

Brevard County Parks and Recreation South Area Advisory Board

POW/MIA Community Center
5995 North US Highway 1
Melbourne, Florida 32940

Monday, August 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department, South Area Advisory Board (SAAB), was conducted on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:00 PM in accordance with safety precautions and social distancing guidelines due to the corona virus epidemic.

Members Present

Mary Goelz, Chairperson
Greg Minor
Nick Galluzzi
Theresa Barger
Kimberly Scalise

Members Absent

Marcia Booth
Charles Roger Hardin, Vice Chairperson

Staff Present

Richard Tucci South Area Operations Manager
Jerry Gust, Parks Maintenance Superintendent
Robert Salazar, Recreation Superintendent
Teresa Rivera, Assistant to Assistant County Manager
Marsha Blizzard, Administrative Secretary
Jessica Breault, Parks Supervisor III

Public

John Young, President Space Coast Titans Softball and Coach Kevin

Meeting Call to Order

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited then the meeting was called to order by Mary Goelz at 7:00 PM. Five members were present and two were absent. It was noted that the board did have a quorum.



Brevard County Parks and Recreation
South Area Parks Operations
1515 Sarno Road, Building A, Melbourne, FL 32935
www.BrevardParks.com



Approval of Minutes

Mary Goelz inquired if SAAB members had the opportunity to look over the minutes for the regular meeting on June 21st. Motion made by Mary Goelz to accept the minutes of June 21st as submitted; Greg Minor seconded and the motion unanimously passed.

Public Input

John Young President of the Space Coast Titans Girls Fast Pitch Softball and coach Kevin both spoke regarding a recreation partnership with the south area. Currently operate in the North Area Park at Chain of Lakes in Titusville. League is made up of 10 teams with 110 to 115 active players, ages 7 to 18. They are a full 501(c) nonprofit, all 100% volunteers.

The organization has grown in the last six years and is looking to expand to the south area for their travel ball. They offer scholarships and sponsorships that has allowed girls to play at high school and collegiate level. Big sister program, fundraisers together and promote a family atmosphere.

As with Chain of Lakes, they are looking for a place to practice every week. Open to players of all skill levels; no tryouts just workouts. Rosters are players of all skill levels; no tryouts just work outs. Rosters 10-12 per team. Practice play program were all unskilled members are part of the team, but teams are not on the travel team until or if they progress in skill level. Those players have no cost associated with membership.

Kevin added they have already merged their 8U, 10U and 12U teams with assistant coach for and currently have teams formed, playing at Suntree and Crane Creek but want a year-round, August through December and February through July, designated space in the south area. Mr. Young noted they are losing members due to travel from Viera, south area to Titusville.

Teresa Scalise asked when practices are held. John Young answered, "Practices are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays."

Greg Minor asked if any staff was paid?

John Young, "No, sir, all of our staff are volunteers. All funding is through concession sales, hosting tournaments, fund raisers, business donations and banner advertising programs.

Kevin added, "Travel can be expensive, the program is run so well, it pays for everything. Not all families can afford to travel. Fund raisers go into players' accounts. Sponsors pay for bats, gloves. Internal funds go towards travel players



participation. We never have and never will turn someone away based on their ability to pay.”

Greg Minor asked, “Is there capacity to expand?”

Rob, “We met a couple months ago, they understood the saturation of our fields. Potentially could use the Suntree fields on Sundays, which has the most availability.

John, “We take great care of our fields. We’d be happy with space at Suntree.”

Speakers departed. No other members of the public present.

Staff Reports

Maintenance - Jerry Gust, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

- a. South Mainland Community Center voice activated alarm system will be completed by the end of September. Already completed at Max K. Rodes and will move on to Viera and South Beaches Community Centers this fiscal year.
- b. Long Point pump house and maintenance shed building are completed
- c. Wickham Park Disabilities building received review from architects, working with purchasing, City of Melbourne zoning approval, permit for water received
- d. Wickham Park restrooms A and B received site layout, changes made
- e. Awaiting South Area to approve 60% plans
- f. Wickham Park caretaker site, waiting for City of Melbourne certificate of occupancy, everything else complete
- g. Lake Washington sea wall, awaiting Department of Environmental Protection permits
- h. Old home awaiting asbestos report at Lake Washington, report came back negative, plan to demo building
- i. Installed six speed bumps and an LED speed monitoring sign in the Rode’s Park roadway to deter speeders. Four more on order.
- j. Installed new carport at Viera Regional Park to store and protect equipment
- k. Completed installation of new shade cover over the South Beaches Community Center playground
- l. Installation of shade cover over Howard E. Futch playground
- m. Homeless camp evictions at Howard E. Futch, Canova, Sea Gull parks along with removal of non-native, invasive plants and dead trees to discourage future camps
- n. Resealed POW/MIA parking lot



