MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Immokalee, Florida

June 19, 2024

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 6 p.m. in REGULAR SESSION at Immokalee South Park, 418 School Drive, Immokalee, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Edward “Ski” Olesky (excused)

VICE CHAIR: Joshua Fruth

Jessica Bergel

Lee Dixon (excused)

Rebecca Gibson-Laemel

Kristina Heuser

Eric Kelly

Donna Fiala (excused/alternate)

ALSO PRESENT: James Hanrahan, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation

Miguel Rojas Jr., Admin. Assistant, Parks & Recreation

Ed Finn, Deputy County Manager

Randi Swinderman, Region 3 and 4 Parks Manager

Said Gomez, Region 2 and 5 Interim Parks Manager

***Anyone who needs a verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the recording and PowerPoint presentations from the Collier County Parks & Recreation Department.***

# Call to Order

**Acting Chairman Fruth** called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

# Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed an invocation/moment of silence.

1. **Welcome by the Director**

**Mr. Hanrahan** read the Parks & Rec mission statement:

*The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board serves as a vital bridge between the community and Collier County’s Parks & Rec division and is dedicated to enhancing local recreation facilities. Working hand-in-hand with staff, our board members actively contribute to programming, fundraising, special events, maintenance, and recommendations for physical improvements. Our primary goal is to continuously elevate recreation services for all residents of Collier County.*

*Through careful evaluation and thoughtful analysis, PARAB provides recommendations to Collier County Parks & Rec, striving to improve, modify or develop services to better meet the diverse needs of our community. As outlined in our ordinance, PARAB’s functions include evaluating park property acquisition, analyzing development of Parks & Recreation facilities, reviewing programs and special events and providing input on the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. We actively seek input from the public to inform our decisions and recommendations.*

*Additionally, PARAB may provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on relevant issues. Public participation is encouraged, with members of the public being allowed three minutes to be heard on any proposition before the board, ensuring that community voices are heard and valued in the decision-making process.*

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Verification of Quorum**

The roll call was taken and a quorum of five was established. Acting Chairman Fruth noted that Mr. Dixon also did not attend last month’s meeting.

# Approval of the Agenda

# (No changes)

***Ms. Laemel made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Kelly seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.***

# Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

***Ms. Laemel made a motion to approve the May 15, 2024, meeting minutes. Mr. Kelly seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.***

