MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

North Collier Regional Park

15000 Livingston Road

Naples, Florida 34109

May 19, 2021

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. in REGULAR SESSION via hybrid in-person and video conference attendance at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road

Naples, Florida 34109, with the following members participating:

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Edward “Ski” Olesky

VICE-CHAIRMAN Ms. Phillip Brougham, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Paul DeMarco, Advisory Board Member

Mr. Joshua Fruth, Advisory Board Member

Ms. Rebecca Gibson-Laemel, Advisory Board Member

Ms. Kristina Heuser, Advisory Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Barry Williams, Director, Parks and Recreation

Ms. Annie Alvarez, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Dayne Atkinson, Principal Project Manager, Facilities Management

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

Mr. William McDaniel, Collier County Commissioner District 5

Mr. Daniel Rodriguez, Department Head, Public Services

Ms. Jeanine McPherson, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation

Ms. Melissa Hennig, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation

Ms. Olema Edwards, Regional Manager, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Joshua Hammond, Manager - Technical Systems Operations, Operations & Veteran Services

Ms. Kimberly Grant, Director, Operations & Veteran Services

Mr. Jake Sullivan, Supervisor - Park Rangers, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Wayne Muilenburg, Senior Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Derrick Garby, Superintendent, Parks and Recreation

Mr. Jeffrey Newman, Manager - Financial & Operational Sprt, Operations & Veteran Services

Ms. Christie Betancourt, Operations Manager, Immokalee CRA

Ms. Debrah Forrester, Director, Bayshore and Immokalee CRA

Mr. Manny Touron, Soccer Pit Cobras

**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**

Mr. Williams requested changes to the Agenda to include Collier County Commissioner William McDaniel, District 5 at the top of the meeting and to include Introduction: Daniel Rodriguez, Public Services Department Head under New Business.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to approve the May 19, 2021 meeting agenda with the noted changes. Ms. Heuser seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes –April 21, 2021**

Correction to the March 17, 2021 meeting minutes: Collier County Commissioner William McDaniel, District 5, was in attendance at the March 17, 2021 meeting and was inadvertently left off the list of meeting attendees.

***Ms. Gibson-Laemel entered a motion to approve the April 21, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brougham. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**V. Public/Board Comments**

**+** Collier County Commissioner William McDaniel, District 5 addressed PARAB knows a young man interested in lease arrangement teaching kids basketball at Cocohatchee park and wants that to be moved up in the priority list. Cocohatchee park is need of repair and Commissioner McDaniel would like staff to adjust the level of service between the Regional and Community Parks. He also addressed the issues at the Collier County Parks and Recreation boat ramps and the current commercial use and request a review of the fee structure, rules and regulations and their abuse to the County Assets.

**VI. Capital Projects Update**

It was noted that the Capital Projects report format has changed and moving towards a better reporting mechanism, Kimberly Grant, Division Director, Jeffrey Newmann, Financial Operation Services Manager and Joshua Hammond over IT and capital projects were introduced to the Advisory Board as part of the Operations & Veteran Services staff.

**+Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park:** There have been some COVID related delays related to delivery of lumber. Substantial Completion of the fields as of June 8th, 2021. South phase with completion of October 13, 2021

**+Dayne Atkinson**: is the conduit between the PSD and FM and have many project managers under him that complete the projects for parks**.**

**+Donna Fiala Eagle Lakes Community Park:** There have been many internal meetings with Stantec and look at different scenarios to provide at a future public input meeting.

+**Parks Courts Resurfacing Project:** Parks has $450,000 set aside to resurface hard courts such as tennis and basketball courts throughout the County parks.

**VII. New Business**

1. **Introduction: Dan Rodriguez, Public Service Department Head**

Dan Rodriguez, Public Service Department Head addressed the PARAB that there was a smooth transition with Mark Isackson, County Manager, and placed Mr. Rodriguez where he is best suited with his background in parks, domestic animal services and construction building maintenance.

+Dayne Atkinson has helped Mr. Rodriguez in solid waste and moved the recycling rate from 13% to where it is at today to 86%.

+Michael Cherbini will be the project manager for Parks and Recreation.

+Asset Management program is being worked on for Parks and Recreation.

+Mr. Brougham commented that he and Mr. Rodriguez have worked on a number of issues in the past and knows what can be done with the right set of leadership, management, and backing of the funding. It all starts with a good solid 5-year or strategic plan, followed by a tactical implementation, supported by appropriate funding, and staffing for the projects.

**VIII. Old Business**

1. **Short Term, Mid Term, and Long Term Immmokalee Athletic Fields**

Mr. Williams requested from the chairman for another change to the agenda and placing the old business Short Term, Mid Term, and Long Term Immmokalee Athletic Fields next.

