Minutes
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting - December 1, 2023, 7:30 a.m.
Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. South, Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Board Members Present

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

County Staff in Attendance

Cyndy Baker	Nikki Hochberg	Dan West
Katherine Burnell	Nadine Levy	Erik Westberg
Chris Deal	Amanda Tolbert	
Trevor Fell	Lori Vun Kannon	

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Board) meeting was called to order by Chair Daniel Mulieri at 7:30 AM. Roll was called.

Approval of Minutes: Howard Garson MOTIONED for approval of the October 2023 minutes; Vice-Chair Terry Danger seconded. MOTION carried.

Announcements:

Chair Daniel Mulieri announced the re-appointment of Marty McNeil.

Cyndy Baker, Public Information Officer, provided an update on the newly redesigned Broward.org Parks website.

Mr. Tim Waln, Superintendent, gave his final update on Parks Maintenance Group projects as he is leaving Broward County and heading to a position with the St. John's River Water Management District.

Parks Planning and Design Update: Nadine Levy, Capital Program Administrator

Ms. Levy provided an update on several projects in process, including the completion of the Miramar Pineland Nature Center and office project, Everglades Holiday Park Improvements, Snake Warrior Island Nature Area Improvements, Anne Kolb Nature Center Exhibit Hall upgrades, as well as Phases I & II of the Tradewinds Park Educational Farm and Gardens project. Phase III is in the contracting stage with construction anticipated to begin in January 2024.

Parks Planning remains heavily involved in the site improvements required at the Broward County Stadium to prepare hosting some of the World Cup games. Proposed site improvements include new VIP, Media, and Hospitality Building, new grandstand areas and a new digital led scoreboard.

Parks Manager Update: Nikki Hochberg, Parks Manager

Ms. Hochberg provided a brief history of Fern Forest Nature Center.

A designated Urban Wilderness Area dedicated to the preservation of Broward County's natural environment while providing educational and enjoyable programming for its visitors, Fern Forest is a beautiful, diverse, 243.44-acre wilderness site consisting of 10 plant communities. The property was purchased as part of the 1978 Bond Issue for park land acquisition and park development and opened in November of 1985.

Some recent improvements include the outdoor amphitheater benches were refurbished, building stairs refurbished, service road improvements, and the 2nd phase of the security cameras installation in the parking lot.

Some upcoming improvements include Nature Center display upgrades and exterior refurbishment, new drinking fountain with water bottle filler in shelter and the development of an Eco concept playground.

Parks and Recreation Update: Dan West, Director

Mr. West spoke to the new art piece "Horses" installed as part of the ongoing Capital Improvements at the Tradewinds Park Educational Farm and Gardens project.

The Division held a Manager's Retreat at Markham Park and Target Range with over 100 participants. The overall theme was Survivor - "Birds of a Feather" and was a successful in reinforcing the importance of teamwork, collaboration, and innovation within the Parks and Recreation Division while also providing for a day of fun and engaging activities.

The Division is working diligently with stakeholders to ensure that Central Broward Stadium is ready to host the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

Old Business: None

New Business: Approval of 2024 PAB Meeting Schedule

Vice-Chair Terry Danger MOTIONED for approval of the 2024 PAB Meeting Schedule; Howard Garson seconded. MOTION carried.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:08 a.m.

Next Meeting: Annual Meeting - Thursday, January 5, 2024, at 7:30 a.m.
Long Key Natural Area and Nature Center
3501 S.W. 130th Ave.
Davie, FL 33330