**V**. **New Business**

**Immokalee Parks**

***Ms. Swinderman detailed a PowerPoint presentation and told the PARAB:***

* We’ve had many upgrades and some changes in the months since you were here in February, so we wanted to highlight those changes. Her team at South Park Sports Complex and Community Park put together a slideshow for everybody.
* We recently upgraded the playground and opened the new playground. (She showed before and after photos.) It opened this Monday after we finally got a CO for a brand new South Park playground.
* We’ve also been replacing the lighting here and at some of other parks. We’re switching many lights to LED so they’re more energy efficient and provide better lighting.
* The basketball court here gets a lot of use. It’s the only one on this side of town, so we want to make sure we have amenities that are well lit at night so people feel safe when they come to our facilities.
* We just finished a fencing project around Immokalee because we had some damage to the fence. In the photo, it’s missing a top row and we recently had all that redone so it’s more secure.
* There was a lot of exterior painting redone here. We’re giving the building a refresh and the concrete was resurfaced. We had a lot of trip hazards and those were all fixed and replaced.
* We’ve had a lot of issues with the oak trees in the parking lot so we took out all the old concrete and put in new concrete, so it’s nice and smooth.
* At the Fitness Center, we did some repainting. There are a lot of black accents that were done by my park staff. They did a really good job. They also did the other walls and some facelifts on the outside.
* They’ve laid all the sod on the field so we’re resting the field so when we start back up in August, the field will be safe, in really good condition and ready for our soccer and Pop Warner teams.
* The kiddie pool has been closed for the last few months. We’ve had a pump issue and the concrete around the outside has been cracking and was a hazard. They poured the concrete and fixed the outside today. We still have a slight issue with the pool pump that we’re working on, but as soon as we get the pump fixed, the pool will be ready to reopen and will be a lot safer.
* At Immokalee Community Park, we’re still in the midst of renovations for the men’s outdoor restrooms. The men’s restrooms inside are complete. There was mismatched paint on the walls, the flooring was stained in some areas, so we did a facelift.
* We have 75 kids at the summer camp this summer, the most we’ve had for several years.
* South Park is getting a lot of use and got a really nice upgrade. Same thing with the kitchen and conference center. When you were here in February, we had just redone the walls. We also did that in our game room. Instead of having carpet on all the walls in the building, they now have a nice finish that’s a lot more sanitary for the kids.
* We have new counters in the kitchen, which we use a lot for summer camp when we’re grabbing snacks, etc.
* We have a huge sidewalk project that we did at multiple parks in Immokalee as well as Naples. A lot of people walk on that walkway at that park. We’re looking at continuing that pathway a bit farther in the future, but we fixed a lot of the sidewalk issues there.
* (She showed photos of the concession stand that’s shared with the school, the back softball field, and walkways.)
* If you go by the community park at night, it’s fully lit. It looks great and we’re really excited once again for security reasons. They’ve had a bit of a delay in getting some parts and bulbs so not all of them are fixed. We’re still in that process. A majority of them have been fixed all around the walkway.
* We have a PO for new fitness equipment, so we’re in the process of purchasing and upgrading those.

**Manuel Preciado** (audience) asked if they’ve looked at anything to provide shade. He brought that up in the past about summer program staff members supervising kids who have to stand outside. We talked about umbrellas at one time. It was a needed fix and then it wasn’t done. Are we looking into that at all for shading?

**Ms. Swinderman** said shade is not part of this phase. When we’re doing pool renovation, we’ll probably get to that, but it’s not in our current plan. We can look at possibly getting more umbrellas there.

**Ms. Laemel** said when you did the walkways and sidewalks, there was a discussion last month about the walkways dropping off.

**Ms. Swinderman** said our team added soil on both sides, so there’s no drop off anymore. They also did some tree trimming.

**Mr. Kelly** asked if the county has thought about using sprigging versus sod to spread on the surface? Sod is expensive. You can use sprigging versus sod. We use it on the golf course. It’s cheaper than sod.

**Mr. Hanrahan** asked him to send him the information so maintenance can look into it.

**Ms. Swinderman** said our maintenance person can’t be here this evening, but he sent Manny and Pop Warner a full calendar of when things arrive, what’s been done on the field, and the future plans and timelines. We’re having a very open dialogue with our sports facility partners.

# Old Business

1. **Immokalee Sports Complex Update**

***Mr. Hanrahan told the PARAB:***

* At our last meeting, we mentioned that the County Manager’s Office was working diligently to secure funds for the Immokalee Sports Complex project and on June 11, the BCC approved $4 million for the project.
* He thanked Deputy County Manager Ed Finn, Dayne Atkinson, Brian Deloney (Facilities Division projects manager) and Olema Edwards for pushing this through. Ed found the funds to make it happen, so we’re excited.
* We’ll be adding artificial turf on two fields. Field No. 1 will remain grass.
* There also will be bathrooms that are closer, on the field.
* We will remain in close, constant contact with our sports partners to tell them about closures and when the project will start. He Manny, Randi and Kyle Price have discussed that.
* We’re going to also make sure we have popcorn out there.
* He thanked the PARAB for its support and for pushing this agenda.

***Mr. Finn thanked the parks team and the PARAB for their efforts and reported:***

* The Board of County Commissioners provided the funding and it’s been planned for a long time, but government’s wheels turn slowly.
* It’s going to take the fields out of service so there’s going to have to be a combination of providing additional capacity or maybe league sponsors can be more flexible.
* Dayne is intimately involved with aquatics. There’s a trajectory for updating the pool and most of our aquatics facilities. We had a tough aquatics program briefing with the BCC last week.
* The intent and funding for Immokalee exists. It’s a matter of pulling off that plan and making it happen.

