

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2007

City Hall, Room 519

4:00p.m.

<b>Present; Patt Sned, Kerry Gallagher, Cliff Bridges, Kirk Olney, Curtis Kelly, Ann Harrison, Gregory Burdick</b>	<b>Staff present:</b> Christine Thrower
<b>Absent</b>	<b>Guest:</b> Commissioner Kimberly Mitchell

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Follow up</b>
Minutes from January 2007 PRAC meeting.	Ann Harrison questioned the fee schedule for the Phipps Skate Park in regard to resident rates and non-resident rates. The rates were explained that membership determined the hourly rate. Patt Sned and Kerry Gallagher motioned the approval of the minutes from February, 2007 PRAC meeting.	
Apoxee Park Trail improvement grant presented by Andrea P. Holtz, P.E., with Grassy Waters Preserve Campus Manager Penni Reford.	The City of West Palm Beach is continuing to develop the Apoxee-Grassy Waters Preserve Trail system. The location is between Jog Rd. approximately 1 mile north of Okeechobee Blvd. and Northlake Blvd. Plans are underway to continue to develop the natural trail system at Apoxee and it's connectivity with the Grassy Waters Preserve trail system. A State of FL recreational trail grant from the FL Depart. of environmental protection office of Greenways and Trails is being sought to assist with the cost of development of the new facilities. Funding is through the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration. Andrea told PRAC members the present trail is not meant for bicycle traffic. Greg Burdick asked what the \$250,000.00 would be used for. Andrea listed the costs for trail development and renovation, interpretive signage, repair to the berm as it was disturbed during construction for the AWT, kiosks, emergency call boxes and geo-guides with associated fees.	A public meeting will be held on February 22, 2007 at 2:00pm at the Everglades Pavilion at Grassy Waters Preserve.
PRAC discussion of adding a teen representative to the committee.	Kerry Gallagher presented the idea to the committee to have a teen representative join the PRAC committee. Christine Thrower mentioned inviting the City's Teen Council which meets 2 times a month with 15 members. Kirk Olney told	Kerry Gallagher and Christine Thrower will meet with Mayor Frankel, and this will be discussed at the next PRAC meeting in March.

	<p>PRAC members to let them know parks are important to our PRAC committee. Cliff Bridges said to let the kids choose for them who would represent their group.</p> <p>Patt Sned was concerned as to what exactly are we asking of the kids, as PRAC members we are not sure what we are doing. Kerry Gallagher responded that this was a good point that Patt brought up.</p>	
Osprey Park name recommendation from PRAC.	<p>Neighbors of Osprey Park have responded to the naming as “Osprey Park” as their choice. Christine Thrower told PRAC members about the two different nests and the osprey are nesting now. Greg Burdick spoke to members about how he liked the name “Osprey Park”.</p>	<p>A formal motion was made by Greg Burdick that PRAC members approve the name of “Osprey Park” Kerry Gallagher seconded the motion. It was a unanimous vote by all members.</p>
Events that PRAC members attended.	<p>Kirk Olney attended the grand opening ceremony at Phipps Skate Park on February 1, 2007. Kirk’s comments to the PRAC members were that the facility is great, amazing and expressed how cool the kids were. He said the Park was full, and people were parked up and down Dixie Hwy. attending the grand opening.</p> <p>Christine told the members that no money is being taken until the first of March, 2007.</p>	
Update on Hillcrest and Flamingo Park Plans.	<p>Hillcrest site planning, formal commission action yet to be taken. Design included wet-play with burm, fence and shrubs.</p> <p>Flamingo Park move playground to N.W. corner with 2 swings. Lighting issues were discussed, and will address. Commission liked the design, and requested the park be renamed.</p> <p>Kirk addressed the name and design of Flamingo Park and that it is shared by 4 neighborhoods, Grandview Heights, Mango Promenade, Flamingo Park and Poinciana Park.</p> <p>Christine Thrower said “no” to the fence request from residents at Placedo Mar Condominium that they requested between Ombres Park and their residents. Additionally, the clay surface at Ombres Park is not ADA (American with Disabilities Act) compliant. A clay surface is used for fitness. Christine stated that the law is <i>gray</i> depending on what can be accessible for ADA.</p>	<p>The Flamingo Park Historic Residential District is a <i>U.S. National Historic Landmark District</i> (designated as such on July 14, 2000) located in West Palm Beach, Florida.</p> <p>Governing Body: National Park Service.</p>

<p>Youth Empowerment Center update.</p>	<p>Christine told PRAC members a soft opening at the Northwood Youth Empowerment Center will be on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The Grand Opening will be March 1<sup>st</sup>, from 4-6pm with ribbon cutting promptly at 5pm. Entertainment, food and activities are planned.</p> <p>Christine reported that some kids are being told to stay away from the new center. Graffiti tags with responses have been visual around the facility. Full time police have been assigned including a vehicle, training and computer.</p> <p>The criminal justice commission is to meet February 15<sup>th</sup>, with all providers and workforce alliance. The age for YEC participants will be 12 years to 19 year old, and required to be residents of the City of West Palm Beach. The YEC program will be offered as a membership participation program with benefits for program participation.</p>	
<p>Vacancies on the PRAC committee.</p>	<p>Contact Jack Frost concerning PRAC vacancies. Christine suggested someone with children to serve on the committee possibly. Commissioner Mitchell suggested Greg Baton as a good candidate or his wife. Kerry Gallagher suggested someone with Hispanic descent, or someone with ADA challenges.</p>	<p>Christine to follow up with nominating committee.</p>
<p>Laban Reeves update for Parks Maintenance.</p>	<p>Mr. Reeves update included the tree grant project with 50 crape myrtles and 100 live oaks that were recently planted.</p>	
	<p>Ann Harrison addressed Commissioner Kimberly Mitchell in regard to Gaines Park multi-purpose facility that has not been built. She asked “where are we on this”?</p> <p>Commissioner Mitchell explained the process and situation as it stands now, that it would be included in the upcoming budget. Commissioner Mitchell said the neighborhood wanted a separate building, and we have to plan for this in the upcoming budget. Christine stated we have 6 months to do a RFP, and add the \$1.5 million to the County’s \$2 million that is needed for the Gaines Park multi-purpose building. Cliff Bridges noted that Gaines Park is a regional park as is the case with Dreher Park.</p>	<p>Patt Sned requested Gaines Park be listed on PRAC agenda until resolved.</p>

Adjourn	PRAC adjourned at 5:20pm	Next meeting March 13, 2007 at City Hall, Room #519 @ 4:00pm.
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