

The City of West Palm Beach



"The Capital City of the Palm Beaches"

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
(December 13, 2005)

Present: Steven S. Newburg, Curtis Kelly, Cliff Bridges, Annie Harrison, Patt Sned	Staff present: Christine Thrower, Carol Cook
Absent: Kerry Gallagher, Charlotte Presensky, Gregory Burdick	

Topic	Discussion	Follow up
Approve minutes	The chair asked for comments on the minutes. Several suggestions for revisions were made.	Minutes to be revised and forwarded to the chair for review. Approval postponed until the next regular meeting.
Staff Update	Christine Thrower briefed the committee on the shooting incident at Coleman Park earlier in the day which took the life of a parks maintenance employee.	
Gaines Park	Discussion with Annie Harrison and Cliff Bridges ensued regarding a free standing building at Gaines Park. Committee members gave Christine background on the project on how the project has been reviewed at a variety of meetings over the past two years. Ms. Harrison indicated that community consensus was for a free standing building, much like a facility they visited in Riviera Beach, that they felt could be built and furnished for \$2 million. A plan was published and distributed to the Gaines Park committee members. Chairman Newburgh requested that each PRAC member receive copies of both books created as part of the planning process prior to the next meeting.	Christine Thrower will meet with Palm Beach County Commissioner Addie Greene January 17, 2006. She is also coordinating a community meeting that should finalize the process to move forward with an RFP for architectural services. Staff will send out copies of the Gaines Park facility books to PRAC members before the next meeting.
Gaines Park Bridge	Mr. Bridges inquired as to the status of the Gaines Park bridge across the canal on the south side of the property. He indicated that discussion had been going on for four years about the need and funding for a pedestrian crossing point over the canal.	Christine will coordinate with Ken Rearden and bring back a status report at the next PRAC meeting.
Yeager Middle School	Use of Palm Beach County school property for after hours use for public.	Christine will contact Gregory Burdicks wife, school board member.

Currie Park	Christine briefed the committee on the status of the master plan for Currie Park and inquired about the committee's input into the process. She accepted, but city engineers have raised questions regarding the traffic signal entrance.	Christine Thrower to facilitate meeting for all Currie Park stakeholders in December. She will report the status of that meeting to the committee and present any plans being proposed at that time.
Role of PRAC after bond projects	Curtis Kelly asked how are motions and recommendations sent to Commission. Christine explained that staff brings items to the commission. Discussion ensued about how the PRAC can be more involved in major parks and recreation projects now that the bond projects have been completed. Chairman Newburgh said he would prepare a presentation for a future commission meeting to highlight how the PRAC could be used as an additional review group to participate in the planning process of major projects and make recommendations on items being presented for City Commission consideration.	Chairman Newburgh will prepare presentation to go before commission. Christine will continue to bring upcoming parks projects to the PRAC to seek their input and participation in the concept and development process.
Comments	Gail Levine spoke on Gumby park and the need for oversight as the project is developed to ensure proper maintenance.	
Meeting Adjourned	Adjourned at 6:30 p.m.	