

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR “HYBRID” MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 4, 2021,

The “HYBRID” MEETING took place in the Willow Theatre at Sugar Sand Park and was also conducted virtually through the Zoom platform. The meeting was called to order by CHAIRMAN Susan Vogelgesang at 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Craig F. Ehrnst
Steven M. Engel
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Susan Vogelgesang
Erin Wright

CHANGES TO AGENDA

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

The following people emailed public requests to be read into the record:

Regina Ecklund addressed the following concerns regarding the Boca Teeca Property RFP and asked the Board to consider the following: the size and type of the pathways, to allow parking on the northwest corner of 2nd Avenue and Clint Moore Road, putting a parking lot on part of the old hotel site, placing the split rail fence further back where the temporary fence is, consider the costs for maintaining the tunnel, inspecting and addressing the irrigation system, and adding lighting at the sidewalk on the east side of 2nd Ave from Jeffrey Street to the Condo 3 property. She asked that garbage receptacles be added when complete, that the District addresses the improvements at the Yamato/2nd Ave entrance and to provide an update to the ownership and responsibilities for the western corner with the San Remo Association and asked that the property be referred to as Ocean Breeze.

Michele Peel believes that Mr. Gordon Gilbert's significant lifelong service and contribution, his impeccable reputation, and the overwhelming public support, make him an ideal candidate to become the public name for a new park at Ocean Strand.

The following people wrote to the District in support of naming the new Ocean Strand Park after Mr. Gilbert: *Michael and Susan Brody, Kathy Cottrell, Bronwen de Villiers, Rory F. Fielding, Joe Tomasiello, Toni Corbin, Michael Adams, Richard D. Moseley, Everett Hill, Michele Sparling, Larry Brown, Edward F. Clark III, Theresa Pollock Winkel, Tom Cripps, Linda Lawler, Leonard, Muriel Gatlin, Jana Magruder Critchfield, Nancy Traxler Shafer, Barbara Garuckus, Michael Bongo Hawn, Diane Csutoros, Susan Sandy, Tim Valcourt, Mark Tarantino, Alene Brewer, Ann Langford, Penne Auger Thompson, Meg Nocera, Linda Westphal, Zon Reed, Patty S. Huber, Kimberly Capron Gonzalez, Stephanie Russo Zaragoza, Browning Beautie Hardnett, Susan Pelish, Kathleen Krall and John Holloway.*

The following people called into the meeting:

Leanne Welch supports renaming the Ocean Strand property after Mr. Gordon Gilbert.

Nancy Jo Feinberg believes that the District should be governed under the Palm Beach County Ethics Committee and was disappointed with counsel's response at a previous meeting when asked why the section referring to the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics was deleted from the proposed ILA Amendment. She asked each Commissioner to state their opinion on the matter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Ehrnst to approve the minutes of the Regular “Hybrid” meeting held on December 21, 2020, at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Election of Officers

Chairman

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Engel to nominate Susan Vogelgesang for the position of Chairman.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Vice-Chairman

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Engel to nominate Erin Wright as Vice-Chairman.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Secretary-Treasurer

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Engel to nominate Craig Ehrnst as Secretary-Treasurer

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. Employee Job Descriptions

Executive Director Harms presented the employee job descriptions for the Facilities Manager and the Executive Assistant for the Board’s consideration, noting that revisions can be made in the future if needed.

Discussion:

The following amendments will be added to the job descriptions:

The Facility Manager’s monthly inspection reports will include the interior and exterior of the facilities.

Continuing Education will be made available to both positions, paid for by the District.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the employee job descriptions, as amended.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

3. Explorium Exhibit Contract Amendments

Executive Director Harms noted that the Children’s Science Explorium at Sugar Sand Park has been closed to the public since March due to COVID-19. Last fiscal year the District contracted with OMSI to provide two exhibits at a discounted rate for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021. Ms. Harms recommended the following amendments to the contracts:

Spring 2021 -Design Zone 2 Amendments

The District has currently paid \$26,000 for the Spring 2021 exhibit, Design Zone 2, that is scheduled to arrive this month. OMSI has agreed to forgo the final payment of \$6,500 and the shipping costs of approximately \$6,000 in exchange for the District paying the storage fees which are approximately \$2,500.

