Minutes
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting – August 2, 2024, 7:30 AM
Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. South, Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Board Members Present

Michelle Brown	Howard Garson	Howard Nelson
Christina Clifford	Marty McNeil	Kristen Reineke
Terry Danger (Vice-Chair)	Daniel Mulieri (Chair)	

County Staff in Attendance

Linda Briggs	Monica Florestal	Jill Thompson
Katherine Burnell	Nikki Hochberg	Dan West
Chris Deal	Andrea Knowles Hill	
Trevor Fell	Nadine Levy	

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Board) meeting was called to order by Chair Daniel Mulieri at 7:32. Roll was called.

Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chair Terry Danger MOTIONED for approval of the May 3, 2024, minutes; Howard Nelson seconded. MOTION carried.

Announcements: None

Parks Manager Update: Nikki Hochberg, Parks Manager

Ms. Nikki Hochberg provided a brief update on Fern Forest Nature Center. Despite challenging environmental conditions, including extreme heat, humidity, and mosquitos, they continue to attract a steady flow of visitors eager to explore the shaded walking paths.

The installation of new exhibits in the Nature Center is expected to be completed by year-end. Maintenance efforts are underway, including pressure washing the park's boardwalks, in preparation for the upcoming peak season. Additionally, the Nature Center is experiencing increased interest from local schools for educational programming.

Parks Planning and Design Update: Jill Thompson, Construction Project Management Supervisor

Ms. Jill Thompson provided an update on the progress of the Broward Stadium renovations. Phase I is nearing completion, with the concrete foundation for the piazza poured and all necessary requirements for the City of Lauderhill fulfilled. Upon the conclusion of Phase I, work will commence on Phase II, which includes the construction of new restroom facilities.

The parking lot at Miramar Pineland Nature Center has been successfully completed. The next phase of the project will focus on the acquisition of exhibits. Parks Planning is currently evaluating proposals for exhibits at both Anne Kolb and Miramar Pineland Nature Centers.

The Tradewinds Park Educational Farm & Gardens project remains in Phase III. The re-bidding process is underway, and an award is anticipated before the end of the year.

Parks and Recreation Update: Dan West, Director

The Division is closely monitoring the weather conditions to assess the need for an activation. The storm is projected to move towards the west coast, and we will continue to monitor its trajectory.

A comprehensive financial analysis of Broward Stadium is underway. This analysis compares historical data, current status, and future potential.

Mr. West suggested that members visit Broward Stadium to familiarize themselves with the recent additions to the venue. These enhancements were implemented not only to accommodate the Cricket World Cup but also to prepare for hosting larger-scale arts, entertainment, and sporting events.

The successful hosting of the Cricket World Cup has elevated Broward County Stadium's global profile. This achievement has sparked discussions surrounding Major League Cricket and the potential for establishing a franchise in Broward County.

County Administrator Monica Cepero expressed optimism that the Division will receive additional funding to initiate projects outlined in the 2022 Parks Master Plan.

Chair Mulieri commended staff for their exceptional performance in completing the Broward County Stadium within a remarkably short timeframe. Their diligent efforts facilitated the successful hosting of the Cricket World Cup, elevating the visibility of both Broward County Parks and the City of Lauderhill. This significant event is expected to generate increased interest in future events and economic benefits for the region.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Ms. Andrea Knowles-Hill, Assistant Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, provided a concise overview of the Board's recent Sunset Review. During the June 7, 2024, Sunset Review Meeting, it was unanimously decided that the Board would maintain its current structure and operations. Ms. Knowles-Hill was present to observe the proceedings.

Vice-Chair Terry Danger MOTIONED to retain the Board as is, without changes; Marty McNeil SECONDED. MOTION carried.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:58 AM

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM; Public Forum at 7:00 PM
Plantation Heritage Park
1100 S. Fig Tree Ln.
Plantation, FL 33317