- o. Replaced kitchen roof hood vent system on Billie's Restaurant at Spessard Holland Park North due to corrosion
- p. Completed the re-decking and handrails of three dune crossovers at Howard E. Futch Park. Currently working on one each at Spessard Holland North and South Park, and River Drive
- q. Completing athletic field renovation in preparation of the all youth leagues
- r. Sadly, reporting the passing of team member Greg "Bubba" Carlton, Maintenance Equipment Operator

Recreation - Rob Salazar, Recreation Superintendent

- a. Summer camp ended August 9th, 2021 with 1,000 plus kids attending
- b. About 3,000 attended the Great American Food Truck Bash at Wickham Park on July 2nd. Over 20 food trucks participated
- c. June 26th kicked off our summer concert series and food trucks at Wickham Park. Featuring local bands like Bella Donna Project and Greggie and the Jets on July 24th, these events were very well received. The concert series will continue on August 21st featuring American Hotrods and You're Gonna Get It on September 18th
- d. Movies in the Park at Wickham Park showed Sandlot on June 25th and Sonic the Hedgehog on July 23rd. There were about 200 attendees each
- e. The afterschool program at Viera Regional, Rodes and South Mainland Community Centers started August 10th. There are a few spots still available at Rodes with South Mainland and Viera full. with 26 spots
- f. Job fair tomorrow for all departments to combat the severe staff shortage we are currently experiencing

Wickham Park – Jessica Breault, Parks Supervisor III

- a. A few projects completed including contractors trimming trees and removing invasive vegetation
- b. There was free family fun event hosted by a local church on July 4th with food and games
- c. City of Melbourne suspended activities; vendors want to move events to Wickham
- d. Girls high school cross country being held
- e. 9-11 5k on September 4th
- f. Caribbean Festival September 5th
- g. New event "Junkin' Pumpkin Fall Vintage Market" September 25th
- h. Melbourne Fall Art and Craft festival October 23rd and 24th
- i. Campgrounds at Wickham Park are at 100% capacity again

Richard Tucci – South Area Operations Manager

- a. Job fair tomorrow for all departments; spread the word come by



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Old Business

Preliminary information on pump track as proposed in previous meeting.

- a. Teresa Barger visited Candyland Park in Longwood. Estimated cost for 9,000 square feet equaling 200 feet by 300 feet is \$135,000 for asphalt construction. Construction would require community involvement and donated time. Further discussion regarding prefabrication option, permitting and materials. Proposed locations beachside near Canova Park or Flutie Field Complex where playground used to reside; South Beach Community Center or Wickham Park.
- b. Jessica asked where Candyland was located. Teresa, "Longwood."
- c. Would like to meet regarding potential locations. Rob asked if her proposal could be sent to Recreation for discussion of budget and feasible locations; including sponsors. Teresa agreed to have for future meeting.

New Business

Discussion regarding Frisbee Golf at Wickham Park

- a. Request for expansion of nine additional holes; total of 22. Citizen emailed with concern regarding trails.
- b. Jessica Breault stated the new holes would have no impact on existing trails. Currently most holes are within park area and pavilion where large events interfere with disk golf. New course would be in the horse pasture using the tree cover and natural typography; would only require removal of some dead trees and invasive plants; also, within fire lines. This addition would reduce vegetation regrowth and would further discourage encampments and picking/cutting palmetto berries and ATV usage.
- c. Rob follow up in agreement and supportive of the installation of the additional holes. Wanted to address due to citizen concern. Additionally, usage of 200 plus per day due to outdoor and social distancing and no cost for usage.
- d. Mary made motion to approve the expansion of the disc golf course, seconded by Kim Scalise, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.
- e. Further discussion regarding Space Coast Titans Softball partnership
- f. Rob stated they want the same agreement they have in the North Area.
- g. Mary's understanding is that we don't have fields available Tuesday or Thursday. Best solution to possibly offer Sunday and piece them in elsewhere.
- h. Further discussion regarding field availability and Recreation Partner agreements "All Play Rules" with regards to travel ball. Stradley Park in Central was discussed as an alternative. All three fields are currently unused.
- i. No final decision or vote was made.



Other

Teresa Scalise discussed the desire to dedicate the possible pump track to local athletic celebrities that participated in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and World Champions like skateboarder Jake Ilardi and Melbourne Beach surfer Caroline Marks.

Nick Galluzzi asked why Little League was responsible for the sunshades at Viera Regional Park and Max K. Rodes Park. Jerry Gust, "Little League volunteered to purchase them and maintain them."

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mary Goelez to adjourn the meeting and Greg Minor seconded the motion

All in favor, motion passed

Next regular meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2021

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM

