

MINUTES
BAY OAKS RECREATIONAL CAMPUS
ADVISORY BOARD (BORCAB)

Mound House
451 Connecticut
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Wednesday, August 21, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Simpson.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Members present: John Dusliere (via Zoom), Jesse Field, Becky Guidry, Barbara Hill, Ed Schoonover, Betty Simpson and Joy Sullivan.

Staff: Director Culture, Parks & Recreation Jeff Hauge and Parks & Recreation Manager Danielle DiBona.

Council Liaison: Karen Woodson

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –June 5, 2024

MOTION: BORCAB Member Hill moved to approve the minutes, seconded by BORCAB Member Schoonover.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Operations & Compliance Director Frankie Kropacek explained that the town was waiting on a decision regarding the pool (the recording jumped around). He apologized for not being allowed to share conversations. He noted that FEMA did not do pools and the reserve funds expired on May 31, 2024. Director Kropacek reviewed the funding opportunity for the pool project and stated a decision was due September 3, 2024. He described the red tape involved and thought construction would start in early 2026. He will keep BORCAB updated.

BORCAB Member Dusliere asked whether BORCAB would be involved with decisions regarding the pool facility. Director Hauge replied that the plans had to be submitted quickly and experts did review them. Director Kropacek commented that he welcomed input and they had the opportunity to build the pool back better. Discussion was held regarding who BORCAB advised and BORCAB Member Hill read the original ordinance. She indicated the three mission statements needed to be clarified. Liaison Woodson suggested that the Council needed to update the ordinance.

Liaison Woodson mentioned the extra meeting rooms and offices at the new Town Hall and questioned whether they needed a Community Center and, if so, how big it should be. Discussion was held regarding how BORCAB was close to being on track according to the Strategic Plan. BORCAB Member Hill congratulated Director Hauge and Manager DiBona for getting the programs together.

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – Redevelopment Ballfield Update

Director Hauge stated that they wanted the ballfield to be a large venue. He indicated they were waiting for the state to give them an extension on a \$1 million matching grant. He has been involved in conversations concerning the design and adding pickleball courts. The original design did not change, but a retention pond may be added for drainage. Director Hauge noted that the outdoor fitness court was busy and adding the shade sail and benches would attract more people. Director Hauge questioned whether Bayside Park and Times Square were considered parks and asked whether BORCAB wanted to take over the whole corridor. They discussed holding programs in the area during the holiday season as they used to and looking at it as a corridor concept from Bayside Park to Times Square. Liaison Woodson noted that they discussed the idea two years before Hurricane Ian hit.

Director Hauge indicated that the beach accesses would be turned over to Parks & Rec to beautify with FEMA and insurance money and he welcomed input from BORCAB.

MOTION: BORCAB Member Hill moved that the area of Bayside Veterans Park be adjoined to Times Square through Old San Carlos with a name to be determined and be part of the Parks & Recreation Department, seconded by BORCAB Member Guidry.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

BORCAB Member Hill noted she spoke to Denise Monahan, who offered to help BORCAB Member Field with the Friends of Bay Oaks group.

BORCAB Member Schoonover took a tour of Bay Oaks and he will share his ideas in the future. BORCAB Member Sullivan stated that the Woman's Club would meet at Bay Oaks in September, October and November. She suggested thinking about replacing the flooring in the gym because of the dead spots.

BORCAB Member Field stated that the Friends ordered a basketball prize and wanted to do more. Director Hauge indicated he had \$18,000.00 to give back to the Friends since they opened a bank account.

BORCAB Member Guidry asked how the small ballfield made it through Debby. Director Hauge replied that the bases floated off the field, but it was okay now.

Chair Simpson thanked Director Kropacek for his updates and appreciated that all seven members were able to attend.

BORCAB Member Dussliere thanked Director Kropacek for attending the meeting and clarifying issues. He also thanked Director Kropacek and Jacob for making his attendance possible. He suggested adding the beach access question to the Council's September agenda so BORCAB can start advising.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

X. SET NEXT MEETING AGENDA AND DATE – September 18, 2024, at noon in Council Chambers. Add an update on the aquatic center and ballfield to the agenda.

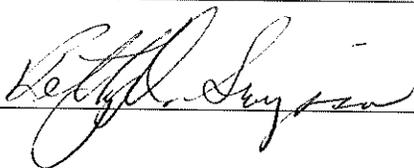
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: BORCAB Member Hill moved to adjourn, seconded by BORCAB Member Schoonover.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Adopted 9/18/24 with/without changes. Motion by GUINERY
DATE

Vote: 5-0 Signature: 

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