

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 5, 2024

The MEETING took place at the Swim & Racquet Center and was live-streamed for viewing & listening through Zoom. The meeting was called to order by CHAIR Erin Wright at 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

CHANGES TO AGENDA: Item #4-Science Explorium Exhibits, will be moved to a future agenda.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Mr. Harold Chaffee requested that public comments be reopened after the Boca Paddle Presentation.

Ms. Tania Zucker requested that the Board give special consideration to revitalizing and relocating the Boca Children's Museum.

Mr. Cil Ciliberti proposed putting a pickleball training facility on the exterior of the sports facility at North Park for individuals who prefer to focus on drills and training sessions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 16, 2024, 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. Presentation by Mandy Forrester and Sherese James Grow

Mandy Forrester and Sherese James-Grow from the Boca Chamber of Commerce gave a presentation on the Golden Bell Education Foundation and the Young Entrepreneurs Academy Program (YEA!).

The Golden Bell Education Foundation, established in 1991 as a nonprofit C3 organization, aims to support the Boca public school system through funding and educational initiatives. Their mission involves promoting business skills among students through various programs. Specifically, they focus on providing supplemental funding for programs and scholarships in K-12 schools in Boca Raton. Their objectives include enhancing academic achievement, particularly in literacy, reading, science, and math, and preparing students for the workforce through educational opportunities.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) is a nine-month program where students learn entrepreneurship and develop business ideas, culminating in pitch training. It offers immersive experiences like mentorship, public speaking, CEO roundtables, and investor panels. They create business plans, learn about website creation and secure startup capital. They participate in national competitions, with local winners competing internationally.

The following ideas were pitched by the students to the Board members:

3 Guy Golf: A golf club cleaning device presented by Sean Alba, Ethan Brady, and Henry Levinson.

WatchLock: A stylized watch band clip presented by Enrique Galindo Alvarez.

The Cafetero Club: Locally sourced Colombian coffee presented by Mateo Goldberger.

Members of the Board suggested displaying the products and ideas at one of the park community centers, such as Sugar Sand Park, giving the students a platform to present their elevator pitches and receive feedback from the community.

2. Boca Paddle Club Update

Malcolm Butters, representing Butters Construction Development and Boca Paddle LLC, along with partners Catherine Butters, Brian Davis, and Stewart Levine, updated the board on the site plan for the Racquet Center at North Park. Boca Paddle has been in close collaboration with Miller Legg, the Civil Engineer for the North Park project, and engaged the services of the same traffic engineer utilized by the District, Lisa Bernstein. Mr. Butters disclosed that they switched architects on the project due to budget constraints, and he assured the Board that it would have no impact on the quality or design.

Boca Paddle is drafting the concession agreement with the District and anticipates a final draft by the end of February. They plan to submit the site plans to the city by February 19, 2024. They aim to obtain city approval by the end of summer, permit acquisition in the fall, and construction beginning in the first quarter of next year, with a target opening date around January 2026. Boca Paddle is currently finalizing the exterior elevation design, and they will present it at the next Board meeting on February 20, 2024.

Public Requests reopened at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Harold Chaffee raised concerns regarding potential issues with parking lot lighting affecting nearby condominiums, inquired about the hours of operation, and questioned the possibility of alcohol or food trucks being present. Additionally, he sought clarification on the size of the parking lot.

3. RFP for Design Build of Shade Structure

Executive Director Harms presented the RFP for the design-build shade structure to cover the multi-sport rink at Sugar Sand Park, contingent upon Commissioner Rollins reviewing the insurance provisions to ensure they are more comprehensive and aligned with current standards and practices.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to proceed with the design-build for the shade structure of the multi-sport rink at Sugar Sand Park as outlined, contingent on revisions to the insurance provisions and the removal of line "K" under #2 - Scope of Work.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

4. Gumbo Limbo ADA Restroom Renovations Change Order

Staff recommended the approval of a change order in the amount of \$150,000 for the Gumbo Limbo ADA Restroom Renovation project. This approval is essential for addressing immediate structural repair needs and ensuring the project can adapt to unforeseen challenges without delay, securing the facility's compliance with ADA standards and the project's timely completion.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the \$150,000 change order for the Gumbo Limbo ADA Restroom Renovations, as presented.

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:

Commissioner Ehrnst highlighted the significant interest earnings of approximately \$2,034,000 last fiscal year. This surplus provides additional funds for various purposes.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to approve the payroll and invoices as presented, totaling \$256,263.94.

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:

Increased Communication

The monthly meeting with the Recreation Services Administration occurred last Monday. Executive Director Harms noted the improved communication and collaboration with the department and the city, expressing gratitude to the Recreation Services Administration for their efforts.

Patch Reef Park Pickleball

Six new pickleball courts have opened at Patch Reef Park and are being well utilized.

Sugar Sand Park

A walkthrough with the staff at Sugar Sand Park took place to address maintenance concerns. These issues will now be incorporated into the maintenance budget.

1099s

The 2023 1099s have been distributed.

Happy Birthday!

Birthday wishes were extended to Chair Wright!

District Counsel:

HB 7013

The Special District bill HB 7013 remains active, with recent revisions eliminating the nuclear option provision. It is currently awaiting review by the House. Operational requirements, including performance reviews and reporting obligations, are being incorporated into the statute. Counsel will continue to monitor the progress of the Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) bill (HB 7013) as it moves through the legislative process.

JJ Morley Lawsuit

The final invoice is being prepared for the work completed associated with the JJ Morley matter. The Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman Law firm will file the lawsuit with the Palm Beach County Circuit Court.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Ehrnst reported that he went to the community charrettes at the downtown facility, attendance was high, and an abundance of input was provided from the public. He also visited Sugar Sand Park and reported that the roof is impressive, with evident progress in the finishing touches.

Commissioner Rollins asked about the status of the CRA inquiry.

Commissioner Vogelgesang suggested that the District consider issuing an RFP for the design of the golf park in the northwest portion of North Park, citing the lengthy process involved. Additionally, she proposed exploring the possibility of establishing a foundation to fund the golf park project.

Commissioner Wright reported that she attended the pickleball tournament at Patch Reef Park, and it was a great event and fun to watch! She also announced the upcoming Candidates Forum at the Boca Raton Community Center on February 8, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

	
Erin Wright	Chair
	
Craig F. Ehrnst	Secretary-Treasurer