

**MINUTES
BAY OAKS RECREATIONAL CAMPUS
ADVISORY BOARD (BORCAB)**

Town Hall
2525 Estero Blvd.
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Simpson.

Members present: Barbara Hill, Lee Melsek, Betty Simpson and Karen Woodson.

Excused: Becky Bodnar and Janna Holmes.

Staff: Director Culture, Parks & Recreation Alison Giesen and Recreation Campus Manager Sarah Mayher.

Council Liaison: Dan Allers

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 7, 2020, and July 13, 2020

MOTION:

VOTE:

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Naming of Buildings

BORCAB Member Melsek suggested that they name the community house for John and Harriet Dunning based on their contribution to the Island. He mentioned incorporating Estero Island in the campus name and honoring Fran Santini and AJ Bassett by naming something after them. Chair Simpson added Martha Redd. BORCAB Member Woodson suggested sponsorships to raise money and creating a fundraising campaign. BORCAB Member Hill indicated that the Friends of Bay Oaks was the appropriate fundraising arm. She supported renaming Matanzas Bay Preserve to the Martha Redd Preserve since she donated the property. She suggested that the grounds around the Beach School be named after AJ Bassett since her mother used to be the principal of the school. She felt it was premature to decide on names for the buildings.

As a Board Member of Friends of Lover's Key, BORCAB Member Woodson described her experience with fundraising efforts. She noted they hired a person for fundraising.

BORCAB Member Melsek opposed using corporate names. He commented there were many members of the community who donated more than just money.

Town Manager Hernstadt described the history of the project and funding. He discussed phasing construction in stages as money permitted.

BORCAB Member Hill agreed with phasing the project and remarked that they should set their vision high. Discussion was held regarding corporate sponsorships and obtaining grants.

BORCAB Member Hill recommended waiting to name individual buildings. She supported Estero

Island Parks & Rec, Island Parks and Rec and Culture, Parks & Rec, or CPR to tie into the Heart of the Island. She suggested a generic name for the buildings and identifying a new name for Bay Oaks. Chair Simpson noted that they knew their vision would have to be completed in phases. BORCAB Member Melsek stated that their vision was to create a gathering place for the whole community rather than just a parks and recreation building. Chair Simpson stated that the Heart of the Island concept was part of the Comprehensive Plan and it was all-encompassing.

B. Naming of Grounds

Manager Mayher stated that they needed a volunteer to document all the monuments on the property. BORCAB Member Hill nominated Charlie Whitehead and Lee Melsek to work together to identify monuments and provide historical information, if possible. Manager Mayher volunteered to assist.

C. Department Update

Manager Mayher reported that they were extending summer camp by three weeks and classes were close to full. She noted the pool should be complete by the end of September. A full-time recreation aid started yesterday and she will be assisting staff with athletics. She commented that everything was still being sanitized and they installed a large piece of Plexiglas to use as a shield for protection from COVID-19.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick who was the Vice Chair of BORCAB in the past, discussed how they came up with the name of the campus. He suggested that they speak with all the groups who used Bay Oaks to determine what was needed at the campus. Rick mentioned an estimated total cost of \$17 million from an email from Mr. Benvie at DRMP. He suggested that the second ballfield could be a parking lot for better access.

Mr. Whitehead noted that in the past they were allowed to leave the lights on at night if there were no turtle nests on the beach. BORCAB Member Melsek suggested that they invite Eve Haverfield from Turtle Time for clarification regarding keeping lights on in season. Mr. Whitehead stated that Lee County and the school board should pay for part of the operational costs of Bay Oaks like they do with Sanibel and Bonita Springs. He commented that the money was there and the Town should lobby for their fair share.

Manager Mayher indicated that Bay Oaks redevelopment would be discussed during the August 17, 2020, Town Council meeting at 9:00 a.m. BORCAB Member Melsek requested that they add parking to BORCAB's next agenda. Manager Mayher suggested that BORCAB Members send her an email with issues or recommendations.

BORCAB Members Hill and Melsek offered to attend the August 17, 2020, Town Council meeting.

VI. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

BORCAB Member Melsek suggested that they submit ideas to name the overall complex and he reiterated that they should continue to discuss naming rights. BORCAB Member Woodson

clarified that she did not support naming anything after a corporation. BORCAB Member Melsek commented that he would like the full support of BORCAB Members regarding naming buildings. No items from other members.

VII. FUTURE MEETING DATE – September 1, 2020

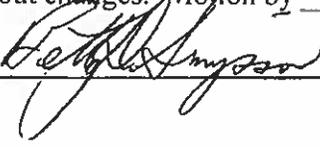
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: BORCAB Member Hill moved to adjourn the meeting; second by BORCAB Member Woodson.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Adopted 9-1-20 with/without changes. Motion by _____
(DATE)

Vote: _____ Signature: 

- End of document

