

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 18, 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:

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Mr. Ciliberti advocated for Boca Paddle's success while discussing various financial and operational aspects of the venture. He does not believe there should be any membership fees at this facility, similar to Chicken and Pickle.

Mr. Robert DuKate expressed concerns about the cost of playing pickleball at Boca Paddle compared to other pickleball courts operated by the District. He suggested that the cost to taxpayers should be considered. He hoped the contract would address pricing to ensure accessibility for all residents without restrictive conditions such as specific time slots. Additionally, he mentioned some of the fences might have been damaged and are not operating at North Park.

Mr. Harold Chaffee recommended adding a third rail to split rail fences at North Park and installing wire at the bottom to deter animals like coyotes. He suggested revisiting the previous proposals regarding the pickleball facility due to concerns about the high membership fees. He expressed a need to explore other options that may offer better deals for residents to play pickleball.

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 March 4, 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. North Park SITES Certification Evaluation

Executive Director Harms presented an overview of the SITES certification process and the current status of North Park's sustainability efforts. The following items were discussed:

- Introduction to SITES: Explanation of the rating system and certification levels.
- Current Status and Gap Analysis: North Park's current score and areas for improvement.
- Strategic Goals for Certification: Strategies to enhance North Park's score in key areas.

- Benefits of SITES Certification: Discussion on environmental and community benefits.
- Path to Certification: Steps required for achieving certification.
- Next Steps: Board consideration of pursuing SITES certification for North Park

The Board supported advancing the SITES certification process and recognized the importance of environmental sustainability and design considerations for North Park.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to proceed with the SITES Certification for North Park.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

2. RFQ for Architectural/Engineer Planning Services

Executive Director Harms asked the Board of Commissioners to reissue the RFQ for Architect/Engineering services, citing increased project volume and complexity since awarding contracts to CGA and WZA in 2021. This action will broaden the District's pool of qualified firms, enabling effective management of the growing workload and access to specialized expertise for each project.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Vogelgesang and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the readvertising of the RFQ for Continuing Services for Architect/Engineering firm.

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 as presented, totaling \$484,877.05.

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:

Patch Reef Park Pickleball Operater Presentation

The City will be prepared for the pickleball operations presentation at the next meeting on April 1, 2024.

Boca Paddle Update

Boca Paddle will be present at the next meeting to provide an update. Additionally, work is ongoing on the concession agreement. Once finalized, Executive Director Harms and Counsel will schedule individual meetings with each Commissioner to discuss the agreement.

Annual Audit

The annual audit for this year has been completed, and no management recommendations were noted.

Patch Reef Park Accessible Playground

The drawings for the Patch Reef Park playground are expected to be ready by tomorrow, and the District aims to initiate the bidding process by the end of April. This timeline puts the project on track to potentially begin by summertime.

District Counsel:

Mr. Horowitz reported that progress is being made on the Boca Paddle concession agreement, with final points being worked through. Individual meetings will be scheduled with Commissioners once the agreement is completed.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Vogelgesang extended her best wishes to Mr. Goren for a speedy recovery and encouraged everyone eligible to vote in the upcoming election. She referenced a recent article in the Sun Sentinel about plans for the FEC to enhance safety by going under tracks. She suggested the District consider partnering with the City to implement similar measures at Jeffrey Street. This partnership could enhance safety and avoid track crossings.

Commissioner Rollins inquired when the maintenance facility at DeHoernle Park would be completed and what the City's plans are for Phase 2 of the park.

Commissioner Ehrnst mentioned the Joint meeting and inquired if any preparation was needed to prioritize the upcoming agenda.

Commissioner Engel believes implementing a tunnel or a cut through the tracks over Jeffrey Street would improve traffic flow for North Park and the city. He believes involving the railroads and the state is crucial. Additionally, he agrees with Commissioner Vogelgesang that finding a nonprofit to manage the golf at North Park would be ideal.

ADJOURNMENT:

<p>MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Vogelgesang to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m.</p>
--

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst

Yes

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

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

at

Erin Wright Chair

Craig F. Ehrnst
Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer