

# **Seminole County Leisure Services Advisory Committee Parks & Recreation Subcommittee Meeting**

**February 17, 2010 – 7:30 a.m.**

**Softball Complex  
264 W. North Street  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714**

## **MINUTES**

### **Call to Order/Pledge/Introductions:**

**Members in attendance** – Bob Goff, Don Nicholas, Tom Boyko, Mark Brandenburg

**Staff in attendance** – Joe Abel- Director, Julia Thompson, Parks and Recreation Manager

**Approval of the January 2010 Minutes** – Mark B. moved and Tom B. seconded to approve the minutes as written. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

- **School Partnership Update** – Julia reported on the most recent meetings with the two targeted schools, Idyllwild Elementary and Milwee Middle. Both are coming up with a priority list of programs by which Julia will work on developing a budget for the coming school year. In addition, Idyllwild is also interested in assistance with certain capital improvements such as a drinking fountain, playground equipment and baseball field improvements if possible. The committee discussed the option of including maintenance needs should that be a concern or impact. It was determined that staff will work to identify potential costs for contracted maintenance should that be a factor. Don will also work to obtain information on the existing school maintenance contract.
- **Youth Sports League Standards** – Julia discussed the need to put more work into the standards document and policy. She recommended that Seminole County move towards providing a resource manual based on the FRPA standards initially presented and modified by Seminole County, but that a policy is put in place for all youth leagues that play their regularly scheduled games on county property. This policy would also be in effect for school board property.

### **New Business:**

- **Preliminary Discussion of Future Referendum** – Mr. Goff led the discussion regarding the need to work towards building justification for a referendum and what that might include....parks and recreation, trails, natural lands? Everyone agreed that now is the time to work towards establishing the need for renovation, acquisition and development of new parks based on need and to include the cities and school district as part of this process to facilitate support. Discussion regarding budgets having been cut dramatically would help generate this need and that 2012 might be the best target year to get this accomplished due to the election cycle. Discussion included options for the

type of referendum or tax and how it would be applied so that every municipality and the county would achieve their needs both through capital and possibly operational needs whether it would be a percentage of a penny tax or possibly a per capita tax. Discussion also occurred as to how the new divisions in the Department might be included and that possibly the Libraries could come at a later date. The other divisions (CVB and Extension Services) did not have the same infrastructure deficit or funding needs that Parks and Recreation/Greenways and Natural lands does. Mr. Goff discussed the need to determine whether the county would focus on large regional parks with the cities looking at the smaller neighborhood parks in addition to identifying the needs for renovation/capital/operational/programming funds. Mr. Abel discussed the need to have focus group meetings and establishing a variety of methods to determine priorities for justifying funding and that we are currently refining our inventory of needs within the County. Mr. Abel is also researching other cities/county's around the country for survey methods. Mr. Goff suggested that the committee come up with a matrix of options that the committee could begin looking at for the next meeting. Julia volunteered to create a draft that the committee could work with to initiate the process.

#### **Future Agenda Items & Unfinished Business**

- Julia announced that the Department had just been notified that they were selected by the National USTA for the Organization of the Year Award and that Mr. Abel and Chairman Dallari would be attending the meeting in Dallas to accept the award along with staff member, Cindy Harkins.
- Julia asked the committee if they would like to change the date of the next sub-committee meeting due to a scheduling conflict. It was agreed that the committee would meet on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> same time and location as opposed to March 17<sup>th</sup>. Julia will make sure that the committee members receive notice.

**Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am – Softball Complex**

**Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:15am.**

**NOTE:** PERSONS ARE ADVISED THAT, IF THEY DECIDE TO APPEAL ANY DECISIONS AT THESE MEETINGS/HEARINGS, THEY WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEY MAY NEED TO INSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED, PER SECTION 286.0105, FLORIDA STATUTES.