*[The board moved to VI.c]*

1. **Pickleball Contract Update**

***Mr. Hanrahan told the PARAB:***

* At the previous BCC meeting, the board asked us to meet with our concessionaire to go over the contract.
* He thanked the PARAB for its input, which we provided to the BCC and the County Attorney’s Office. We had two meetings with the concessionaire and their lawyer.
* We met with the County Attorney’s Office and the percentage we received was considered substantial so they noted your input on that.
* When we present it to the board with the changes, which haven’t been confirmed by the County Attorney’s Office, he’ll make sure he sends it to the PARAB.
* We’ve discussed it twice and several of you mentioned a need for more public time on the courts. It’s not confirmed yet, but one of the things we were able to negotiate in the prelim was extending the time for public courts.
* 8 a.m. to noon is prime time for members, but instead of noon to 5 p.m. just being county time, during the hottest part of the day, if everything is approved, the county has courts from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m., so we’ll gain three additional hours on six courts, so there was a good conversation that came out of that meeting. But nothing is confirmed yet with the County Attorney’s Office.
* The PARAB’s concerns were heard and your input was well received. As long as it doesn’t change the contract’s overall structure, we’re looking at it.
* The fee rate is considered substantial so he’ll keep them posted on that.
* We received that information this week and are reviewing it now. He’ll provide the PARAB with an update before July.

**Ms. Bergel** asked if the concessionaire bid ever went out to contract for another concessionaire.

***Mr. Hanrahan told the board:***

* There were amendments that increased the contract term, which ends in 2027.
* We’ve extended some contracts for many years.
* This one has no extension, so if the board decides to continue with this current contract, NPC would have until 2027 and then we’d either do an ITN or an RFP (an intent to negotiate or request for proposals). That’s where community organizations and businesses can come in and bid and negotiate to run it with the county.
* If the board is happy with NPC, then we’d have NPC until 2027.
* This would be the fourth amendment. The first contract was with Jim Ludwig, then we added another amendment due to the welcome center. There was another amendment when Jim Ludwig sold it to Bob Strommen and that included 2027, so, if there are no major changes to the contract, this would be the fourth amendment.

**Ms. Bergel** asked if we’re in negotiations right now because the contract is done now.

***Mr. Hanrahan said no and told the PARAB:***

* This is just an amendment going into 2027.
* Given the full background, the PARAB’s recommendation was to terminate the contract for various reasons, including late payments and other issues.
* The Board of County Commissioners advised and recommended that we work together, work on communication, look at the contract to see if there was any language or anything we needed to clean up, so that’s what we’re doing now.
* However, we made the recommendation to terminate it.

**Ms. Laemel** asked whether the BCC wanted you to go back to the drawing board.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said Mr. Strommen had multiple meetings and an opportunity to talk and we’ve had monthly meetings about day-to-day operations. I also had had meetings with the County Manager’s Office about the contract. Since that directive, communication has been better and he’s empowered staff to work with them and escalate it to me if it needs to be escalated.

**Acting Chairman Fruth** asked if there were any questions.

**Public Comment:**

**Manuel Preciado** (audience) said he believed he heard the answer to his question but wanted to clarify. Manny told him to say two things. Thank you for not giving up. The other question was what’s the next step? He heard the county won’t give us a date so we want to hear what the next steps are and a timeline. It doesn’t sound like you want to tell us. Do you know the year for the Sports Complex?

**Mr. Finn** said it comes down to getting the design underway and that takes time and then procurement takes time. It won’t be soon. He spoke to Manny many times and he understood it won’t happen overnight. Instead of focusing on that, we need to make sure we have a plan for parks and those who use the fields. They need something that can be done in the interim so we can move on that plan and provide capacity while this is under construction. That’s our short-term goal because ideally we have a few plans for when we start construction.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said separate from construction, we’re going to continue field maintenance as if we don’t know when the closure is happening so you will have beautiful fields in the fall, then we shut down again and you will have beautiful fields again in the spring. Once they give us the update and say we’re ready to go, you will know as soon as we know. He told staff we’re going to keep planning, resodding and re-nourishment until we hear it’s time to shut down.

**Mr. Preciado** said we had Friday Night Live. He doesn’t think it was Pop Warner but his concern with the men’s leagues is that where the goalie is, the grass disappeared in a heartbeat. Are we adjusting to that? He remembers hearing about the amount of time on the field and what must done if it’s used a lot. He understands it’s all about growing and learning.

***Mr. Hanrahan responded:***

* Staff will keep an eye on that.
* On any rectangular field for soccer, that’s where you’re going to see dead areas – the goal mounds, center field and midfield, so we look at that. We do it across all of our fields and work on it with sand. We’re able to do some things.
* But wear and tear will happen throughout the year.
* He’s had staff take aerial views of when we closed and when we opened, night and day and when you’re on them.
* He had Kyle Price run a utilization report and we’re close to over 300% utilization, and that’s across the board, so that means we’re using our fields to the max.

**Acting Chairman Fruth** said Vineyards is probably the next worst. It’s been there long and this year was rough.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said we spent over $600,000 on sod to renourish community park fields.

1. **Aquatic Facilities Update**

***Mr. Atkinson told the PARAB:***

* John McCormick, our facilities director, made a presentation to the board last week, and we gave an aquatics report card. Some places got A’s and others got F’s.
* John and the board supported changing our model of forensic failure and being more proactive with preventive maintenance on all of these projects.
* Immokalee. We’re going to build a new facility and are getting proposals now so we can have the design done and it can be done in conjunction with the stormwater and the turf field. They have to be done simultaneously, so we have a proposal in, we made corrections to it and we’re waiting for the proposal to come back so we can get a deal and get the engineers to do the pool design.
* In addition to the $4 million for the turf field, we set aside $3 million for the pool, so a total of $7 million will be invested in the Immokalee sports program.
* Big Corkscrew, which got an A, is doing well and everything is set on the warranty so all features are open and active.
* Eagle Lakes is doing well. We have one issue with a slide that’s down and we’re actively working on it. We have a contractor who’s going to be onsite on Saturday to start repairs for the yellow slide, but everything else is operational and running. We had an issue with the geothermal, which heats and cools, but that was corrected yesterday.
* Golden Gate. We don’t have our slides now. A vendor is doing some modifications and a geothermal company for heating and cooling is scheduled to start work so we’re moving forward with that.
* We’ll be fitting some replacement units and making repairs to wells so we can have heating and cooling. We’re hoping to have slides in service by mid-July.
* There’s a major project going on there. They’re going to be re-marcited, and then we’ll get new slides. After that, we have to install safety fencing for compliance.
* We’re also remodeling the men’s locker room.
* Sun-N-Fun is closed. It’s 18 years old and unfortunately, when equipment decides to break, it broke all at the same time.
* The slide is down and we have an engineer on board now and expect to have the 100% design done in July.
* We’re working on the pump house now. It’s the heart of the facility. If the pump house is not operational, none of that works so we’re doing many major upgrades in the pump house and adding all new pumps.
* We’re working with our vendors and contractors and are doing electrical upgrades and bringing in new pumps. We’re working with our contractor for purchase and installation of the new pumps.
* We’re also working on the Lazy River. There’s a compliance issue involving the main drain suction.
* We have several projects going on and just couldn’t get them done for a summer opening.
* With the BCC’s support, they gave us a lot of money to do the upgrades we need.
* The Splash Pad analysis is being completed at the end of this week.

