

NORTH BREVARD COMMISSION ON PARKS & RECREATION

Minutes of the regular meeting of the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation held on Thursday, October 6, 2022 in the Brevard Room located at the Brevard County Government Complex-North, 400 South Street, Titusville, Florida 32780.

Members Present

Arnie Benson, Chair
Randy Rodriguez, Vice Chair
Bianca Alaimo
Jane Cline
Andrew Connors
William Klein
Amelia Robinson

City of Titusville Elected Officials

Dan Diesel

Brevard County Parks & Recreation

Jeff Davis, Jr., North Area Manager
Clifford Lett, Recreation Superintendent
Melissa Renninger, Administrative Secretary

Members Absent

Koren Odermann
Willie Taylor

Brevard County District 1 Commission Office

No one present

I. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Benson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call:

Absent: Koren Odermann, Willie Taylor

Motion requested by Mr. Benson to excuse the absences. Motion by Randy Rodriguez, seconded by Bianca Alaimo accepted and moved by all.

AYE: Benson, Rodriguez, Alaimo, Cline, Connors, Klein, Robinson

NAY: None **Carried 7-0**

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II. Approval of Minutes:

Motion requested by Mr. Benson to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2022 meeting with no corrections. Motion by Andrew Connors, seconded by Jane Cline, accepted and moved by all.

AYE: Benson, Rodriguez, Alaimo, Cline, Connors, Klein, Robinson

NAY: None Carried 7-0

III. Reports

A. Miscellaneous Reports & Updates

Mr. Benson inquired to the status of scheduling regular briefings with the Commissioner. Mr. Davis will report back.

B. Chairman's Report on Meetings

No report.

C. Advisory Board Members

Alaimo:

Before the hurricane things were great. Sandpoint was of course flooded with some down trees. She is aware that the docks at Manzo and Rotary Parks were battered because of the storm.

Ms. Alaimo witnessed people driving at Parrish Park – Titusville where the road is damaged. She feels not only is this a safety issue but will hinder preservation efforts.

Benson:

Mr. Benson was not able to visit half of his parks because they are still under water.

He was pleasantly surprised when he attended a little league game at Holder Park the evening before. He received a lot of positive comments regarding the parking area meeting with a lot of approval from patrons and the park was beautiful as if nothing happened there.

Parrish Park – Scottsmoor has big things going on there with this Saturday hosting youth football. Attendance has been in the range of two hundred to four hundred. It's really amazing and staff is doing an amazing job.

Cline:

No update on her parks. Brevard Public Schools will not be in operation during Thanksgiving week unless the State deems those to be make up days. If Schools are not in operation that will allow Parks to have Camp that week. Ms. Cline will advise if those days due in fact become up make up days.

Connors:

Everything looked great before the storm. He wants to give our amazing maintenance team time needed to perform clean up. The National Night Out event was an amazing event; organizations participating included Parks, YMCA, and other community organizations. Kudos to Chief Lau and his team.

Klein: Visited several parks after the hurricane.

Parrish Park – Titusville - He found that just after the hurricane the park was totally under water but since then the water has drained and receded. A majority of the park has washed away. This is the time to look at the proposed parking lot to be built for the Trailhead as the lane is not there anymore. The water line has moved in and Mr. Klein doesn't see how the project can move forward without restoration. Mr. Klein feels the county should compare the park's beach line form the past (swimming with a lifeguard) to the present. Marathon, Florida had a similar situation after Hurricane Irma.

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Chain of Lakes – visited shortly after the storm and saw that the palm fronds were already being cleaned up.

Wuestoff – the new boardwalk looked good; it had been sealed off. Witnessed maintenance staff on-site. The boardwalk going into the trail had some plants sticking out into the trail but it still looked really good for everything going on.

All of his parks looked really good.

Robinson:

Debris is being cleaned up at Isaac Campbell Park. Ms. Robinson inquired as to when the last time the Park was completely remodeled. Mr. Davis advised CBDG funding had provided new flooring, room dividers, exterior painting and a new playground approximately ten years ago. Ms. Robinson noted the tile and bathroom are dated and asked for an assessment of what renovation costs might be. She also noted that the hurricane debris still needs to be cleaned up.

At Gibson, the girls toilets in bathroom in the gym are backing up. The boys bathroom has water coming through the vents. Also in the gym, in the hallway area, in the classroom area in the back; the air conditioning is not working very well. The gym air conditioning is nice. The large stall in the woman's bathroom in the cafeteria is missing a door. The ice maker in the kitchen is broken. Ms. Robinson asked about who is responsible for security cameras on the outside. Mr. Davis advised that per county ordinance Parks can only install security cameras on the entrances and exits from the inside showing the outside.

