

North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation

Minutes

January 11, 2024 • 4:00 p.m.

Brevard Room

518 South Palm Avenue, Titusville, Florida

I. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call

Chair Benson called the meeting of the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation (NBCPR) to order at 4:00 p.m. The invocation was provided by Jeff Davis, Jr. Chair Benson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Mr. Davis performed roll call. Koren Odermann's absence was noted. The minutes of the October 12, 2023 NBCPR meeting were presented.

Motion by Randy Rodriguez to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 NBCPR meeting. Second by Bianco Alaimo. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Reports

A. North Area Parks Operations Staff

1. Mike Butcher, Parks Construction Manager

Mr. Butcher introduced himself and welcomed the NBCPR members to recommend future capital park projects for assessment and consideration. North Area Parks Operations is the most active Area in the Department for construction projects currently.

B. Advisory Board Members

1. Arnold Benson, Chair

Mr. Benson welcomed our new members and asked them to introduce themselves. After introductions, Mr. Benson reported that a briefing was held with Commissioner Pritchett prior to the Advisory Board meeting. He stated the Commissioner seems to be happy with this Board and how things are going. Mr. Benson visited his assigned Parks and they are in great shape. He can't say enough good things about our maintenance team.

2. Steven Darling

Mr. Darling introduced himself. He is the former Director of Brevard County's Central Services Department and now works for Blue Origin. He resides in Mims and has children that frequent our Parks for sports and special group events. Mr. Darling's term is effective January 9, 2024 through December 31, 2025.

3. Christopher Reynolds

Mr. Reynolds introduced himself. He is a long time Brevard resident with a son who has played sports throughout Brevard County Parks. He has served on several boards and for recreation partners. His term is effective December 19, 2023 through December 31, 2025.

4. Randy Rodriguez, Vice Chair

Mr. Rodriguez reported that overall his assigned Parks are in good shape. The shoreline at Nicol Park and the Port St. John Boat Ramp took a beating from the storms. The freshly painted rooms at the Port St. John Community Center look

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great. Fay Lake Wilderness Park looks amazing and the crews are doing an excellent job cleaning up after storms.

5. Bianca Alaimo

Ms. Alaimo reported all of her assigned Parks look really well and thanked the team for the maintenance. She had the opportunity to attend an event held at Gibson where everything looked really nice and there were no issues with failing equipment.

6. Andrew Connors

Mr. Connors reported that all of his assigned Parks look really good and he ventured out to some others as well. Mr. Connors is impressed with how accommodating North Area Parks Operations is for organization's last minute changes and needs for fields and lighting. Mr. Connors stated it is a huge testament to the office and staff being there for the citizens.

7. William Klein

Mr. Klein reported that this assigned Parks look good. Mr. Klein began discussion regarding Parrish Park – Titusville. The Park has been closed for more than a year with no construction. Mr. Davis stated that one of the purposes of the fencing was to block access to the degrading shoreline and to give it time to heal. Mr. Butcher provided an update on the project stating most of it has cleared permitting. This a multi-agency project including federal, state, county and city agencies. The project timeline through final completion is approximately 400 days. Mr. Klein visited and used all of the newly installed exercise equipment at Wuesthoff Park. He reported that Chain of Lakes is always active as well as the Manatee Hammock Campground.

C. City of Titusville

Mayor Deisel reported on another successful Christmas parade and is looking forward to the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade. Mayor Diesel announced that Saturday, January 20th the All-inclusive park equipment at Sand Point ribbon cutting ceremony will be held. Mayor Diesel also reported that the City performed an infrastructure project at Sand Point Park to replace and move the sewer line further away from the Indian River Lagoon.

D. Miscellaneous

Jeff Davis reviewed Park Assignments with the Board since the change in membership. He reminded the Board that this is their opportunity to visit their assigned Parks to bring back comments, offer recommendations and report any maintenance items that need attention. Jeff offered his cell number for immediate communication to address any concerns regarding the Parks in a timely manner. Steven Darling has been assigned to Blanton Park, Cuyler Park, Gibson Complex & Filed, Isaac Campbell Sr. Park, Holder Park, and Parrish Park – Scottsmeer. Chris Reynolds has been assigned to Fox Lake Park, Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park, Kennedy Point Park, Rails to Trails, and W.W. James Park. In addition, Andrew Connors has added Singleton Tennis Courts to his assignments until the School Board vacancy is filled.

Motion to approve the North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation's Advisory Board Member's Park Assignments by Steven Darling. Second by Bianca Alaimo. Motion carried unanimously.

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III. Old Business

Mr. Johnston requested to speak regarding a City of Titusville water pollution concern. The Board referred Mr. Johnston to the City for guidance as this is beyond the purview of this Board.

IV. New Business

Chair Benson recognized the need to nominate a Chair and Vice-Chair to this Board since the addition of two new members.

Motion by Randy Rodriguez to nominate Arnold Benson as Chair of the North Brevard Commission on Parks & Recreation. Second by Andrew Connors.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Randy Rodriguez to nominate Bianca Alaimo as Vice-Chair. Second by Andrew Connors. Motion carried unanimously.

A. Water Outflow Testing from Stormwater Ponds

Dr. Jeffrey Greenberg presented information regarding SWIRL (Stormwater Indian River Lagoon). This is a community-based science program including a pilot project to monitor the quantity and quality of stormwater from mainland into the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). Three major components to the program include training young professional for analytical procedures; periodic analyzation of stormwater content; and utilizing real time remote sensors to measure physical features.

V. Presentations

There were no presentations.

