

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

February 19, 2008

Present: Fran Dyer, Bruce Henry, Montez James, Larry Kraker, Luise Smith, and Marilyn Stephens, Kimla Shelton

Absent: Rebecca Murphy, Rory Lundberg, and Donna Stoddard

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Luise Smith to approve the 5/23/07 minutes and seconded by Fran Dyer. The minutes were approved.

New Business

Mayor's Challenge Golf Tournament

Liz mentioned the golf tournament that is being held as a fund raiser for youth athletics and asked for the board's support. With all the budget issues we took some heat last year for not breaking even on youth athletic programs. The county has also discontinued a contribution of \$17,000 towards our Summer Fun Program due to budget cuts. The mayor is concerned about our youth and offering quality programs at a fair price. Last year we came up about \$10,000 short on youth athletics and now we will be \$17,000 short for the Summer Fun Program. We are shooting to make \$25,000 on the golf tournament and we are well on our way. Wonderful volunteers who like to run these tournaments have been assisting us. They are experienced in these types of events and have been invaluable. The fees for use of the gold course have already been covered with what's been taken in to date and we are approx \$6,000-\$8, 000 dollars ahead at this point. It's a really good start. This is the first year and we are not in the hole is a miracle. We are three quarters full already. The tournament is March 29th. 144 golfers is the maximum. Now that amendment 1 has passed we are going to be looking at some changes.

Sports Complex Concession & Misc.

We also just bid out the concessions at the Sports Complex and the only bid received came back at \$100 a month which is not feasible, and so we are going to run it ourselves and see how that goes. Fran asked if volunteers were needed and offered her assistance. Other members said they would be willing to as well. This will give us an idea of what we are dealing with and what would be more feasible to expect from someone who bids on this. The response to Liz regarding budget cuts was to close the Sports Complex but she stated that maybe the way to go is to make it so busy out there, that it is too busy and see what it brings in. We worked out with the Club soccer to take over our soccer program. We are incorporating flag football and baseball and plan to keep them going all the time and keep it busy out there. We just had our first season of flag football and had 132 kids, which was very good for a first time. Larry asked about adults playing? Liz

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said we are geared towards kids right now. So instead of closing down we need to make it very busy. Why would we spend 7 million or so dollars and then just close it down. The club soccer group came to us and asked to take over the soccer program. They will have a fall league and this will be open to anyone just as ours has been. They will run the recreational soccer league. They will be paid for their services. We will take registration and they will handle coaches, uniforms, referee's, etc. and they will line the fields. The City will then pay them a stipend for this service. And if we have to take it back we already know how and even if we get one year out of it we are ahead of the game. We have nothing to lose by trying it. What really got us going on this was the fact that Port Orange charges \$90.00 for one sport for a child outside their city limits. Our Commission looked at that with \$ signs in their eyes, but we have a lot of kids who use us, and who could not afford those kinds of fees. We want to be accessible to them and allow them to play. Liz said there will be more of this coming with all the budget cuts, again that is why we are looking at the golf tournament to raise funds to offset that.

Art Fiesta

Art Fiesta is this weekend. If anyone is interested in judging for the Art Purchase Award you are welcome to do so. It will be at the Women's Club about 6:30PM on Saturday.