The gym roof at Cuyler is leaking after the hurricane. Debris still needs to be cleaned. Ms. Robinson inquired about lighting for basketball and Mr. Davis informed her that it is budgeted for this year. The big field lights on the softball field are hanging, after the hurricane.

Rodriguez:

Port St. John Community Center – the two playgrounds recently installed survived the storm. Great choices on the budgeting and choices for these amenities.

Fay Lake Wilderness Park – The dog parks are under water but it is clearing up. Someone in a four-wheeler has destroyed up the grass.

Port St. John Boat Ramp is under water. Nothing but the top end of the pilings is visible. People are still fishing there.

Nicol Park is full of debris but Mr. Rodriguez understands the large task ahead for staff and can see Parks is gaining ground. He was trying to get community volunteers to assist with debris removal. The retention area was full. The sprinkler system was still intact.

Fay Park had a lot of debris and the screens are down around the ball fields. Staff did a great job and was already getting the fields cleared for practice and games. All the lights and fence seem to be intact. The tennis court was still standing but the roof on the racquetball court was gone.

Kudos on the trash cans at all of these parks – every one was still standing.

Space Coast Communities Sports Complex had a lot of water as well. Maintenance was clearing the debris. Screens were torn at the baseball fields but staff was clearing the ground so kids would be able to play. The lighted signs that belong to the Recreation Partner were also damaged.

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D. City of Titusville

Mayor Dan Diesel:

Mayor Diesel was at Sandpoint Park as early as the day before the meeting and was very impressed with how it handled the water. There are three boats that landed ashore.

The Titusville City Council unanimously and happily reappointed Andrew Connors and William Klein to the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation. They are very happy with their sincerity and contribution.

Mayor Diesel noted that Titusville made the National News for rain totals being number one in the State of Florida with 25.6 inches of rain fall. Overall, he feels we were truly blessed as far as the impact from the storm.

E. North Area Parks Operations Staff

Mr. Davis informed the Board that staff will evaluate and review the concerns expressed regarding Parrish Park – Titusville and wait for final direction. He reminded the Board the county is bound to the funding in place for the project.

Mr. Davis advised that all of North Area Parks boat ramps and docks are closed at this time. Derelict vessels will be addressed in accordance with laws and regulations.

An evaluation of all North Area Parks is taking place at this time in order to apply for FEMA funding – Kennedy Point, Manzo, Rails to Trails (erosion), Singleton Tennis Courts, Cuyler, Fox Lake, Gibson, Harry T. Moore, Holder, Manatee Hammock Campground, North Brevard Senior Center, Parrish Park – Titusville, and boat ramps. Parks is steadily moving forward to address all the issues caused by the storm.

Ms. Renninger, Administrative Secretary, introduced herself to the Board.

Mr. Lett, Recreation Superintendent, introduced himself to the Board.

IV. Presentations and/or Recreation Partner Reports:

(None Scheduled)

VI. Old Business:

Mr. Lett advised that Walter Butler Community Center has 45 youth enrolled, Campbell has 25 to 30 enrolled and Cuyler also has 25 to 30 enrolled. The Board is pleased that North Area can offer this program to keep children entertained and occupied as they are our future.

VII. New Business:

Next year's meetings will be held on January 12th, April 13th, July 13th, and October 12th. Meetings will begin at 4:00 p.m. unless the agenda calls for them to start earlier.

Mr. Rodriguez advised the Christmas parades will occur as typical with Mims being on the first Saturday in the month of December; Titusville will be the second Saturday and Port St. John will be the third Saturday. Port St. John will host Festival on November 12th at Fay Lake Wilderness Park.

Gibson will be hosting a food truck and craft fair event in October.

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VIII. Public Comment:

Mr. Stan Johnson presented information to the Board regarding the dangers of sewage leaks and aerosol. The only park affected was the North Brevard Senior Center and the fountain has been turned off at that location.

Ms. Breckle, who uses a walker and wheelchair, advised the sidewalk at Sandpoint Park has standing water on a regular basis. She also noted that at Chain of Lakes there are two section of the sidewalk that are gravel. These conditions cause the areas to be unnavigable for her. Mr. Davis provided his contact information so that they can meet on-site at each location to make an assessment.

Motion requested by Mr. Benson to adjourn, motion made by William Klein, seconded by Jane Cline, accepted and moved by all.

AYE: Benson, Rodriguez, Alaimo, Cline, Connors, Klein, Robinson

NAY: None Carried 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm

Public present: 2

Public comment cards: 2

Members present 7

Staff present: 3

City staff: 1 Total: 13

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Arnold Benson, Chair