



**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF MEETING**

NOVEMBER 14, 2019

Proceedings of the regular monthly meeting of the St. Johns County Recreation Advisory Board held in the San Sebastian Room at the Administrative Offices, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present were: Al Guido
Bo Browne
Casey Van Rysdam
Bert Watson
Jillian McNiff-Villemaire
Doug Bataille, Director of Parks and Recreation
Billy Zeits, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
Commissioner Waldron, BOCC Liaison
Joy Andrews, Assistant County Administrator
Joanne Machula, Recording Secretary

Also present were: Jamie Baccari, Parks and Recreation Community Programs Manager, Teddy Meyer, Parks and Recreation Facilities Manager, Diane Gorski, Recreation Supervisor, Sydney Lindblad, Beaches Supervisor and Melissa Lundquist, Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners.

Meeting is called to order at 3:03 pm with a quorum. October RAB Minutes approved with a motion by Vice Chair with a second by Mr. Watson.

There is no public comment.

Commissioner Waldron speaks on the Parking issue which will be on the next BCC Agenda – Off Beach Parking including Boat Ramps and Pier. Commissioner remarks that the discussion on the \$15M surplus went very well for Parks and Recreation. In addition. The Jessie Melcolm sign is on the Consent Agenda and doesn't expect any issues.

Mr. VanRysdam questions on the Mickler's Landing project. Ms. Andrews details the current plan for Mickler's Construction. Brief discussion follows.

Chair briefs the applicants on the Recreation Advisory Board and its purpose and duties.

Ms. Lundquist discusses, in detail, the process for RAB Applicant selection and the Sunshine Laws/Rules with the Board Members. In addition, the packet that the selected members will be receiving is discussed and explained.

The two applicants present in today's meeting, Mr. Harold L. Dockins and Mr. Brad Long each present to the Board to introduce themselves and respond to the two questions that had been asked of them prior to this meeting. Both applicants described their interests, backgrounds and experience in detail as well as taking any questions from the Board members.

The three members that were not present but did notify the Secretary, had been given the opportunity to respond to the two questions that had been asked of all of the applicants in advance. Those responses were sent to the Secretary in email form and distributed to the RAB members for their consideration. Of the nine RAB applicants that had applied for the two open

positions, two applicants were present, three applicants confirmed in advance that they were unable to attend today's meeting due to unforeseen circumstances and four applicants were no shows. The written email responses of the three absent applicants will be provided as part of these Minutes under a separate cover. The Board members begin their lengthy discussion on the selection process.

Vice Chair motions to recommend to reappoint Ms. Deb Chapin in her current position on the RAB. Mr. Watson seconds the motion. There is brief discussion to follow by the Chair. All are in favor and the motion passes unanimously.

The Board members continue the lengthy discussion on the choice of recommendation for the remaining open position. Ms. Lundquist reminds that although it is a preference to have members representing different districts of the County, it is not always possible and therefore it is permitted to not have representation from each district serve on the RAB. There is brief discussion on the available Applicant scoresheets and whether or not to use them. It is decided that the scoresheets will not be used.

Chair recommends that the Board motions to make three recommendations to the Board, Ms. Deb Chapin, Mr. Harold L. Dockins and Mr. Brad Long with the BCC choosing two of these three. There's brief discussion on this suggestion. Ms. Lundquist reminds that this Board does not have the capability to seat an Alternate at this time as it would be a change in the RAB By Laws.

Chair makes the formal motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners, in our order of preference, Ms. Deb Chapin, Mr. Harold L. Dockins and Mr. Brad Long. Mr. Van Rysdam seconds the motion. There is no discussion. All are in favor and the motion passes unanimously. The two present RAB applicants are thanked for their interest and leave the meeting.

There is discussion on the meeting site/day change from the current second Thursday due to meeting room conflicts. There is lengthy discussion. Wednesday is discussed as an open meeting day for the current room being used. Options are discussed among the members. One of the RAB members cannot make a Wednesday meeting. Mr. Bataille reminds the 2nd Thursday was originally discussed due to the BOCC meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Chair motions to keep the RAB meetings on the second Thursday. Mr. Van Rysdam seconds the motion. All are in favor and the motion passes unanimously.

The cricket field at the Fairgrounds is briefly discussed among members. Ms. Andrews informs that the previous Parks Director had agreed to accept the donation for the cricket field to be built at the Fairgrounds and details the subsequent issue discovered with the cricket field and why it cannot be used at this time. Further, the County is not in any position to improve that area of the Fairgrounds in that regard. It is also mentioned by Mr. Meyer that several alternate sites had been suggested to the user group but none were deemed acceptable in their determination.

Mr. Meyer discuss and details Agenda items for next Tuesday's BCC meeting such as Renaming Field #1 at Rivertown Baseball Complex, Facility Modification requests & contributions from PVAA & SJMSAA Baseball, and Requests for funds to complete the newly acquired Rivertown Multipurpose Fields. Lengthy discussion follows.

Chairman remarks on the Ron Parker Park court resurfacing and commends the job being done.

Mr. Bataille discusses the surplus funds and refers to and explains the previously sent email which had been forwarded to the RAB members. Ms. Andrews further details the breakdown of the surplus funds with a large portion going toward Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Van Rysdam updates the Board on his recent meeting with the TDC several weeks ago with the purpose of informing them what the RAB's process was in terms of CATIII and how the RAB works with post event audits as well as looking at economic impact marketing, briefly touching on CAT V as well as looking for insights from the TDC perspective.

Unfortunately, there wasn't much response for Mr. VanRysdam to report to this Board but plans on attending future TDC meetings. Discussion follows.

Mr. Bataille informs that there will be Park Foundation meetings next month on Wed., Dec. 11th, 2 pm – 4 pm in the BCC Auditorium and Thu., Dec. 12th, 8 am – 10 am and then 10 am – 12 Noon at the Health Dept. Conference Room at HHS.

Meeting adjourns at 4:50 pm.