Rental Fees

Liz asked everyone to check his or her calendars because she doesn't foresee this issue being resolved tonight. It will probably take several meetings to cover. There is a lot of material to cover and review. Liz mentioned that we are looking at charging for the use of the boat ramps. Discussion ensued. Parking issues were discussed on the ROW. How could you possibly charge for parking and how would it be regulated? Not with all the "no parking" signs...police issue enforcing that. Liz suggested the car wash concept to pay with a system similar to the car wash in Port Orange. But that system is weight based and wouldn't work with a boat being towed behind it as it would close on the boat. That wouldn't work. Larry suggested having it manned only during peak times? Liz brought up the suggestion of Marine Discovery Center to make their presence known and to get a cut; perhaps a 50/50 split. It was asked what fee for Babe James would include? Big room, Kitchen and Oretha Bell room... but not the gym. There was discussion about possibility of renting out the gym? It was suggested having different prices for using with or without the kitchen? Liz said that hasn't been a problem. Does Moratano pay for use of building? Is he for profit or private? He's doing it in the off hours to get the lower price. Fran stated that he's getting a good deal. Marilyn pointed out that there is a "for profit" price that it would seem he should pay. Fran pointed out that he is charging admission of \$30-\$35 per person for admission. It's like he has his own private concert hall...he's booked once or twice a month. Liz stated that we'll check and see what he's paying and if he through us or through the COA books it? Also check what he's paying. The only thing changed last time was the charging for the park. The rest is already in effect. Marilyn, What are we looking at? Raising? Changing? We want to go to the

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Commission with it finalized and not have to go before them again. Fran asked if there a clean up fee in addition to rental fee? Liz said we don't call it a clean up fee because this encourages the renters to just leave it as is...in a mess. We call it a damage deposit. Kimla stated we checked with other cities within the county to see what they were charging. Discussion about people calling to hold a building and not following through, but not paying a deposit and that ties up the date that someone else could have actually booked. So one thing at Babe James we are looking at is a deposit. Also in Babe James can we adjust the rental times based on it being available if nothing else is in there and not just rent it at set days and times? Liz says maybe that needs to be relaxed. At first that was at the communities request to limit it, but now we are getting requests from the community to use those times. There was discussion about possible time blocks. Montez asked about use of picnic tables. The fee proposed is \$30 to deliver and \$30 to pick up if they are requested. Montez said we could make some money on this, as lots of people would use them for events such as family reunions. Liz asked do we include them in the pavilion rental or charge separately? Montez asked when the pavilion at Pettis would be complete. Liz said they have to get started first. Montez discussed the fact that more meaningful activities there. An event that Ruby Clark did that was an all day event that was very nice and very well run. Liz said the Humane Society has event in April; they have bleachers delivered every year and they have been prepared for a fee to be charged at some point for this service. Marilyn asked if we give non-profit a break? The discussion was that this was our cost and it needs to be collected to recoup our costs. No break for non-profits. The Cruise Night Event on Canal St. was brought up and Liz stated they are self-sufficient and don't require any assistance from us. They don't use barricades from us. They handle that on their own. There is always someone present at Babe James when there is an event there per Kimla. Liz mentioned we lost our gym supervisor at the City Gym due to budget cuts. Liz said that we would probably only rent the gym to parties the city is familiar with. Larry suggested that the rental cost include the cost of someone staffing the building. Concerns were for damage to building if not supervised. Liz said that due to the heavy use of buildings such as Coronado, Women's Club and Babe James it is not possible to have a staff member present at all times. Some events that require it do have staffing. Montez asked that the fee schedule be more readily available in order to encourage more rentals. Kimla mentioned that most other cities post this info on the website which reaches a lot of people. She says that we will put the finalized fee schedule and info on ours when it is complete. Liz stated that with the fee waivers being discontinued that some parties have elected not to return and some have paid the fees. She also said the Commission is coming around to the fact that doing away with fee waivers is the way to go.

Liz suggested they start with discussion of possible revenue sources. Per Luise the pavilion in Port Orange on the river(owned by Chamber and Sport Fishing Club, but on City property) Rental Fees pay for building. maintenance You have a four hour rental and an 8 hr block? During the week you can do a four hr block, but weekends only 8 hr blocks. They pick their 8 hrs. The latest time is 11:00PM. Only exception is NYE and then allowed til 12:00AM. Liz - At BJ we are asking for flex at BJ. We don't want to specify hours, but go on availability instead. Kimla said that right now the fee is based

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on the time frame. There was discussion of possible. Fees. Do we want to put a max time? Kimla brought up that the building isn't utilized much on Sunday AM due to churches being one of the main users. Liz suggests pulling out beginning time of 4PM and putting 8AM instead but leaving the ending time of 11:00PM. Most of the time it is booked up until 4PM but some off-season times would be available. So basically we would just have to tell the people it's not available if it is being used.

Saturday, Sunday and weekend 8AM-11PM Hours Available for rental at Babe James So the person handling the booking would know what was routinely booked and if it's available for rental.

Gym Rental – Babe James and City Gym Do we think it's a good idea? Marilyn asked if we going to make both the same? It would be bathrooms and gym. If at Babe James and they wanted the whole building and the gym there could be an additional fee or be rented separately.

Proposed break down of different fees:

Babe James

Gym and restrooms only

Without Gym

With Bldg and Gym

City Gym

Gym and restrooms

Fran asked for what Liz would suggest for a starting point? There was discussion about staffing being needed or not? What that charge would be? Marilyn says we are very testy about the gym and the floor and protecting it. Lights can only be turned on and off by a staff person with a key at Babe James. There was discussion of maybe a person opening and locking up and not stay the entire time? Larry suggests doubling the fee if the gym is to be utilized? Discussion as to if that is a fair price? People have in the past wanted to use the gym, but we have not until now considered renting it out. Larry suggested finding out what the staffing cost would be and then go from there to figure it. Discussion as to whether a staff person needs to be there. Liz discusses why we have protected the gym for so long and why she is hesitant to rent it. A cooler left on the floor that is leaking can cause major damage to the floor for instance. We need to do some homework and see what other agencies do as far as gym rentals and what rules and regulations they have to address this issue. There was discussion as to putting a tarp or something of that nature to protect the food areas or explore other options.

In researching nearby areas it was discovered that alcohol and kitchen fees are charged? Perhaps we need to consider this. A waiver for alcohol usage and perhaps an insurance rider. Larry – the kitchen is currently free right? Liz says the Brannon Center. is the only

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kitchen that really poses a problem. There was discussion about the deposit amount for the Brannon Center. It should be \$500 per day on the weekend. Saturday or Sunday

(take number three off??)

Pavilion Rentals.

Pettis Park pavilion will have a full size indoor kitchen. This will be utilized heavily. Rocco Park, Riverside Park, Pettis Park and Buena Vista and Indian River Lagoon Preserve would be other ones. Currently they are on a first come first serve basis. You have to get there first. There was discussion about charging fee to reserve it, but if it is unreserved then it is first come first serve. \$25 for two hours was suggested. (two hr. minimum) \$10.00 for each additional hour. Stage rental was discussed and no one was in favor of it. It is cumbersome to move and very heavy. It costs the City approx. \$60.00 to deliver and pickup each way. As of now we have stopped delivering the stage and asked that the parties who want to use it pick it up. Is a deposit necessary? Liz says they are virtually indestructible. Montez asked about picnic table rental. Liz says that we aren't interested in doing that on an ongoing basis as the tables are easily damaged. She is talking about when we deliver for larger special events such as one's on Flagler Avenue. We don't really want to be in the hauling business. When you rent things out they are subjected to more wear and tear and possible damage.

Bleachers \$100 for a set of two three row bleachers (sit 30 persons on each) This would include delivery and pick up. It cost us \$45 each way so we are making \$10.00? Actually Kimla says that we are making \$100 cause right now we do this and charge nothing.

Stage Rental will only be for usage. They will have to pick up and return themselves. No delivery on this item. Price not set.

Picnic tables - \$100 for picnic tables (4tables) includes delivery and pick up.

Barricades – cross out barricades; not interested in doing this.

Trashcans –

\$10 – 1-5 cans

\$20 – 6-10 cans

\$30 – 11-15 cans

Includes can and one bag. Addtl. Bags maybe at \$1.00 each? Liz checking on how they are packaged.

Next meeting March 5th at 6PM

Motion to adjourn Larry Kraker and seconded by Fran. Meeting adjourned.