



The Indian River County (IRC) Parks and Recreation Committee (P&R) met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2009 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

Nick Westenberger, School District Appointee

Bill Wilson, Sr., Gifford Community

Chris McCarthy, City of Sebastian Appointee

Michael Ochsner, Indian River Shores Appointee

Absent were:

Councilmember Kevin Sawnick, City of Vero Beach Appointee

Billie Minnis, North County Appointee

Also present were:

Joseph Flescher, IRC Commissioner Liaison

Chris Mora, Public Works Assistant Director

Cliff Crawford, Recreation Director

Jason Brown, Director, IRC Management, and Budget

Mike Redstone, Assistant, Recreation Director

Tina Zayas, IRC Health Department

Debbie Kay-Whitehouse, City of Vero Beach Recreation Committee

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**ON A MOTION BY Mr. Chisholm, SECONDED BY Mr. Ochsner, the members voted unanimously to approve the minutes of April 2, 2009 as presented. (00:01:15)**

### **Review of Parks and Recreation Resolution**

Attorney Marian Fell, IRC Senior County Attorney Assistant, provided a brief summary of the Parks and Recreation Committee Resolution. She explained the Resolution have not been changed since 1994, which predated the separation of City or Vero Beach and Indian River County Recreation Department.

Attorney Marian Fell stated she had no Resolution updates to present to the Committee at the moment and made a recommendation for moving toward quarterly meetings.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding frequency of meetings. Attorney Marian Fell explained special call meetings could be used for arising issues. A suggestion was made to schedule a meeting before preliminary budget hearings allowing the committee to discuss issues that pertain to Parks and Recreation budget.

**ON A MOTION BY Mr. Chisholm, SECONDED BY Mr. Ochsner, the members voted unanimously to change meetings to quarterly with the provision of calling for special call meeting (00:15:39).**

### **Pools Update- Gifford and North County**

Mr. Clifford, Director, IRC Recreation Department, indicated that as the result of budget constraints the County was presented with a challenge to

maintain the requested hours of operation for the Gifford Aquatic Center and meet the 12.5 percent budget cuts. Mr. Clifford provided a brief overview of the Gifford Aquatic Center and the plan for abbreviated hours of operation. Mr. Crawford introduced Jason Brown, IRC Management and Budget Director, who presented the Gifford Aquatic Center 5 Point Community Plan, a copy of which is on file at the Commission Office. He explained the plan included two schedules of abbreviated hours from March through April and from September through October and one schedule of full hours from May through August. He added the abbreviated hours schedule was for the pool to be open 26 hours a week.

Mr. Brown continued with an explanation of the staffing plan for the pool. He said the main idea was to staff the pool at three different shifts and avoid the Florida Retirement System requirement for permanent employee period. He pointed out the staffing plan was a cost saving measure but could represented a challenge for administration purposes.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Gifford Aquatic Center abbreviated hours of operation, staffing plan, and staffing requirements.

**Motion by Mr. Chisholm, Seconded by Mr. Ochsner, to make a recommendation to support pool hours plan and seasonal operation, due to budgetary restrictions. (00:55:00).**

### **Special Olympics Update**

Mr. Mike Redstone announced the Area 10- Aquatic Special Olympics on October 3rd and 4th and the North County Aquatic Center. Ms. Fawna Hatstrup, IRC Aquatic Director provided a brief overview of the scheduled events for the Special Olympics and the volunteering opportunities for the event.

Commissioner Flescher introduced Rich Nalbandian, Assistant Director of the Treasure Coast Sports Commission. A suggestion was made to have a presentation about the Treasure Coast Sports Commissioner at next meeting scheduled.

### **Multi-Purpose Field**

Mr. Fleetwood, IRC Parks Superintendent, reported all the work at the Multi-Purpose Field has been finalized. Mr. Clifford indicated staff was working use guidelines for the field.

### **South County Park**

Mr. Chisholm reported on the status of the South County Park. He said the basketball court was a heavily used facility and a great success. Mr. Fleetwood reported on the efforts from the Parks Division maintenance crews.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was scheduled for October 1, 2009.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.