Fall 2021 Mindbender Mansion Amendment

OMSI has agreed to move the fall 2021 exhibit, Mindbender Mansion, to the fall of 2022. The District has made deposits in the amount of \$25,110 for this exhibit. The final payments would be due in the next fiscal year.

Discussion:

It was the consensus of the Board to request that a cancellation clause be added in the event of a pandemic or a state of emergency. The Mindbender Mansion contract for Fall 2022 will be deferred so Ms. Harms can renegotiate a more flexible contract if the Children's Explorium is still closed.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to accept the Spring 2021 exhibit, Design Zone 2, contract amendments as stated, and to defer the Mindbender Mansion contract amendments to a future meeting.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

4. Renaming of Ocean Strand

The District has had numerous requests from the public to rename the Ocean Strand Park in honor of Mr. Gordon Gilbert. The Board had a lengthy discussion on the subject which included how highly respected, admired, and deserving Mr. Gordon is for his lifelong contributions to the Boca Raton community. Questions arose to the legality and the need for the District to first have a policy or procedure in place with regards to naming public facilities after someone. It was suggested that it might be more appropriate to partition the City to name the new Turtle Rehabilitation Facility after Mr. Gilbert with his close ties to Gumbo Limbo.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Engel to have Executive Director Harms prepare a proclamation for Mr. Gordon Gilbert recognizing his 28.5 years with the District.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

5. Boca Teeca Maintenance and Beautification RFP

Executive Director Harms presented the RFP for the Maintenance and Beautification of Boca Teeca for the Board’s consideration and noted that the following items will be added to the document:

- Updating of the insurance information per the request of Mr. Rollins
- The installation of fencing by Clint Moore Road and Jeffrey Street
- A cleanup of the language regarding the split rail fencing to be consistent with the specifications at other District parks

Discussion:

The following items will also be added to the RFP:

- The possibility of xeriscape landscaping
- A price per tree will be included
- The price per linear foot for fencing will be included
- Ensure that the Contractor removes any items that may be a public safety hazard
- An updated work schedule for contractors
- Fix a Scribner's error on page 15 paragraph 8, from “robes” to “ropes”

MOTION was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Ehrnst to approve the current RFP, as amended, subject to final review of the insurance section by Mr. Rollins.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the payroll and invoices totaling \$ 30,304.45

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director:

Ocean Strand

There is a virtual meeting scheduled for January 8, 2021, with Development services; the amended permit has been sent to the City to finish the removal of the invasive vegetation.

Amended ILA Update

Mr. Mike Woika, Assistant City Manager, contacted Ms. Harms to inform her that he would be available to coordinate a discussion on the amendment to the ILA in the next week or so.

Sugar Sand Park Batting Cages

The renovations to the batting cages will commence this month. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.

Patch Reef Park Pickleball

Work has begun at the Patch Reef Tennis Center on the two courts that are being converted to six pickleball courts.

Swim & Racquet Center Geothermal System

The pool at the Swim & Racquet Center has been closed due to a repair that is needed for the geothermal system. The RFP to replace the geothermal system will go out this month.

Sugar Sand Park Carousel-Bob Langford Pedestal

MOTION was made by Commissioner Rollins and seconded by Commissioner Ehrnst to direct Executive Director Harms to investigate the cost and design for a pedestal at the Sugar Sand Park carousel in honor of Mr. Langford for his service to the District.

Ms. Harms will inquire if the Rotary Club is still interested in contributing to this dedication.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Counsel:

Executive Order 20-52 (COVID- 19)

Executive Order 20-52 was extended on December 29, 2020, which will allow virtual meetings to take place for an additional 60 days.

