

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Central Area - Merritt Island/Beaches Service Sector
Referendum Projects Committee Meeting
Annex Building – Kiwanis Island Park
950 Kiwanis Park Road
Merritt Island, FL 32953

Sports Complex Committee Meeting Minutes July 25, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marshall Hieronimus – Merritt Island Youth Sports Assn. (MIYSA)
Jeff Noble – MIYSA
Steve Ramsey – MIYSA
Jeff Heiser – MIYSA
Kim Smith – North Merritt Island Homeowners Assn. (NMIHOA)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mark Geiger – MIYSA
Rick Putnam – MIYSA
Bill Huminski – NMIHOA

STAFF PRESENT

Chuck Nelson, Parks and Recreation Director
Cathie Schanz, Central Area Parks Operations Manager
Dan Click, Parks and Recreation Construction Manager
Dot Estes, Administrative Secretary, Central Area Parks Operations

OTHERS PRESENT

Jeff McLean – Merritt Island High School
Scooty Carey – Central Brevard Soccer

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting started at 7:48

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Sunshine Law

Chuck Nelson reviewed the Sunshine Law and went over major points throughout the Law. He requested each committee member read the Law carefully.

This is a subcommittee of the Merritt Island/Beaches Advisory Board and recommendations will go to this board and then finally to the Board of County Commissioners.

b. Committee Guidelines

Chuck reviewed with committee members and went over major points and requested each member read guidelines and bring back questions if necessary. Chuck went over their responsibility to the committee, which will include working closely with Architect/Engineering plans, construction of projects and ribbon cutting when completed. Some referendum projects will include schools, which will get improvements, so school representatives will be involved to some degree.

There will be a chairman elected when we have a quorum, which is a majority plus one. Also discussed attendance at the committee meetings.

Chuck discussed that the committee does have flexibility, but we need to stay with the original referendum that was voted for by the citizens. You can meet the intent of the referendum by making some changes, but not major changes, due to original referendum vote. The idea is not to spend all the money but be conscious of what we have to spend and what we can save. The maintenance will be in the budget for each project.

We are contracting with Bussen Mayer Architect/Engineering Company to do the design for the park sites, Allen Engineering to do the design for the school sites and Rood & Zwick to do the design for the buildings & facilities. The design engineers will be ready to meet with the committee in about a month.

c. Project Elements

Chuck Nelson reviewed elements and project cost break down with committee members. Park improvements were reviewed. Showed each member the existing plans and explained where all the proposed designs might be, however the committee can move around designs if needed. The project budget should be carefully spent and the committee should try to save money so we can do more recreation projects if possible. The total project budget was reviewed. No major changes can be done because of voter referendum and what the citizens voted on.

A question was asked about football being included in the elements. Questions as to why are we putting 6 soccer fields and not putting 5 soccer fields and one football field. The committee would like to work with football participants to solve the existing field shortage. Chuck suggested we might be able to change that concept. The committee can put together a wish list for any funds that may be leftover. We will have the ability to develop a master plan for the future if and when funds may be available.

d. Land Acquisition

Presently 80 acres north of the Barge Canal is being negotiated. Two appraisals are required. Question was posed about how 80 acres was decided that that is how much we need, it is decided by looking at fields and all elements needed as to how land is needed. Match grants are possible through the State or Federal Government.

e. Timeline

Next meeting will be held in around 30 to 45 days. The next committee meeting has not been scheduled; committee members will be noticed as soon as one is scheduled. There will be a special MIYSA meeting on Aug 7 at 7:30 pm at Kiwanis Island Park to discuss referendum projects.

f. Website / Newsletter

Cathie Schanz, Central Parks Manager reviewed that committee members would be able to find information on the County Parks and Recreation website. We will post the minutes from each meeting, agenda meeting schedule and the newsletter.

IV. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next scheduled Committee meeting will be in approximately 30 days, committee members will be noticed when we have a date scheduled.

Minutes submitted by:

Dot Estes, Administrative Secretary