

## MINUTES

### PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 6, 2006 7:30 a.m. — Fern Forest Nature Center — Coconut Creek

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Terry Danger  
Gerald Knight  
Dianne Johnson  
Alanna Mersinger  
Quentin Morgan  
Steve Person  
Hazelle Rogers  
Sheila Rose  
Bill Spute, Chair  
Milette Thurston

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Sharon Kent  
Ed Portner  
Guy Roper

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Bob Harbin, Parks & Rec.  
Mike Harlan, Parks & Rec.  
Jaime Plana, Parks & Rec.  
Gayle Preston, Parks & Rec.  
Chester Pruitt, Parks & Rec.  
Rich Laudia, Parks & Rec.  
Lonnie Watson, Parks & Rec.  
Meoshi Jackson, Parks & Rec.

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The meeting was called to order by Bill Spute at 7:34 a.m., after which all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings of September 6, October 4, and November 1, 2006. Sheila Rose made the motion, which was seconded and passed unanimously.

#### **Employee of the Month for December 2006**

Lonnie Watson was congratulated as Employee of the Month for December. He was applauded for his accomplishments and work ethics and was awarded a framed certificate of appreciation and a gift certificate for an area restaurant.

#### **Park Manager's Report**

Rich Laudia, Parks and Recreation Manager III and supervisor of various neighborhood parks within the Central District, gave the Board an overview of Franklin Park. The park offers various amenities to after school programs and the public, such as: a multipurpose hall, complex area, game room, weight room, computer lab, and art room. Shelters are available for rent and the park has a basketball court and outdoor playgrounds with state-of-the-art synthetic turf.

#### **Parks and Recreation Division (Parks) Update**

Bob Harbin pointed out the articles and events in the December issue of Highlights:

The Holiday Fantasy of Lights (HFOL) is doing well. Although the show is down approximately 300 in attendance, the revenue is up due to the recent fee increase of one dollar.

The annual Chip-A-Tree recycling program will take place December 26, 2006, through January 21, 2007. Residents can bring holiday trees to a park and they will be chipped and used for landscaping throughout the park system.

The annual Toys in the Sun Run will be held Sunday, December 10, 2006, at Markham Park. Over 30,000 motorcycles were in attendance last year, and it has proven to be a very successful fundraising event for a number of worthy causes.

The Commit 2B Fit program, which is going national, is proving to be very successful. It is attracting patrons to the parks, even for the first time. Through this program, patrons can receive a necklace and charm as a reward after completing 30 minutes of exercise, six times a month.

The Board received a copy of the 2006 Bond Program Annual Report. Mr. Harbin said that the program is now at an approximate five and a half year turning point, and he hopes to have most of the projects wrapped up about this time, next year. One of the biggest obstacles are construction cost increases, for which the Parks and Recreation Division has requested an additional \$28 million dollars to compensate.

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Accreditation Visiting Team has completed their visitation of the Broward County park system. Mr. Harbin will find out in February if we will meet our obligations and be reaccredited for the third time. This is a five year accreditation that requires agencies to meet up to 158 standards. Mr. Harbin and the chair of our accreditation team will go to Washington, D.C. to answer any questions from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies.

### **Bond Construction Update**

Jaime Plana informed the Board of the following: the bid for West Pompano Beach Highlands Community Center, at double the budget, must be re-bid; the prototype bids for basketball roofs, corporate shelters, and maintenance facilities are due in January; T.Y. Park construction is underway; Vista View Park's design is 70% completed; Tree Tops Park's design/build is in permits; staff is negotiating with the contractor for the Central Broward Regional Park (CBRP) to get back to work; Roosevelt Gardens Park is out for bid; the reforestation of native trees at Quiet Waters Park is in progress; staff met with a Selection/Negotiation Committee to proceed with Tradewinds Park's design/build; a consultant for the Everglades Holiday Park Master Plan was awarded and the process should begin in January.

### **Old Business**

Bob Harbin gave the Board an update on the Restrictive Covenants for park development protection. Mr. Harbin said that the Restrictive Covenants form for properties designated as urban wilderness areas was approved by the Broward County Commission. The form for the remaining park properties will go before the Commission on December 12, 2006. Staff has held a number of meetings with the School Board to discuss a number of concerns they have about joint use of facilities and how they will be affected by these restrictions.

Bill Spute asked for a SWIM Central/Challenge Grant update. Out of 72 grant recipients, about eight of them have requested grant extensions for anywhere from six months to two years for completion.

At the last meeting, the Board discussed supporting a tree trimming licensure program maintained by the Broward County Extension Education Division (in conjunction with the University of Florida/IFAS). Sheila Rose suggested a resolution be drafted for the Board's review at the next meeting. Mr. Harbin offered to prepare a letter of support for the Board's

review once he receives a draft resolution from Ms. Rose that can be adapted to support the tree trimming license.

### **New Business**

#### **2007 Parks Advisory Board Election**

Bill Spute asked for nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, to begin in January 2007 for a two-year term.

Quentin Morgan was nominated as Chair at the previous meeting. Mr. Morgan accepted and the vote was unanimous.

Therefore, Quentin Morgan was elected new Chair for 1/07 through 12/08.

Bill Spute then asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Since there were no nominations, Mr. Spute asked Shelia Rose if she would like to serve as Vice Chair again. Ms. Rose accepted this nomination and the vote was unanimous.

Therefore, Sheila Rose was elected Vice Chair for 1/07 through 12/08.

### **Next Meeting**

Mr. Harbin offered to provide the Board with a list of possible meeting locations for the Board to choose from for the year. Sheila Rose suggested that the January 3, 2007, meeting be postponed.

The next meeting will be held on February 7, 2007, at T.Y. Park.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 a.m.