PBC Code of Ethics

Mr. Horowitz clarified that the District, as an independent Special Taxing District, is subject to the State Board of Ethics, however, it is not subject to the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics. If the District chose to be governed by the Ethics Commission an agreement or

Memorandum of Understanding that provides for funding and approval by the Board of County Commissioners for Palm Beach County would be required.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost and what the advantages would be to become part of the PBC Board of Ethics, the request for a comparison between PBC Board of Ethics and the State Board of Ethics, the total transparency of the District, and if the District would be capable to comply with the requirements of the Commission due to the size of its staff.

Commissioner Rollins inquired about the cost to join the Commission. (Please see further comments under Commissioner Reports)

Commissioner Wright supports joining the PBC Board of Ethics if it shows the public that the District is being as transparent as possible. She requested a comparison of the two agencies, the cost to join, and if the District's staff would be able to comply with its requirements.

Commissioner Engel would like to see a comparison of the two agencies and stated that he has nothing to hide and that he supports joining the Commission if it makes the District more transparent and the cost is minimal.

Commissioner Ehrnst stated that this Board has been very transparent on all its activities. He supports anything that provides ethics and transparency. He would like to ensure that the District can comply with the restrictions of the Ethics Committee.

Commissioner Vogelgesang believes that that the District is very transparent and would like more information on the advantages and the cost to join the Commission and what the strain would be on District staff.

Ms. Harms will request a presentation from the Palm Beach Board of Ethics.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Engel congratulated the officers of the District on their re-election.

Boca Raton Beach & Park Foundation

Mr. Engel will reach out to members of the community to see if it is viable to have an arrangement similar to the Friends of Gumbo Limbo with a link to the District Board of Commissioners with minimal Board involvement or liability.

Commissioner Wright- Wished everyone a Happy New Year!

Commissioner Ehrnst requested an estimated timeframe for the completion of the pickleball courts at Patch Reef Park and inquired about the status of the Boca Teeca RFI for general ideas.

Discussion ensued regarding the RFI, the ILA amendment, the maintenance and cleanup of the property, hiring a design firm to run the charrettes, paying down the debt service loan, and hiring a master planning company to help organize the design of the property based on the wants and needs of the public.

<p><u>MOTION</u> was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to direct staff to write an RFP for an Architect/Engineering Firm to provide Master Planning and Design Services at Ocean Breeze.</p>
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Discussion:

Commissioners Ehrnst, Rollins, and Wright do not support paying down the debt service loan. The priority for 2021 will be to focus on opening Ocean Strand and developing a master plan for Ocean Breeze.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Commissioner Rollins inquired about the tower project and the pumps and pipes project at Gumbo Limbo. Mr. Rollins believes that the operations of the District Commission are transparent and would consider joining the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics if it does not conflict with the State Board of Ethics. He inquired about the expenses involved and if joining the Ethics Commission would slow down District projects. Commissioner Rollins wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated and thanked the officers that were re-elected for their willingness to continue with their positions.

Commissioner Vogelgesang thanked everyone for their support. She will do her best to serve the community and continue to be transparent. She recently visited the pickleball complex in Naples and was very impressed and wished a happy and safe New Year to all!

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

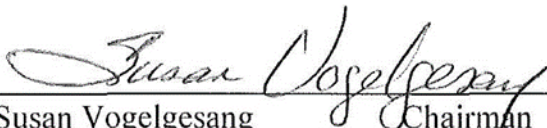
Ethics Committee Presentation
RFP's for Boca Teeca Property

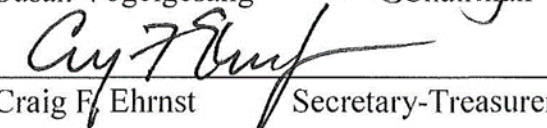
MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer