Gate Community Park and expressed a responsibility to be responsive to documented demand. Following a review of the usage data and a discussion, the unanimous consensus was that alternatives for tennis play were available and to move forward with the BCC approved Master Plan for ENCP, which did not include tennis play.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to maintain the Board of County Commissioners approved Master Plan for East Naples Community Park, which supports pickleball play exclusively, without change. Ms. Bills seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**VIII. 311 Report**

Mr. Williams shared a reformatted version of the 311 report with PARAB members. The project description column was noted to be improved; however, a project status/resolution column was requested. Mr. Williams stated this field would be included in the next report.

**IX. Director’s Highlights**

+A recommendation to not pursue a parking garage at Clam Pass Park will be made to the BCC at the January 14, 2020 meeting. A feasibility study has been conducted which reflects the ability to construct the garage, however with significant concerns expressed by the Pelican Bay Foundation and local community regarding potential traffic congestion and neighborhood disruption. Other options for greater beach access are under consideration, including alternative parking garage sites, beach bus circulators, Uber/Lyft ride sharing services, etc. Mr. Olesky noted that beach access problems will only continue to grow and that construction costs will likewise significantly increase over time.

+An exhibit was recently held with the Naples Art Association at the North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall, with local artists in the community commissioned to paint scenes from the Collier Parks system. Awards were presented, with Ms. Ellin Goetz of the Everglades Foundation serving as judge for the competition. Mr. William expressed his appreciation for the positive partnership between the Parks Division and the Naples Art Association.

+Mr. Williams stated that his staff has been tasked with presenting the top three goals for the Parks Division in 2020 to Senior Management.

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A recent staff meeting resulted in a variety of potential goals on which to focus, including hiring a manager to oversee aquatics operations for capital improvements, reorganizing recreational staff into a more efficient model in terms of conducting business and the types of activities provided, plans to integrate with the new sports complex and how it will relate with local recreational play, ways to continue to improve asset management, identification of the role of the Parks Division and the new golf course, as well as the plan for BCIRP in terms of staffing of Phase I. Mr. Williams solicited feedback from PARAB regarding additional ideas for goals for the Parks Division in 2020. Mr. Fruth suggested a greater focus on proactive maintenance, which Mr. Brougham stated ties-in with improved asset management. Mr. Brougham noted insufficient funding by the County to maintain Parks facilities. Mr. Williams stated his staff is working with Management on a debt service plan to address deferred maintenance projects, as well as acquiring appropriate staff to complete the work.

+Mr. Williams solicited feedback from PARAB regarding potentially consolidating the November/December meetings due to the busy holiday season and a light meeting agenda, or whether to continue the same schedule. Mr. Olesky suggested flexibility on meeting days during the holiday season and deciding at that time next year.

**X. Public/Board Comments**

+Mr. Brougham inquired whether the Parks Division was impacted by the recent approval by the BCC of increases in some county impact fees. Mr. Williams clarified that the Parks Division did not fall within this cycle of impact analysis, which occurs every two years, and therefore was not considered in this process. Mr. Williams noted that Ms. Amy Patterson could provide an update on this topic at the January 2020 PARAB meeting.

**XI. 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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