

Citizen's Budget Review Committee

Minutes

Thursday, March 21st, 2024 at 3:00 pm

**Atlantic Room, Building C, 3rd Floor
Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Citizen's Budget Review Committee was called to order at 3:02 pm on Thursday, March 21st, 2024, at the Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.

Roll Call

a) Sign-in sheet was circulated among the attendees.

b) Present:

1. D2 – Stephen Burdett
2. D3 – Kevin Gholston
3. D4 – Peter Fuscas
4. Mary Ellen Donner – Director Parks and Recreation Department
5. Steve Kimball – Assistant Director Parks and Recreation Department
6. Michele Summers – Support Services Manager Parks and Recreation Department
7. Jill Hayes – Budget Office Director
8. Boris Soudakoff – Budget Office Administrative Assistant

c) Absent:

1. D1 – Steve Holmberg
2. D5 – John Colaiacovo

Approval of minutes from last meeting.

Minutes approved from the previous meeting on September 28, 2023.
Motion passed 3-0 with no specific comment.

Open Issues

A. Parks and Recreation Department Presentation

Presentation was given to the Committee on the Parks and Recreation Operations, budget, and funding sources. Discussion included the following:

- Number of county parks and level of maintenance

- **Maintenance costs and infrastructure improvements**
- **Facility usage and user fees**
- **Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELS) Program – referendum and Board approval of financing for capital improvements and land acquisition**

B. Hiring and the Levels of Service

Discussion related to vacant positions, how they are budgeted, and the reliance on contracted services.

Potential Recommendation: Reallocate some of the unspent vacancy budget and look for ways to be more efficient. Create a “Rainy Day Fund” from budgeted and unfilled positions.

The Chair would like to know the status of hiring a 3rd party consultant to administer the Nationwide Deferred Compensation plan.

New Business

- A. Grants - The Committee Members are interested to see the Grant Manager at the next meeting for an update.**
- B. Facilities - The Committee Members confirmed their previous request to have a presentation from the Facilities Department and their Building and Maintenance Program at the next meeting.**
- C. Fiscal Impact - The Committee Members suggested the necessity of a Fiscal Impact Statement, Cost Benefit Analysis, and would like to see the Ordinance requiring such Fiscal Impact Statement. The Committee Members recommended the creation of an Office of Fiscal Analysis.**
- D. Fire Rescue - The Committee Members would like to have a presentation from Fire Rescue emphasizing on Personnel issues and an overview of their infrastructure at the September 19, 2024, meeting.**
- E. Next Meeting Date - The next meeting date is Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 3:00pm in the Atlantic Room.**

Public Comments

- **N/A**

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:17pm