MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Naples, Florida

January 15th, 2025

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 2 p.m. in Conference Room A at 2800 Horseshoe Drive, Naples, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Edward “Ski” Olesky (excused)

VICE CHAIR: Joshua Fruth

Jessica Bergel

Lee Dixon (absent)

Rebecca Gibson-Laemel

Kristina Heuser

Eric Kelly

Donna Fiala (excused/alternate)

ALSO PRESENT: James Hanrahan, Interim Director, Parks & Recreation

Miguel Rojas Jr., Admin. Support Specialist II, Parks & Rec

Jaime Cook, Director, Development Review, Growth Mgt.

Mike Ossorio, Region 1 Parks Manager

Eric Short, Supervisor, Park Rangers

Randi Swinderman, Region 4 Parks Manager

Sidney Kittila, Region 2 Parks Manager

Said Gomez, Region 3 Parks Manager

***Anyone who needs a verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the recording and PowerPoint presentations from the Collier County Parks & Recreation Department.***

# Pledge of Allegiance

# Call To Order

1. **Meeting was Called to Order at 2:00PM**

An announcement was made that PARAB now fell under Growth Management.

1. **Roll Call**

3 Members were present,

1. **Verification of Quorum**

Three were in attendance and a quorum was not established at this point although later, at 2:28PM, two additional members arrives, including Eric Kelly arrived, and a quorum was established at that time.

1. An announcement was made that as a quorum was not established, nothing would be open for discussion or questioning, however there was a Speaker scheduled and out of respect for the Speaker’s time, the Speaker would be allowed to present before the group but the subject matter would not be open for discussion or questioning.

*A motion was made and carried that under New Business to move item C to item A to allow the Speaker to go first.*

# Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was not approved at this time, although it would be at 2:28PM under New Business.

# Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Previous Meeting Minutes were not approved at this time, although they would be at 2:28PM under New Business.

**V**.  **New Business**

**a. Bill Scumerhorn, Resident – Beach Umbrella Safety Presentation**

* Mr. Scumerhorn went before lawmakers last year appealing to them to legislate and enact laws that promote Beach Umbrella Safety.
* Wind blown umbrellas account for many injuries, and even deaths, each year.
* It has been established that at this point the safest way to secure beach umbrellas from becoming wind blown was through the use of weight (75 lb.) and that some of the features that allow beach umbrellas to be drilled into the sand actually increase their lethalness.
* The legislation would prevent the importing of beach umbrella safety systems that did not meet US standards.
* The legislation would also mandate standardized safety requirements for the hospitality and beach umbrella rental industries.
* At 2:28PM two additional members arrived, including Eric Kelly, and a quorum was established.
* The county currently has only one beach umbrella concession located at Vanderbilt beach and operated by “Cabana Dan”. (2:37PM)
* Mr. Scumerhorn had previously presented a scaled down version of his presentation to the County Commissioners and the City of Naples. Both entities expressed some interest although there was no formalized plan to follow up.
* Mr. Scumerhorn also is in the business of selling beach umbrella safety equipment although he assured that his intentions are protecting the public and not in promoting his business.

**B**.

*A motion was made and carried to Approve the Agenda (2:42PM)*

*A motion was made and carried to approve the Previous Meeting Minutes.*

* Jamie Cook – Discussed how PARAB now fell under Growth Management and some of the other entities that were part of Growth Management.
* It was suggest that all meetings going forward would be held at the Horseshoe Drive facility with the exception of the North Naples meeting in March and the February 19th meeting in Immokalee.
* It was discussed that at the Immokalee meeting that ongoing meetings in Immokalee would be put to vote due to lack of attendance.

# Old Business

1. Attendance - It was recommended that by the County Attorney that the commitment of Board Members be re established and that Board Members that had missed more than 50% of last year's Board Meeting should be directly contacted by phone to gauge their commitment for 2025.

* It was pointed out that at times there was insufficient attendance to establish a quorum, preventing a vote, should one be needed.

1. Implementation of fee increase on pickle ball concession from $50 to $100.
2. Utilization of 311 regarding PARAB assements.

*Motion made and carried to move 311 meeting from March to April to accommodate Board Members previously approved absence*.

# Public Comment – No public comment,

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1. **Manager Updates**
2. **Region 1**.

* Parking concerns and abuses at Marinas.
* Institute of process of educating prior to enforcing violations.
* Increased patrols.

1. **Region 2 – Sidney K**

* All park programs are in full swing and heavily utilized.
* Field closures.
* Water park closures.
* Spring Break Camp final preparations
* Early stage Summer Camp preparations.
* Facilities upkeep projects.
* Lifeguard hirings.

1. **Region 3 – Siad G (3:05PM)**

* CRA Meeting
* New basketball goals – greater use observed, community expressed appreciation.
* The Community Center roofing project completed.
* Restroom renovations are completed.
* Sports Complex workout equipment received.
* Ava Maria – secured parking for 9 weeks of soccer games.
* Work on parking areas for Sports Complex, Health Department and Community tentatively set to commence February 5th.
* Converting baseball and softball fields to artificial turf. The County owns the fields and schools use them. School system will be financing conversion.
* Over 2,000 toys disbursed in conjunction with Salvation Army Toy Drive – tremendous community appreciation.
* Christmas Around the World played a big part in bring happiness to community.

1. **Regions 4 – Randy S (3:13PM)**

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* Great success of Snow Fest 4,000 People attended.
* In the process of collaborating with “Magic of Lights” sponsors to combine the two events for 2025.
* New fitness equipment received at North Collier facility.
* Repairs completed on basketball hoops. Converted to Commercial Grade from Residential Grade.
* Resurfacing of gym floor was completed.
* Updates to softball and soccer field facilities completed.
* Concessions sent out for bid.
* Sun & Fund tentative reopening by Spring Break.
* Vetrans Park pickle ball rentals increase.
* Vineyards inclement weather preparedness.
* Big Corkscrew entered an agreement with new formed Estates Softball League.
* 600 participants in “Grinchmas”.
* Summer Camp registrations commences March 1st.
* Preparing HR to initiate early hiring to accommodate required training.

# Director’s Report - n/a

# Adjournment

# Next Meeting Date: February 19th

**6pm -321 N. 1st Street Immokalee, FL 34142**

**There being no further business for the good of the county, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chairman at 3:25 p.m.**

**COLLIER COUNTY**

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

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**Joshua Fruth, Acting Chairman**

These minutes were approved by the board on , (check one) as presented, \_\_ or as amended \_\_\_.