

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 1, 2024

The MEETING took place at the Swim & Racquet Center and was live-streamed for viewing & listening through Zoom. The meeting was called to order by CHAIR Erin Wright at 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Craig F. Ehrnst
Steven M. Engel
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Susan Vogelgesang
Erin Wright

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Malcolm Butters's Fieldhouse Presentation was added as agenda item #1.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Ms. Irene Parker and her husband, Don, who has a PhD in biochemistry, generously offered their expertise to enhance the community garden at North Park.

Mr. Eric Sauer, on behalf of Boca Raton Little League, has requested several enhancements: new batting cages at Sugar Sand, refurbished cages at Sugar Sand and Patch Reef, pitching bullpens, an upgraded upstairs area for officials and Wi-Fi at Sugar Sand Park, soft toss hitting stations near dugouts, spectator netting for safety, and new or repaired scoreboards. Additionally, he has asked for a maintenance plan to ensure field safety and proper drainage. Mr. Sauer has also offered his time for project management if the proposal is approved.

Council member Andy Thomson was eager to collaborate with the Board members to explore the city's diverse recreational opportunities. His focus on North Park and the needs of existing facilities demonstrates his commitment to maintaining top-notch recreational facilities in Boca Raton. He looks forward to working closely with the Board of Commissioners once again.

Mr. Raul Travieso, a Florida Southeast District Pickleball Association representative, acknowledged the growth of pickleball and the need to promote it in Boca Raton. He believes there is a need for private facilities, semi-private facilities like Patch Reef, and public facilities like El Rio. Pickleball caters to various levels of players, and it is essential to accommodate all these factions and create a niche for each player.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 3, 2024, at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Malcolm Butters Fieldhouse Presentation

After various discussions about the old hotel site at North Park and the need for a new fieldhouse, Mr. Butters explored the potential of fitting a fieldhouse on the three-acre site. Using the site plan for North Park, he drafted a preliminary layout for a 40,000-square-foot building that included four basketball courts, bleachers, storage, restrooms, and additional parking. The combined parking from North Park and the indoor pickleball facility should provide adequate overflow parking.

He also created a rough budget estimate of \$13 million for constructing and equipping the fieldhouse, based on costs from building an indoor pickleball facility and an ice rink. This estimate includes potential building department and impact fees, which might be adjusted. His proposal aimed to present ideas and generate dialogue. As a citizen, he offered to assist with pricing and anything else needed.

2. District CIP FY205 Discussion

Executive Director Harms provided the current Fiscal Year's projects and proposed projects for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Board to review and make recommendations. The Capital Improvement Plan for the upcoming fiscal year will be finalized at a forthcoming District meeting.

Current Projects:

Beach Renourishment: \$300,000

North Park Project: \$10,000,000 for 2024, \$4,000,000 proposed for 2025 (construction to begin in FY2025).

PR Tennis & Pickleball Center Construction: \$10,306,000 for 2024, \$6,000,000 carry forward for 2025.

Path Reef Playground: \$2,500,000 for 2024, \$2,000,000 carry forward, and a proposed \$1,500,000 increase for 2025 (bids due in July, subject to change).

Sugar Sand Park Columns: \$150,000 carry forward (bids received June 28th).

Proposed Projects:

Ocean Strand- \$750,000—Add restroom facilities, fitness equipment, and a potential natural playground.

2nd Field House/Multi-Sport Gymnasium – Design Costs: \$250,000

Sugar Sand Park Multi-Sport Rink Cover -\$1,500,000

Fire Prevention Program Phase I- \$500,000

Park Security (ongoing)- \$200,000

Roofing (ongoing)- \$1,800,000

Swim Center Pool Resurfacing-\$425,000

Discussion ensued. The Board authorized the Executive Director to discuss negotiations on an agreement with FAU to renovate the Glades Field and the Soccer Game Field. Executive Director Harms will incorporate baseball improvements and the FAU soccer field renovations into a proposed budget for the next meeting on July 15th.

3. North Park Environmental Work

An Additional Services Agreement for the North Park-Site Assessment and Soil Management Planning Services, with Miller Legg, was presented to the Board for consideration. This site assessment and soil management plan will ensure that the project complies with the Florida

Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) regulations for developing properties formerly used as golf courses. Lumi Fuentes from Miller Legg was available to answer questions from the Board.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the Additional Services Agreement with Miller Legg for the North Park Site Assessment and Soil Management Planning Services, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst Yes
Commissioner Engel Yes
Commissioner Rollins Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang Yes
Commissioner Wright Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to approve the payroll and invoices as presented, totaling \$62,837.40.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst Yes
Commissioner Engel Yes
Commissioner Rollins Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang Yes
Commissioner Wright Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director:

North Park

The site plan approval for North Park is anticipated to be on the agenda for the August Planning and Zoning meeting.

Boca Paddle Agreement

The agreement will be on the agenda at the July 15, 2024, meeting.

Thank you!

Director Harms thanked city staff for installing the new microphones and sound system in the District boardroom.

July 4th Events

July Fourth events are happening this week in the city, with the Fabulous Finale at DeHoernle Park.

Boca Raton Centennial Celebration

The city has debuted its centennial logo on its website, and the District has also shared it on its Social Media.

Park Visits

Director Harms recently visited the skate park in East Boca, noting its potential relocation and the need for updates. That same evening, she also visited the Patch Reef Park playground around nine o'clock and was surprised by the number of families using the playground at night. The District considered children's sun allergies when planning the future playground and planned to install LED lighting for nighttime accessibility.

District Counsel:

Counsel has conducted individual briefings with each Board member to gather feedback on the Boca Paddle Concession Agreement. Pending the District's decision to proceed, a Resolution with specific findings from the Board will support the agreement and facilitate its approval. The agreement will be presented at the District meeting on July 15th.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Engel proposed exploring the sale of sponsorships for the ball field renovations, potentially in collaboration with the City, Boca Chamber, or Rotary Club. This initiative, alongside fundraising efforts by local Little League groups, could significantly enhance community involvement in the project. Commissioner Engel will return to the Boca Comedy Stage for Boca's Got Talent on August 12th and wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July!

Commissioner Ehrnst proposed considering the inclusion of rugby fields in the budget, pending further discussions with the City to identify appropriate locations and timelines. He also commended the Commissioners on the completion of the Gumbo Limbo Tower, emphasizing its impressive nature and significant accomplishment for Boca Raton.

Commissioner Rollins spoke about the Legislative Delegation's recent visit to Gumbo Limbo. He expressed admiration for the presentation on Gumbo Limbo's history and the efforts of the sea lab in preserving marine life. Although he missed seeing the tower, he acknowledged the District's support for Gumbo Limbo. He emphasized that the completed tower would be a lasting asset, reflecting years of effort. He also highlighted Gordon Gilbert's legacy, expressing confidence that he would be proud.

Commissioner Vogelgesang shared her positive experience attending the ribbon cutting with City Council, emphasizing it as a rewarding event. She looks forward to ongoing collaboration with the City Council and the District in the coming year. Reflecting on the Legislative Delegation event, she found it enlightening to witness young people's enthusiasm for contributing to the community, which brought a sense of hope. She concluded by wishing everyone a wonderful and safe Fourth of July celebration!

Commissioner Wright wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July! She highlighted the various events planned by the City for this year's celebration, including a 5k run, pickleball and tennis tournaments, a Sugar Sand Park block party, and the Fabulous Fourth event. She also mentioned that she would participate in the next meeting via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT:

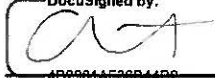
MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes


MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

DocuSigned by:



4B2904AF00B44DE

Erin Wright Chair



Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer