



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Community Center
1100 Lyons Road
Coconut Creek, Florida

Date: February 4, 2015
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Workshop Meeting – With the Parks
and Recreation Board

-
1. Acting Mayor Tooley called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
 2. Present upon roll call:

Parks and Recreation Board

Chair Randy Johnson
Vice Chair Ruth Gure
David Anderson
Sajan Kurian
Joshua D. Rydell

Michael Sacca was absent from the meeting.

City Commission

Acting Mayor Rebecca A. Tooley
Commissioner Lou Sarbone
Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere
Commissioner Sandra Welch

Administrative Staff

City Manager Mary C. Blasi
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn

3. Discussion – Windmill Park Redesign

Mayor Tooley informed the public that the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Commission want to hear the residents' input for the redesign of Windmill Park. She informed the public that there would be another joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Commission in a couple of weeks to discuss the ideas voiced tonight. She stated that each person who wished to speak would be allotted three minutes. She encouraged the residents to provide their email and mailing addresses so the City can keep them apprised of the upcoming meetings for the park.

Mary Blasi, City Manager, was pleased to inform the public that the City has allocated \$2.4 million for Windmill Park improvements. She explained that the money budgeted does not come from tax dollars; that it comes from Impact Fees collected from residential developers and from Mitigation Funds from the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Jim Berkman, Public Works Director, introduced himself and explained that he was co-managing the project with Linda Wiederspan, Parks and Recreation Director. He also introduced Merrill Romanik, the Architect for the redesign. He explained that staff wanted to get

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the residents' input on what they would like to see or not see at the park. He explained that the city purchased the Johns property, which is a two acre parcel adjacent to the park. He noted that the house that currently sits on the Johns' property will be demolished and the park will be expanded to include that property.

Kent Thompson, 611 NW 45 Avenue, Coconut Creek, stated that he regularly uses the park with his dogs, and that he lives next door to the Earl Johns property. He stated that the biggest concern he has is light pollution and noise and he would like to have a clearly defined walking path for residents on the south end of South Creek to walk in to the park. He suggested having a large green area between his and other private properties.

Erik Anderson, 310 Sunshine Drive, regularly uses the dog park. He would like to have a nearby water station in the large dog area and a dog washing station. He suggested moving the tables in the dog area periodically to help prevent damage to the sod. He noted that there were issues with parking and safety, and asked for increased patrolling of the area. He requested installation of bug zappers, and to have additional parking for South Creek residents on other side of park.

Doug Young, 240 NW 43 Avenue, said he walks at the park daily and wanted to ensure that the asphalt walkways be maintained and kept root free. He mentioned concerns with noise and light pollution due to the park expansion. He suggested using the Johns property as a passive area maybe with a gazebo.

Jose Encarnacion, 530 NW 39 Avenue, stated that he would like to see recreation facilities and better ingress and egress of the park for senior citizens, disabled persons and children. He suggested having a passive recreation sitting area facing the lake. He said he worried about the impact of the park expansion on the South Creek neighborhood.

Lisa Aronson, 5163 NW 74 Court, stated that there are a lot of residents on the Northern end of the City who are still not aware of the dog park at Windmill Park. She is concerned because there is still a sign in front of Windmill Park that reads, "No animals allowed." She suggested having the sign removed as the dog park is in back and there needs to be signage welcoming dogs to the park. She suggested having a playground for adults such as outdoor bicycles and exercise equipment. She noted that it would also be important to have a canopy over the equipment.

Henry Jacobson, 4188 Carambola Circle South, wanted to see the park kept safe, nice and clean. He explained that currently there are three, three-walled racket ball courts and one, one-walled court. He suggested adding an additional one-walled court.

Jim Keenan, 4079 Carambola Circle, Tamarind Village, said he was delighted that the project is moving forward, but disagreed with using the developer impact fees and the Seminole Mitigation funds to pay for the renovations.

Eric Kantor, head Tennis Pro at the Eric Kantor Tennis Academy located at Windmill Park. He noted that there may be residents in the Northern area of the City who are unaware that there are tennis courts or a tennis program at the park. He would like to see some signage added promoting tennis at the park. He suggested adding some clay tennis courts as the clay medium is much easier on the knees and legs of players. He heard a rumor that a couple of the tennis courts may be eliminated with the redesign, which would not be a good idea as the tennis courts are heavily used at night.

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Dana Beharry, 4745 NW 5 Place, stated that she lives in Coco Palms across the street from Windmill park and uses the park regularly. She requested that the dog park hours be extended to the closing time of the rest of the park. She said the dog park closes at 6 p.m., which is when most people are just arriving home from work.

Eric Howard, 291 Lake Drive, suggested expanding the number of volleyball courts and to have the park hours extended on the weekends.

Jean Lecoq, suggested regulating the use of the dog park to residents only. She suggested issuing permits for use of the dog park.

Sharif Johnson, 5521 NW 38 Terrace in Winston Park, stated that she would like to see additional tennis courts because the tennis club keeps growing. She hoped that the outdoor basketball courts would remain. She expressed concern with the safety of the park as there has been a lot of vandalism, and she would like to see brighter lighting of the parking lot.

Dan Hobbi, 4230 NW 9 Court, hoped that that there would be no parking added on the 45 Avenue side as it is already a very busy street with lots of kids and most people in South Creek can walk to the park.

