**GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**12/07/2020**

**Advisory Board Members Present:**

**Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman**

**Mr. Willie Brice, III – Advisory Board Member**

**Ms. Cecelia Zenti - Advisory Board Member**

**Also Present:**

**Mr. Aaron Hopkins, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation Division**

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**I. Call to Order:**

Ms. Tuff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance/Establish a Quorum**

Roll call was taken, with a quorum established.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

The meeting agenda was unavailable.

**IV. Approval of Minutes – November 2, 2020**

The November 2, 2020 meeting minutes were unavailable and will be voted upon at the January 4, 2020 meeting.

**V. Public Comments**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**VI. Old Business**

1. **Park Updates:**

**+Golden Gate Community Center Supervisor Position:** Four internal candidates and two external candidates were interviewed for the Community Center Supervisor Position, which was vacated by Ms. Vickie Wilson upon her retirement.

Mr. Wills Celestin has been selected for the position. Mr. Celestin has earned two degrees in recreation and sports and has extensive work experience in the field. Following acceptance of the position, Mr. Celestin countered the initial salary offer, resulting in a 5% increase, which was accepted by Mr. Celestin. The salary negotiation resulted in a delay in completion of new hire paperwork, which is now scheduled for December 11, 2020. Processing of this paperwork is estimated to take 7-10 days. Mr. Celestin has subsequently expressed difficulties in securing housing locally due to the high cost, as well as restrictions imposed by housing complexes due to COVID-19. Mr. Celestin has been notified that if he is unable to comply with a start date of January 4, 2021, the offer of employment will be rescinded, and the position offered to the next most qualified candidate. A six-month probationary period will commence January 4, 2021.

Mr. Brice recommended career development training for the internal candidates who did not win the position, to groom them for future opportunities within the Division.

Mention was made of consideration of the creation of a Senior Program Leader position at all Park centers, which would be filled with site specific internal candidates.

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**VII. New Business**

1. **County Administrative Changes:**

**+**Mr. Lee Ochs, County Manager, has announced his plans for retirement in May 2021.

**+**Deputy County Manager, Nick Casalanguida, has recently left his position to pursue other opportunities. Mr. Casalanguida’s replacement is Mr. Dan Rodriguez.

**+**Mr. Steve Carnell, Public Services Department Head, has announced his retirement. His last day with the County is December 31, 2020. Mr. Jamie French has been selected as the new Public Services Department Head.

**+**Mr. Rick LoCastro has been elected as a member of the Collier County Board of County Commissioners, Division I.

+Restructuring of the budgeting division has also been done. Ms. Tuff will email Mr. Barry Williams, Division Director, to request more information regarding how these changes will impact the Community Center.

**VIII. Member Comments**

+Mr. Hopkins noted that Mr. Celestin could meet with the Advisory Board members one-on-one to discuss plans, issues, and concerns.

+Ms. Tuff expressed disappointment in the missed opportunity for Mr. Celestin to have trained with Ms. Wilson prior to her departure from the Community Center.

+Ms. Julie Allen, VPK Leader, has enrolled in the “drop” program, allowing for her retirement at any time within five years from the date of enrollment.

+Ms. Zenti noted having attended the retirement party held for Ms. Wilson, which was planned by the Community Center staff.

**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was entered by Ms. Zenti. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brice. All members were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

**Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board**

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**Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman**

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

**Next meeting, January 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Collier County Golden Gate Community Center**

**4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Conference Room “C”**

**Naples, FL**

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