VI. Public Comment

Kevin Rosa offered some observations regarding Parrish Park – Titusville. Since the new trespassing ordinance went into effect the illegal, overnight camping has almost disappeared. Since the fencing off of the park there has been less need for calls to the Titusville Police Department. He sees the park is not close and is open to pedestrians. He also notices improvement along the shoreline.

Gayle Krisingha representing the Titusville Soccer Club spoke on the new background investigation procedure put into place by the Parks and Recreation Department and made part of the Recreation Partner contract. Discussion took place detailing some of the actions required to be in compliance with and to be able to perform the background investigations and the legal ramifications on the President.

Motion by Steven Darling for this Board to submit a request to the Commission to revisit the stringent requirements of the background investigation requirements due to the price, the lawful burden and negative impact on all recreation partners. Second Bill Klein. Motion carried unanimously.

Kay St. Onge representing the Titusville Tree Team with the help of Tex Loadholtz, Superintendent and John Quest, Parks Supervisor II was able to organize the planting of 24 live oak trees at Sand Point Park on December 16, 2023. There were

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18 volunteers that helped plant, stake and mulch the new plantings. The trees were donated by the Pelican Island Audubon Society and were planted at no expense to the County or the City of Titusville. This beautiful donation to the park will provide shade to our guests, help reduce pollutants from stormwater going into the lagoon, and a natural habit for our native wildlife.

The Titusville Tree Team also partnered with the Brevard Zoo for the Restore our Shores project along the seawall at Sand Point Park. Over 100 native plants were chosen to replace sod along the seawall. Unlike sod, native plants do not require fertilizer that would pollute the lagoon. The Zoo will provide educational signage.

Stan Johnston requested the City of Titusville turn off the fountains in park ponds.

Motion by Andrew Connors to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Second by Christopher Reynolds. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Arnold Benson, Chair

For additional information, call Jeff Davis Jr. at 264-5105 or email jeff.davis@brevardfl.gov.

Those participating in public comment are requested to complete a speaker card and present it to the secretary. Please limit comments to three minutes. Public comment will be received on all agenda items. Use II. Public Comment for items not listed on the agenda.

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners and Titusville City Council each appoint four members and the School Board of Brevard County appoints one member to the NBCPR for two-year terms. The NBCPR meets quarterly in the Brevard Room at 4:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.

If a person desires to appeal any decision made by this commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, such a person will need a record of this proceeding and that, for such purposes, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of this proceeding is made, at his/her own expense, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which any such appeal is to be based. Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes.

In accordance with the American and Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons needing accommodation or an interpreter to participate in the proceeding should notice Parks and Recreation North Area no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting by contacting Jeff Davis Jr. at (321) 264-5105.

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Bernice G. Jackson Park	Andrew Connors
Blanton Park	Steven Darling
Blue Hole Park	Koren Odermann
Chain of Lakes	Bill Klein
Cuyler Park	Steven Darling
Fay Lake Wilderness Park	Randy Rodriguez
Fay (Boulevard) Park	Randy Rodriguez
Fox Lake Park	Chris Reynolds
Friendship Park	Randy Rodriguez
Gibson Gymnasium & Field	Steven Darling
Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Complex	Chris Reynolds
Hatbill Park	Arnie Benson
Holder Park	Steven Darling
Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park	Steven Darling
Kennedy Point Park	Chris Reynolds
Manatee Hammock	Bill Klein
Marina Park	Koren Odermann
Mims Launch Ramp	Arnie Benson
Nicol Park	Randy Rodriguez
North Brevard Walking Trail	Koren Odermann
Parrish Park–Scottsmoor	Steven Darling
Parrish Park–Titusville	Bill Klein
Port St. John Boat Ramp	Randy Rodriguez
Port St. John Community Center	Randy Rodriguez
Rotary Riverfront Park	Bianca Alaimo
Rails to Trails	Chris Reynolds
Sand Point Park	Koren Odermann
Sandrift Community Center	Bianca Alaimo
Scottsmoor Landing	Arnie Benson
Sherwood Park	Andrew Connors
Singleton Tennis Courts	Andrew Connors
Six Mile Creek	Arnie Benson
Space Coast Communities Sports Complex	Randy Rodriguez
Space View Park	Koren Odermann
Stuart Park	Bianca Alaimo
Tom Statham Park	Andrew Connors
Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier	Koren Odermann
W.W. James Park	Chris Reynolds
William J. Manzo Park	Bianca Alaimo
Wuesthoff Park	Bill Klein

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Benson, Arnie

Hatbill Park
Mims Launch Ramp
Scottsmoor Landing
Six Mile Creek

Alaimo, Bianca

Rotary Riverfront Park
Sandrift Community Center
Stuart Park
William J. Manzo Park

Connors, Andrew

Bernice G. Jackson Park
Sherwood Park
Singleton Tennis Courts
Tom Statham Park

Darling, Steven

Blanton Park
Cuyler Park
Gibson Gymnasium & Field
Holder Park
Isaac Campbell, Sr. Park
Parrish Park - Scottsmoor

Klein, Bill

Chain of Lakes
Manatee Hammock
Parrish Park–Titusville
Wuesthoff Park

Odermann, Koren

Blue Hole Park
Marina Park
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Titusville Veterans' Memorial Fishing Pier

Reynolds, Chris

Fox Lake Park
Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial
Complex
Kennedy Point Park
Rails to Trails
W.W. James Park

Rodriguez, Randy

Fay Lake Wilderness Park
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Port St. John Boat Ramp
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