



The Indian River County (IRC) Parks and Recreation Committee (P&R) met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 4, 2008 in the County Administration Building B, Conference Room B1-501 at 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were:

Thomas Johnson III, Board of County Commissioners Appointee  
Scott Chisholm, South County Appointee  
Bryce Harris, City of Fellsmere Appointee  
Councilmember Kevin Sawnick, City of Vero Beach Appointee  
Nick Westenberger, School District Appointee  
Bill Wilson, Sr., Gifford Community  
Chris McCarthy, City of Sebastian Appointee

Absent were:

Billie Minnis, North County Appointee  
David Becker, Indian River Shores Appointee

Also present were:

Joseph Flescher, IRC Commissioner Liaison  
Jim Davis, Public Works Director;  
Cliff Crawford, Recreation Director;  
Mike Redstone, Assistant Recreation Director;  
Bill Schutt, IRC Community Development

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Johnson called the meeting at order at 10:02 a.m.

## **Approval of Minutes of October 2, 2008**

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Chisholm, SECONDED BY Mr. McCarthy, the members voted unanimously (7-0), to approve the October 2, 2008 minutes as presented.**

## **Planning and EAR Process**

Mr. Bill Schutt, IRC Community Development, provided a brief PowerPoint presentation regarding the EAR planning process, a copy of which is on file at the Commission Office. Mr. Schutt reviewed the "Circle of Planning" for the EA. He explained the Indian River County Comprehensive Plan was first adopted in 1993 and that the first EAR was adopted in 1996. Mr. Schutt provided a brief explanation of the EAR 15 Elements and Sub-Elements and stated the report was sent to the State on November 25, 2008 for review. He added prior to submitting the EAR to the state, the report went through various public hearings before the IRC Planning and Zoning Commission and the BCC.

A discussion ensued regarding the EAR Park and Open Space Element.

## **Review of IRC Parks Division Budget**

Chairman Johnson III referred to the IRC Parks Division Budget, a copy of which is on file at the Commission Office. He suggested to all committee members to review the document and bring comments to the next scheduled committee meeting. Chairman Johnson III said the committee should analyze both the Recreation Department and Parks Division budget. Mr. Chisholm felt it was important for the Parks Division Superintendent to relay to the committee possible budget cuts that could directly affect the department's services and operations.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding Dodgers Town, the agreement for spring training and possible effects to the Parks Division in terms of facility maintenance.

Chairman Johnson III explained the main purpose for the budget review was not to interfere with departmental operations and management, but to have more knowledge regarding the process, foreseeable needs, and possible effects to services.

Mr. Brown provided a brief update on the 2009 tax roll and the budget cuts.

### **Report- IRC Recreation**

Mike Redstone announced the 5th Annual Winter Fest at Pointe West on Saturday, December 20, 2008 and presented a flyer for the Santa is Calling event.

Mr. Redstone stated the BCC presented a Proclamation for the Recreation Department for hosting the Special Olympics State Aquatic Championship. He also provided a video presentation of the event.

Ms. Debbie Kay Whitehouse, City of Vero Beach Recreation Commission, commended the Parks and Recreation staff for their hard work on putting together the event.

### **Next Meeting**

The January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 meeting was cancelled due to the holidays. The next scheduled meeting is on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

### **Other Matters**

Mr. Freddie Woolfork, Gifford Youth Activity Center, provided a brief update on the Gifford Aquatic Center Committee. He explained the committee was working on a list of activities and a plan for the pool geared toward increasing the attendance. Mr. Woolfork added the committee was planning a full reopening

function for the pool. He explained the committee was working on a plan for using donations for annual passes scholarships.

Discussion ensued regarding the GAC attendance and the revenues generated from annual passes.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further businesses the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.