+Mr. Williams indicated that the school district will begin rentals June 12th 2021 which would allow for more spaces.

+The goal is to understand better the community needs and what the concerns are. Parks has had many internal discussions on what we should do now, within the next year and in the next 3-5 years.

+A challenge is enforcing a maintenance schedule and closures of the fields.

+Recommendation regarding a short-term plan closing the fields one and two May 22 – August 31st for a sodding, resodding schedule. Looking at the third field with laser grading and recrowning. Also, enforce maintenance closures.

+Mr. Williams has spoken to Marc Rouleau from the school district on making some changes at Dreamland park to allow for more open space for games and possibly turn the field into a multi-purpose field as a long-term opportunity.

+Recommendation regarding a mid-term plan introduces the concept of artificial turf at one of the three fields. OVS has set aside one million dollars for Immokalee Sports Complex. This recommendation will be taken to the board to spend the million dollars. Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park is an option that is out there available soon for play.

+Recommendation regarding a long-term plan is to identify more opportunities to develop more athletic fields and securing funding for the properties. Parks would have to locate the land, buy the land, develop the land and maintain it working with the OVS team.

+Manny Touron commented that it will help defer some of the kids with the schools opening their fields for use. Bathroom facilities are tough for the community using the fields and wants parks to recognize this and consider adding this project to the plan.

+Christie Betancourt commented that they are working on their redevelopment and can help Identify spaces for parks.

+Bernardo Barnhart recommends PARAB to hold another meeting in Immokalee when the kids our out of school.

+Commissioner William McDaniel discussed staggering closures. Mr. Garby states the difficulty doing that with limited fields and the needed closure during winter for ryegrass.

**+**Annie Alvarez states this Friday 05-21-21 she is holding a meeting with her staff to move the adult leagues around.

+Next PARAB meeting held in Immokalee will be August 18th 2021

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to support the proposed plan regarding the athletic fields in Immokalee. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeMarco. Mr. Fruth excused himself from voting. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**IX. New Business**

1. **Review of Current Commercial Use of Boat Ramps**

Mr. Williams requested from the chairman for another change to the agenda to place Review of Current Commercial Use of Boat Ramps next.

+Melissa Hennig addressed PARAB explained the current policies within Collier County Parks and Recreation and commercial use at boat ramps along with other nearby local counties and municipalities policies. Ms. Hennig would like to know what the best balance is moving forward to solve the issues relate to the boat ramps. Caxamabas is having a community center built which reduced the amount of parking spaces.

+Current policies are 100 dollars each year for each trailer or each vessel. Current permits expire at the end of the calendar year.

+Ms. Hennig presented possible options to consider:

* No commercial use allowed at County owned boat ramps.
* Commercial use allowed at only 1 County owned boat ramp.
* Restrict number of Commercial Vendors allowed at boat ramps.
* Dedicated County staff for boat ramp parks during peak season.
* Establish stricter Commercial Permit Guidelines:
  + Commercial customers may not park vehicles in County boat ramp parking lot
  + Vehicle with trailer must fit in designated trailer parking spot.
  + One trailer maximum parked in parking lot PER Commercial Vendor.
  + Commercial Vendors may not use County property as business address.
  + Charge all vehicles to park.
* Make no change.

***Mr. Brougham entered a motion to draft some scenarios to bring back to the board for review, provide some more photos of the activities at the marinas, and a list of the addresses of permit holders. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fruth. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

1. **Cost Benefit of Artificial Turf Vs. Natural Grass**

Parks staff gathered data; artificial turf is about one million dollars for installation versus a quarter of a million for natural turf. Maintenance costs it’s about eight thousand to maintain versus natural turf for twenty-eight thousand. Annually you can get three thousand hours of play on artificial turf and about one thousand on natural turf.

1. **Review of Immokalee Area 5 Year Capital Plan**

This item was more informational, and it is a subset of the entire park’s capital projects.

1. **Mar-Good Cottages Grant**

Ms. Hennig presented a Grant to restore the historic cottages in Mar-Good.

***Ms. Gibson-Laemel entered a motion to move forward with the Mar-Good Cottages Grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeMarco. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.***

**X. Directors Highlights**

+ Groundbreaking ceremony will be 05-20-21 for the community center at East Naples Community Park and plan to be done before the next U.S. Open for pickleball. The last U.S. open even with COVID-19 restrictions was outstanding.

**XI. 311**

Parks and Recreation related 311 requests for the previous month were summarized.

**XII. 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.