

PARKS, RECREATION & BEACHES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room
Wednesday, October 27, 2004

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	Cumulative from 10/04	
		<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
John Rude, Chair	P	1	0
Joann Medalie, Vice Chair	P	1	0
Elizabeth Hays	P	1	0
Robert Hoysgaard	P	1	0
Jim LaBate	P	1	0
Timothy Nast	A	0	1
Michael Natale	P	1	0
Victoria Pristo-Revier	A	0	1
Joe Shover	P	1	0
Shirley Small	A	0	1
Andrew DeGraffenreidt, Sr.	A	0	1

New Board Member

Agnes Burrows	P	1	0
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Staff Present

Phil Thornburg, Parks & Recreation Director
 Steve Person, Recreation Superintendent
 Earnest Jones, Park Ranger Supervisor
 Sue McAllister, Recreation Program Supervisor
 Mary Ann Slough, Recreation Program Coordinator
 Maybeth Irizarry-Binon, Administrative Assistant
 Lisa Edmondson, Recording Clerk

Call to Order

Chair John Rude called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Rude announced that newly appointed Board Member Agnes Burrows was present. Ms. Burrows stated that she had been a resident of Broward County since 1950. She was currently a teacher's assistant with ESE students at Ely High School in Pompano Beach.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Shover, seconded by Mr. Hoysgaard, to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2004 meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hoysgaard stated that he wanted an article concerning High Performance Boards to be added to the minutes. He distributed copies of the article.

1. Election of Officers

Motion made by Mr. Shover, seconded by Ms. Medalie, to reappoint Mr. Rude as Chair. There were no other nominations, and Chair Rude accepted the nomination. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Hays, seconded by Chair Rude, to nominate Ms. Medalie as Vice Chair. There were no other nominations, and Ms. Medalie accepted the nomination. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Recreation Program of the Month -Artwork 2004

Steve Person

Mr. Steve Person, Recreation Superintendent, introduced Sue McAllister, Recreation Program Supervisor, and Mary Ann Slough, Recreation Program Coordinator. Ms. McAllister informed the Board that they had been receiving this grant for 13 years. It allowed them to hire professional artists to visit community centers and train young children.

Ms. Slough explained that the program was for culturally deprived youth, aged 12 to 17. Participants were referred to the program through Dillard High School, community organizations, community art organizations, and by word-of-mouth. They had received \$ 17,100 this past year from the Broward County Arts Council and \$ 27,500 from a community block grant.

This year's program was unique in that they sought out ten especially talented students and brought them into their pilot program. From February through May of 2004, those students were given professional fine art and visual art instruction. In turn, the students returned to teach in the summer program and to serve as mentors in paid positions. All ten completed the program and participated in the summer program.

The summer program had 54 registered students and 5 instructors. Classes were offered in music, dance, visual and fine arts, and all participants worked on a final performance. Their performance was titled "Progressions of Our Heritage," which described African-American culture from primitive times to modern times. The students created all of the choreography, scenery, and costumes. Ms. Slough then showed photographs from the program.

3. Fort Lauderdale Central Beach Streetscape Plan

Phil Thornburg

Mr. Thornburg introduced Chad Britnall from the EDSA and Chuck Adams from the City's Beach Redevelopment CRA.

Mr. Adams explained that the plan began in 2002; they were now going into the final detail design for phase 1, with construction to begin in 2006. The next phase would be designed in 2006, with construction to begin in 2007.

Mr. Britnall gave a Power Point presentation on the following points:

- The conceptual Master Plan and design initiatives:
 - Gateway entrances
 - Streetscape and landscape
 - Opportunities for overlooks
 - Traffic and parking
 - Signage
- Final schematic diagram
 - Preliminary submitted in June 2000
 - Presented to Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board: June and July 2000
 - Final submitted in August 2004
- Ft. Lauderdale beach as a world-class destination resort
- The ULI's districts
 - Created on a 1,200 foot radius
 - Streetscape plan does not use these districts – used holistic model
- Recommendations – how branding of the beach should be done

Mr. Natale asked how much community involvement went into the creation of the plan. Mr. Britnall explained that they had met with several boards and held public meetings with the Beach Advisory Board. Mr. Adams stated that community turnout had been very good for the public meeting and the major issue of contention had been parking, which they had then addressed. During the next phase, they would give one of two public presentations.

Ms. Medalie asked about pedestrian ways on A1A; she noted that cars never stop for pedestrians in the right-of-way. Mr. Britnall stated that they had addressed pedestrian issues in the Master Plan. Certain intersections would be made to facilitate moving pedestrians from parking areas to the beach. Ms. Medalie asked if there was ever discussion of designating A1A a "scenic highway." Chair Rude stated that this initiative was being worked on. Mr. Adams added that they intended to incorporate the Streetscape plan with the "3 + 2" plan, which was funded through state highway monies.

Ms. Medalie asked about maintenance of the wall and the shell wrap, as this was an ongoing problem. Mr. Adams stated that technology had advanced considerably since the wall was originally constructed. He had worked with the Chamber of Commerce to raise \$ 214,000 for wall maintenance. The goal was to have the lights working by January 2005.

Chair Rude asked about the Streetscape plan's idea to not utilize ULI's districts. Mr. Britnall explained that the intent was to treat the area as a whole, instead of breaking it up into districts. Chair Rude asked if the street ends could be made to accommodate water bus stops. He then asked if the planned new parking in the North Beach area would be metered. Mr. Adams answered that this was still under discussion. Chair Rude pointed out that they would lose the support of the Mom and Pop hotels and motels that were currently using the swale areas for their parking. Mr. Adams said that one plan called for selling blocks of parking spaces to the motels to use for their guests. Mr. Adams stated that if the spaces were not metered, parking there would be unregulated and could not be guaranteed for the hotels and motels anyway. They also wanted to transfer responsibility for the parking areas to the Parking System, which would not want to take the responsibility unless the parking areas generated enough revenue to cover maintenance costs.

Mr. Natale requested that they return to keep the Board apprised of the plan's progress.

4. "How Cities Use Parks to...Create Safer Neighborhoods"

Phil Thornburg

Mr. Thornburg distributed copies of the article to the Board.

Other Items of Interest

Plane Dedication Ceremony – November 11, 2004

Ms. Irizarry-Binon distributed information about the plane dedication ceremony on November 11, 2004. She advised members to arrive before 8:30 to park.

Downtown Master Plan Workshop – October 28, 2004

Ms. Irizarry-Binon announced that this meeting was taking place this evening and tomorrow evening. Dr. Hays asked why the Master plan focused on parks in only two areas of the City. Mr. Thornburg stated that they were actually tacked onto two other Master Plans for the City: the Downtown and Northwest CRA. Since they weren't able to do a citywide plan, they began by concentrating on these two areas. Mr. Thornburg stated that they would provide Master Plan updates to the Board for their input and suggestions.

Ms. Irizarry-Binon announced that December 1, 2004 was the Board's next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Natale announced that land had been approved for a park in his neighborhood. The property was located on the canal in the Chula Vista neighborhood, the southwest section of Southwest 29th Avenue. The family who had owned the property had requested that the park be named The Ann Herman Memorial Park. This had not been included in the contract, and Mr. Natale wanted the Board to ensure that the family's wishes were followed. He asked that this be put on the December 1, 2004 meeting agenda.

Mr. Natale then announced that funding for Riverland Woods had not been lost even though the developer had defaulted.

Mr. Shover explained a serious problem he had learned about on Southeast 13th Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. The street was 100 feet wide, with a beautifully landscaped 40-foot median. According to local residents, a neighbor had taken a sledgehammer and knocked down barricades at the median and paved an area to use it for private parking. Mr. Shover wanted Mr. Dettman and Mr. Deal invited to the Board's next meeting to address this issue. Mr. Shover wanted action taken against the individual for destruction of public property and wanted the median restored. Mr. Shover had been told that City staff had approved and permitted this but there was never any neighborhood participation or notification.

Dr. Hays stated that this was permitted by the City but it did not go through the Right-of-way Committee. The problem was that this was City property being used by private individuals and a compromise was currently being worked on. Chair Rude agreed to put this on December's agenda.

Mr. Hoysgaard brought program books from the NRPA Convention which was held in Reno Nevada.

Dr. Hays suggested a January report on Cancer Survivors' Plaza.

Dr. Hays congratulated Mr. Thornburg on being appointed Parks and Recreation Department Director. She asked Mr. Thornburg if Open Space would have another go-round at the County level. Mr. Thornburg did not feel it would; he thought the only recourse was to approach individual County Commissioners. There was discussion of land located on 441 and Riverland Road in the Shady Banks neighborhood. Mr. Thornburg was unsure if this land was being purchased and agreed to check.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Handouts

Copy of article, "High performance boards – luck of the draw or by design."

Copy of article, "How Cities Use Parks to...Create Safer Neighborhoods"

Information about the plane dedication ceremony on November 11, 2004