Mary Moran, South Creek, hoped that there would be access to park from South Creek without having to drive her car around to the front entrance.

Lauren Corson, Township, stated that the volleyball courts are great, but wants to see more volleyball courts, more parking, and adjustable nets and poles. She commented that cars are frequently vandalized, and she would like to see a full-time park ranger patrolling the area. She wants the quality of the courts to remain and to know how long the project would take and when the project would begin so the leagues can plan accordingly.

Karen McCullum, 452 NW 54th Avenue, would like to see clay tennis courts installed and to see an increase of security at the park.

Paul Gajus, 560 NW 42 Avenue, requested wide concrete walkways and additional restrooms on the east side of the park.

Diana Cather, 1131 NW 40 Avenue, stated that she is a retired Parks and Recreation Supervisor from Pompano Beach. She suggested having a public swimming pool and listed the numerous recreation benefits that the city of Pompano Beach has gained from having a swimming pool.

Jessica Barclay, 270 lake drive, would like to see more volleyball courts for open play. She would like to see adjustable nets with the same quality sand currently used.

Heidi Riffard, Briar Cliff Lane, stated that her house backs up to the park, and she continuously has to deal with loud noise and bright lights. She wants the City to consider a buffer or moving the recreation away from the property lines along the park.

Cynthia Leoni, 3010 NW 68 Street, said she is grateful for the dog park, but would like to see at least one hose or bathing station to wash off the dogs paws when leaving. She would also like to see a water station on the large dog side of the park. She asked to consider keeping the dog

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park open during the renovations. She suggested mulching along the main areas where the large dogs play instead of constantly replacing the sod.

Annette Bender, Regency Lakes, said she wants to see more sand volleyball courts added to the park.

Cindy DiCintio, who lives near the Earl Johns' house, would like to see an area showcasing the history of South Creek. She suggested having a walking path, a South Creek entranceway feature, and a fountain in the lake for aeration. She noted that the grass is maintained nicely on the Lyons Road side of the park, but the trees on the resident side of the park are not as nicely kept and need to be mulched.

Mayor Tooley reiterated that there would be another meeting with Parks and Recreation Board and the City Commission. She invited the Parks and Recreation Board members to comment.

Sajan Kurian, Parks and Recreation Board Member, thanked the residents for coming out and was happy to be there and listen to the residents requests. He said the boards would discuss the residents' comments and decide what was best going forward.

Dave Anderson, Parks and Recreation Board Member, thanked everyone for coming out and suggested for the residents to utilize the *Speak Up Coconut Creek* (an online portal for community engagement) to post their comments.

Joshua Rydell, Parks and Recreation Board Member, shared with the residents that some of the members of Parks and Recreation Board are founding members of City sports teams and leagues. He said it was important for the residents to know that the Board members care about and regularly use the parks. He encouraged the residents to come out to the Parks and Recreation Board meetings and be involved in the process.

Ruth Gure, Parks and Recreation Board Vice Chair and 30 year resident, stated that she has high regard for all who work for the City and the residents. She asked the residents to please keep the costs in mind as they make requests.

Randy Johnson, Parks and Recreation Board Chair and South Creek resident, stated that he appreciates all of the comments brought forth and thanked everyone for their input on the project.

Commissioner Sandra Welch noted that she had formerly served on the Parks and Recreation Board, and thanked the residents for coming out and sharing their ideas. She was thrilled to see the large turnout of residents. She ensured the residents that all of the requests presented would be taken into consideration.

Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere thanked everyone for coming out and appreciates all of the requests presented. She said the Boards will be getting together to discuss the requests and hopefully will be able to accommodate as many request as possible. She emphasized, "as possible.

Commissioner Lou Sarbone stated that he had also served on the Parks and Recreation Board and echoed Mr. Rydell's comments regarding the Board members. He pointed out that the Commission and the Board members have lived in the City for a long time. He noted that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Anderson are both league founders and that the Commission does not take

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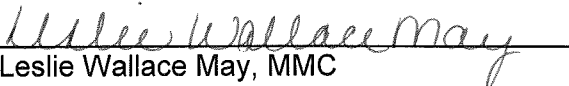
appointments to the Board lightly. He referenced the great job the Board had done in the past with Sabal Pines Park. He thanked the residents for their input as it is very important.

Mayor Becky Tooley said she appreciates the input from the residents, and noted that she regularly uses Windmill Park. She advised that some of the requests made probably could not happen, but the Board and the Commission would do their best to incorporate everything possible. She stated that the City has the best parks around. She complimented Parks and Recreation Director Linda Wiederspan for the great job she has done. She thanked everyone for their comments. She explained that once the City has a conceptual design plan, there would be another public meeting held. She encouraged the residents to provide their email addresses so they can be notified of upcoming meetings. She also encouraged that the residents sign up on the City's website for *Cocogram* to be notified of upcoming events in the City. She invited everyone to come out to the Butterfly Festival. She said the City is listening, but reminded the residents that there are budget constraints.

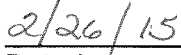
Mary Blasi thanked everyone for coming out and also encouraged the residents to provide their email addresses. She said the City would send out a notice in the next few months once the conceptual plan is ready. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Department staff for organizing the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



Leslie Wallace May, MMC
City Clerk



Dated