**Mr. Kelly** said you’ve got your work cut out for you.

**Ms. Laemel** asked if he did the grading on the aquatics facilities.

**Mr. Atkinson** said he did and he’s a harsh grader. He sat down with Brian and they graded the facilities together.

**Ms. Laemel** said she approves of doing that analysis.

**Mr. Atkinson** said each pool has two pumps and they’re all down.

**Ms. Laemel** said she’s glad our newest facility got an A.

*[The PARAB moved to VI.b]*

# Staff Reports

**Mr. Hanrahan** said Mr. Ossorio isn’t feeling well so he’ll provide the Region 1 report.

**Region 1 [James Hanrahan]**

* Region 1covers beaches and water.
* Even though the season may have slowed down for the county, beaches and marinas are fully busy. We’re being aggressive and proactive to be prepared for season.
* We’re having tough conversations with cleaning companies, making sure that when season comes, we’re doing the right things now to prepare for season. Mike has led that along with facilities and they’ve had good conversations with the cleaning companies about getting everything in order.
* We’re prepared for Fourth of July weekend. We heard the TDC’s expectations for cleanliness of the beaches, so he overstaffed maintenance to work the beaches that entire weekend to ensure they’re clean and ready for visitors.
* The marinas are doing well. For the commercial boat launch, we were tasked with getting it from 220 down to 180 slips rented. Mike and his team did an amazing job. We’re maintaining and controlling what’s going on at marinas.
* Commissioners asked us to look into whether Blue Water, the marina concessionaire, can accept cash because the community told commissioners that the marinas should accept cash so we’re working on that now. He will provide an update later.

**Acting Chairman Fruth** asked if there was an update about the boardwalk work.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said he hadn’t heard anything yet.

**Mr. Hanrahan continued with the Region 1 report:**

* We’ve done a soft launch of the T2 beach parking app at several locations with parking areas. Once we hear back, we will be officially unveiling T2.
* We heard good things so far and are working out the kinks before season.
* We’ve dedicated some Park Rangers to those parking lots to educate the public.
* He suggested giving the public informational cards to educate the public. The Rangers are helping drivers by handing out the cards so the public can see answers for any questions they may have, keep going, park, and then scan the app before going where they need to go.

**Region 2 [Said Gomez]**

* Region 2 covers Max Hasse Jr. Community Park, Golden Gate Community Park, Golden Gate Community Center and AIR therapeutic recreation.
* Max Hasse has 120 campers at its summer camp. That’s a lot of kids.
* The AIR program has 15, and AIR Too, the sister camp at North Collier, has 30 campers.
* Golden Gate Community Park has 90 kids for the regular camp and the middle school camp there has 18 kids for the no-school camp.

**Region 3 [Randi Swinderman]**

* She oversees eastern Collier County, which is Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park, Immokalee South Park, Immokalee Community Park and Immokalee Sports Complex.
* Big Corkscrew has over 200 kids daily.
* Last week, we were rained out so we were trying to keep them all inside, but we managed and had a lot of fun. It was almost like going to the movies because you’d walk into a different room and a different movie was playing.
* The pool is very busy. Sun-N-Fun’s staff has been split up among our aquatic facilities. Our senior program leader, Kelly, replaced our program leader, Sue, who left for another position so she’s at Big Corkscrew running that crew.
* We’ve kind of turned Big Corkscrew into Sun-N-Fun for the summer. The majority of the Sun-N-Fun team is at Big Corkscrew. Because of the volume, we’ve got two or three people on cashier and people at the gate to help direct people. There’s also a very full art staff that’s very busy. The other two, Rich and Bryce, are at Eagle Lakes. So we split that very experienced team, and since we’re expecting and seeing higher numbers, they know how to handle them, and it’s worked out well.
* Once Sun-N-Fun opens, we will reevaluate our staffing situation, but for now, it’s working out well.
* Big Corkscrew field are being resod now. They’re working on Vineyards, and then they’ll finish Corkscrew. Vineyards had a lot of issues and was in worse condition that what Immokalee looked like at the end of the season, with hardly any grass on the fields. So we’re resodding and making sure everything is safe and ready for when we reopen in the fall.

**Region 4 [Randi Swinderman]**

* Region 4 is Vineyards, Veterans and North Collier Regional Park.
* We have camps at Vineyards and Veterans parks that each have about 120 kids.
* North Collier Fire Department was at Veterans this morning and they were spraying the kids down with a water hose. The kids were smiling and having fun.
* North Collier’s sports camp has 30 kids. They went to Top Golf last week. They tried to end them last week, but with the rain they got pushed to this date. After that, North Collier closures are in full effect.
* We’re trying to rest the fields more than in the past. They’re in bad shape due to the heavy use of studded shoes. Those fields are shutting down.
* AIR Too is exciting for those families with kids in that program because they need that one-to-four ratio, rather than the one-to-10 ratio. We’ve gotten a lot of positive feedback, especially because AIR is mostly focused on Golden Gate, and now we’ve brought it to North Naples and we’re spreading out areas where we’re offering adaptive programming.
* Monica, the AIR supervisor, is working hard to do a nice job making that camp what it was supposed to be.

# Region 5 [Said Gomez]

* Region 5 covers Donna Fiala Eagle Lakes Park, East Naples Community Park and Southern Regional.
* East Naples has 50 campers. The pickleball program also has 50 campers.
* Eagle Lakes Community Park has 40 campers. They’re very busy and that’s where a lot of people are going now when some pools will be closed. The numbers are tremendous. We’re seeing over 1,000 people there a week and there were nearly 2,000 people there last week.
* Big Corkscrew’s team gives him numbers every Monday for the previous week. They had over 2,500 people there last week. Eagle Lakes was close to 2,000.
* Not counting the week with all the rain, we’re seeing about 2,000 at each location, where historically we saw 800-1,000 weekly.
* Kudos for staff for getting the messaging out on where to go if a park is closed. We have four other amazing parks the public can visit and they’re visiting them.
* Southern Regional Park is seeing 12 kids weekly for the next four weeks for summer. They’re doing a great job with a staff of two. They lost another employee so he’s proud of them for handling that.

# Director’s Report [James Hanrahan]

***Mr. Hanrahan reported:***

* The East of 951 advisory board met last night. They focus on the area that includes Big Corkscrew, Immokalee and as far down as Paradise Coast Sports Complex.
* They were happy to hear that since Big Corkscrew opened, they have 280 summer campers, the largest summer camp we have.
* VPK, the first year being open, scored 6.1 out of a possible 7 on their assessment.
* They were happy to hear all Paradise Coast Sports Complex fields are being used.
* The advisory board also knew about the purchase of the Williams property and the upgrades that we’ll be doing at Immokalee Sports Complex and were happy about that.
* It was his first time presenting to that group and they took it easy on him because they know he’s the interim director. Mike Bosi also was there and assisted.
* We’re going to keep Rick Garby’s position open for now. He’s looking at the applications very closely because that job is a unique position. The County Manager’s Office, including Dan Rodriguez, gave him great feedback on what we should be looking at and looking for.
* Olema’s director position has had an amazing number of applicants. He’s on the selection committee as a non-voting member to represent parks staff so he can see what candidates bring to the table and the applicant’s chemistry with the parks team. He will be able to represent the parks team and help select the new Parks & Recreation director.
* He will ensure that the PARAB is kept up to date on that. Our homework is to rank the applications. Over 30 applicants were referred from HR out of those who applied.
* In comparison, only nine applicants were referred by HR for Rick Garby’s superintendent of maintenance position.
* He’s overseeing the maintenance team, the recreation team and being the voice and spokesperson for the community so he’ll be excited when those positions are filled and he can return to his regular job.
* His team has been amazing. The regional managers have stepped up and he can’t thank them enough for their work. Randi and Said have stepped it up in ways he couldn’t imagine and Said and Mike Ossorio are doing a great job.
* His objective now is to work with the Facilities Division to make sure our facilities are where they need to be and to assist with hiring the right people for the open positions.
* He will provide the PARAB with a pickleball contract report in July.
* Spirit Promotions, which handles the U.S. Open Pickleball Championships, has two new owners, Mike Dee and Bob Bowman. They come from the professional sports world and will be introducing themselves to the PARAB with a presentation next month so you can start a relationship. They’re separate from the concessionaire.
* We’ve had Terri Graham and Chris Evon since 2016 and they will be handing that over to them. He’s been working closely with Mike and Bob. Mike Dee’s background comes from working in the front office for the Red Sox, the Dolphins and the Padres, so they have a wealth of knowledge in sports and understand the trajectory of where pickleball is headed.

**Ms. Laemel** said he mentioned the Williams property. Did she miss that update?

**Mr. Hanrahan** said that on May 28 the BCC approved the purchase of over 2,200 acres for about $20 million, and Parks & Rec will get part of that land. It’s in Immokalee on Lake Trafford, outside Lake Trafford Road.

***Mr. Finn told the PARAB:***

* It’s a big parcel. It was mostly acquired for conservation purposes. It’s an important sluice area and watershed area.
* 1,200-1,400 acres will be for Conservation Collier.
* 168 entitled acres will be used for affordable housing.
* There could be as many as 254 acres for parks.
* That’s conceptual. We need to properly program and zone it, get the right permits, including water-use permits, and FDEP permits. Those take time.
* The purchase shows the BCC’s commitment to important legacy acquisitions that will be a benefit to the program. More importantly, it will benefit the environment, including important conservation purposes.
* The parks were registered as part of our conceptual plan.
* There will be input from the community and we’ll work out a plan for the good of the entire community.

***Mr. Hanrahan introduced the Parks & Rec intern, Tyler Marsico:***

* When he met Tyler during his interview, he (Mr. Hanrahan) told him he also had a finance degree and did an internship with Shelby County government in his home town, Memphis, TN. He did auditing and they basically put him in a closet with all of the financials for the entire Memphis City government, including Shelby County and their third-party agency.
* He hated it and that’s why he never went into finance and went straight into athletics. He promised Tyler he wouldn’t do that to him and would expose him to everything parks does. We’re halfway through that now.
* Tyler is putting together a PowerPoint presentation and we might have him present that to you in July and put him on the spot.

***Tyler told the PARAB:***

* He’s at USF in Tampa and is studying economics, which may change.
* For his first week here, he shadowed North Collier staff to get an idea of what their jobs were like. He likes front-desk work.
* He spent time with Park Rangers and with the sea turtle people, which was cool. We got to look at nests on the beach and report the numbers.
* He worked with project management and saw everything they’re building at different sites. He also watched them inspect the work.
* This week, he’ll be working with Miguel in the office and taking field trips to summer camps.
* It’s been fun so far. It’s definitely been a good experience.

**Acting Chairman Fruth** asked if he’s from Naples.

**Tyler** said he is.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said he was willing to wake up at 5 a.m. to see the sea turtles. We didn’t want to stick him in an office and not let him get exposure.

**Mr. Kelly** asked about Friends of Barefoot Beach and whether their problems were resolved.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said we’re working through it now. They need to separate that from the FEMA project. There were a lot of hand tools. He tasked the management team to look at all the equipment to determine what the Friends donated and also met with Tony Barone from the Facilities management team. They’re hoping to start on the project in six to eight months.

**Ms. Heuser** asked if there was an update on a new Parks & Rec logo design.

**Mr. Hanrahan** said they have a new county logo and there was a presentation on that to the PARAB last month that’s in the minutes. We’re going to get an outside opinion about your concern. It’s not a dead deal but it could cost $250,000. The Ops team is working on it.

# IX. Adjournment

# Next Meeting Date:

# July 17, 2024, 2 p.m. – North Collier Regional Park

**There being no further business for the good of the county, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chairman at 6:57 p.m.**

**COLLIER COUNTY**

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Josh Fruth, Acting Chairman**

These minutes were approved by the board on , (check one) as presented, \_\_ or as amended \_\_\_.