

**GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
02/01/2021**

Advisory Board Members Present:

Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman

Mr. Ernie Bretzmann, Advisory Board Member

Ms. Cecelia Zenti - Advisory Board Member

Also Present:

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

Mr. Ray Coriano, Supervisor, Golden Gate Community Center

Mr. Alex Tranchand, Track Operator, Naples BMX, Inc.

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

Ms. Zenti entered a motion to approve the meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bretzmann. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.

IV. Approval of Minutes – January 4, 2021

Ms. Zenti entered a motion to approve the January 4, 2021 minutes as presented. Mr. Bretzmann seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion was carried.

V. Public Comments

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

VI. Old Business

+Program Leader: Seven applications have been received in response to the Program Leader job posting. These applications will be reviewed, and initial interviews scheduled.

+Key Staff: The transition from County employee status to Key Staff employees for part-time/job bank staff remains without issues. Community Center staff affected by this change continue in their previous roles, with no significant concerns noted. Staff will notify the Advisory Board if there are any problems which may arise.

VII. New Business

a. Naples BMX: Mr. Alex Tranchand, Track Operator, addressed the Advisory Board to provide information on the Naples BMX program, as well as the upcoming BMX State Qualifier race scheduled to be held at the Golden Gate Community Center track. Mr. Tranchand has been the track operator at the Community Center for 7 years.

The BMX State qualifier race which had been scheduled for March 2020 was canceled due to Covid-19; however, is currently scheduled for March 5-7, 2021. The event is one of six statewide qualifier races and is open to the public. USA BMX is the sanctioning body which oversees BMX tracks worldwide, with participation in a state qualifier race a prerequisite for competing at the state level. Naples BMX members will be participating in the event. Members include residents of Golden Gate and local communities, as well as from Estero and Marco Island. Naples BMX is a volunteer, family run organization who travel as a team nationally to various events. Of 15 BMX tracks operating in Florida, the Community Center track is the sole facility operating with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with the county.

Naples BMX is a year-round program, with practice held on Monday nights and races each Wednesday evening.

Donated bikes and helmets are available for use at the Community Center track, including strider balance bikes, which are training bicycles without pedals that teach balance and steering to children as young as six months. A successful BMX summer camp is available at the Community Center, which provides an opportunity to grow interest and participation in the sport. Naples BMX was recognized with an award by the Board of County Commissioners in the past; however, an acknowledgment was made by Mr. Tranchand that greater awareness of the program at the Community Center is necessary. Mr. Tranchand expressed his appreciation to Mr. Coriano and Mr. Hopkins for their support of the program.

Mr. Hopkins noted that a planning meeting would be held with Parks Staff, Maintenance, as well as the Convention and Visitor's Bureau to review preparations for the upcoming event.

b. Capital Projects Updates:

A series of meetings with Senior Management is planned for the discussion of Capital Projects at the Community Center. An initial meeting was held to discuss identified needs. Subsequent meetings will address prioritization of these needs, followed by cost analysis. Mr. Hopkins requested input from Advisory Board members regarding Capital Projects line items, as well as feedback on prioritization of projects. Needs identified and discussed with Management include:

- +Entire skate park renovation, with infrastructure improvements. Note was made of a transfer of funds from the capital budget allowed for the remodel of a portion of the skate park, with work scheduled for completion in February 2021, prior to the BMX State qualifier event in March.
- +Construction of a maintenance building.
- +Transition to LED lighting in parking lots and pathways.
- +Renovation of the indoor auditorium stage/flooring, and lighting.
- +Replacement of electric basketball winches, which facilitate raising and lowering of the basketball hoops in the gymnasium. Of six, four are working intermittently, and one had previously been replaced.
- +BMX track renovation within its current footprint (5-year plan), modifying turns and berms.

Projects which were noted, but not included on the initial capital projects list include:

- +Address main entrance lobby water leaks.
- +Bathroom flooring upgrade.
- +Security camera upgrade to allow access to footage onsite.

Ms. Zenti suggested that parking lot lighting be made a priority for safety, as well as greater street visibility. Mr. Bretzmann noted safety as the priority, including improved lighting and security cameras.

It was clarified that a new maintenance structure would be located at the existing site where equipment is stored. Grant funding was received at the end of the last fiscal year for construction of a shade structure for multipurpose use in that area, however a contractor could not be identified who would complete the project within the budgeted amount.

Feedback on the meeting held with Senior Management was positive. Note was made of the opportunity for greater input by Community Center staff in prioritizing immediate projects, as well as those to work into the 5-year plan. Neighborhood park needs were discussed as well, including Rita Eaton Park and Aaron Lutz Park. Necessary improvements at these locations include resurfacing of the basketball and tennis courts, and field, playground, lighting, parking lots, and pavilions refurbishment.

c. Community Garden: Photographs of the community garden were shared with Advisory Board members. The gazebo which had been slated for teardown, has been repaired by Facilities Management. A local citizen who has done work previously with the Florida Growers Association in Immokalee, has obtained sponsorship through the University of Florida/IFAS Collier Extension office, who will provide the equipment necessary to replace the existing garden beds. The Collier County Sheriff's Office juvenile program will assist with clearing weeds and spreading mulch. Mr. Coriano and Mr. Rick Garby, Parks Superintendent, are planned to inspect the community garden, fields, and the Wheels facility.

VIII. Member Comments

+Ms. Zenti suggested that the layout of the Farmers Market be changed so that the food vendors are relocated near the street view to improve the aesthetic and draw additional traffic.


+Ms. Tuff suggested investigation of the possibility of the implementation of a therapeutic bike program for autistic and ADHD diagnosed children at the Wheels facility, possibly utilizing grant funding. Mr. Coriano will discuss this opportunity with Staff of the Bikes for Tykes program.

+Mr. Coriano noted that a Bike Maintenance Day was scheduled to be held at the Community Center on Saturday, February 6, 2021, in coordination with Bikes for Tykes. Mr. Coriano printed fliers for the event and scheduled space availability. Residents are invited to bring bicycles in need of repair to the event, which is free to the public.

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. Bretzmann. All members were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.

Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board


Ms. Kaydee Tuff, Chairman

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on 3/1/2021 as presented, or as amended _____.

Next meeting, March 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Collier County Golden Gate Community Center
4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Conference Room "C"
Naples, FL

