

**MINUTES
CITY OF ORMOND BEACH
QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

May 22, 2013

6:00 PM

**City of Ormond Beach
Training Room
22 South Beach Street
Ormond Beach, Florida**

1) Call to Order

Dr. Shapiro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were: Debbie Berner, Dr. Daniel Drake, Brian Nave, Kathy Page, Troy Railsback, Dr. Philip Shapiro, Betty Smith and Dr. Gerald Woodard. Excused were Julianne Blanford and William Masters.

Others present were: Leisure Services Director Robert Carolin, Finance Director Kelly McGuire and Recording Secretary Shá Moss.

Dr. Shapiro stated it has never come up before, but the Sunshine Law states that a member could not attend a meeting electronically or by telecommunication, unless the member was physically disabled or because of medical treatment. Each member needs to be physically present at the meeting.

2) Capital Improvement Program

Dr. Shapiro thanked Ms. McGuire once again for the great job she did in preparing the CIP. He stated anything in the packet could be discussed by the Board, but the Board's main focus were the Beautification, Facilities Renewal and Replacement and Parks/Recreation/Cultural sections.

Dr. Shapiro stated the total revenue was slightly down this year and only 11.5% were from property taxes. The majority of the expenditures are in water/wastewater from the water bill. Compared to what other cities spend in parks, recreation and cultural, Ormond Beach was above average.

Dr. Shapiro noted he didn't find anything objectionable in the Beautification section; The Facilities Renewal and Replacement section was good with the

exception of The Casement's HVAC replacement and asked why it was not awarded to an Ormond Beach company.

Mr. Carolin stated is had not gone out to bid yet. Ms. McGuire stated the City would like the local vendors to be awarded the bids, but they need to make an effort to bid on the projects.

Dr. Shapiro stated in the Recreation and Cultural Improvements section, the Nova Community Park Master Plan Phase I, the Board inquired about the engineering report because of the land being a former landfill.

Dr. Shapiro made comments about the Unfunded Projects and asked that they be considered when making a motion:

- Three Chimneys - the need was for better public access, did not project that it would cost \$110,000 and asked that it be kept in the budget.
- MacDonald House Improvements – hoped the City did not spend \$426,000 in improvements and just do point of contact repairs.
- Lisa Lake Dredging – land values would diminish if the riparian rights were just a view instead of being able to use them.

Ms. Berner also agreed the CIP was well prepared and the emphases put on maintaining existing facilities. She asked about the cost of the playground equipment at Fire Station 91.

Mr. Carolin stated it was because of the size of the park and each park cost will vary because of its size or special equipment.

Dr. Shapiro asked about coastal coating.

Mr. Carolin stated the City was experimenting with coastal coating. He noted it was a little more expensive and was suppose to have a higher longevity and they have been monitoring the equipment. It was used currently at the Andy Romano Beachfront Park and Fortunato Park. He noted with coastal coating, they coated the inside of the piping as well as the outside.

Ms. Berner commented on the Central Park Acquisition for FY 2017-18 and noted it was bank owned and asked if the City has given them a letter of intent so that it could be taken off the market.

Ms. McGuire stated it was in the budget for FY 2013-14 and the intent was have it on the June 3rd City Commission agenda for approval.

Dr. Woodard asked how old the equipment was at Fire Station 91; wherein Mr. Carolin stated it was almost 10 years old.

Dr. Woodard stated there was probably not a material that could withstand the coastal elements, and it would be in the City's best interest to purchase inexpensive equipment knowing that it would need to be replaced.

Dr. Woodard asked why the City would spend funds on the airport projects when the airport tower going to possibly close.

Mr. Carolin stated currently there was a stay, but it doesn't look like the airport tower was going to close.

Ms. McGuire stated the airport fund would pay less than 1% of the project cost and the rest of the project would be paid by FAA and FDOT grants.

Dr. Woodard asked about the high cost of the Ormond Beach welcome sign.

Dr. Drake asked about the welcome sign at Granada and Williamson.

Mr. Carolin stated the City Commission approved \$185,000 but the bids came in too high, so it was going back before the City Commission.

Dr. Drake mentioned the medians on Granada Boulevard west of I-95 and noted he approved of them, and asked how far Ormond Beach extended, how many miles of medians were being considered.

Mr. Carolin stated it was about 3 or 4 miles.

Mr. Railsback asked about the type of landscaping.

Mr. Carolin stated it would probably be the same type of landscaping as it is on US1. The City would use draught tolerant material that they were more familiar with. If irrigation was used, the planting type would change as well. He noted US1 required less maintenance than the medians on Granada Boulevard.

Mr. Railsback asked whether the demand for night play at Nova Park Tennis Court increased and was the walkway going to be twelve or ten feet.

Mr. Carolin stated it depended on the time of the year, but it was a highly used park and the walkway would be ten feet. He noted funding for the projects could also come from Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) grants, which would be less cost for the City. He stated over the years there was less money available in FRDAP grants.

Mr. Railsback asked about the Environmental Learning Center programs.

Mr. Carolin stated the vision was to RFP portions of the programming with canoe, kayak rentals and eco-tours. The hope is not to have City staff run the programs. The City has been in contact with local vendors already.

Mr. Railsback asked were there any water billing issues.

Ms. McGuire stated the water meters are checked quarterly if there is a "0" read, there is also a meter replacement program because there are a lot of meters that about 20 years old. The visual read meter and the meters in dangerous areas would be initial group to be replaced by radio meters. The program would take about eight years; the City has over 25,000 meters.

Mr. Railsback asked whether the Hunters Ridge low pressure upgrade project would be eligible for impact fees; wherein Ms. McGuire agreed it would be eligible, but needed to look into it.

Mr. Nave asked where the Dog Park would be located, and wasn't there already a dog park on Strickland Road.

Mr. Carolin stated the dog park would be near second entrance off Nova Road going straight pass the ballfields, near the landfill. He stated the City currently partners with Holly Hill on the dog park on Strickland Road.

Mr. Nave asked whether field #7 needed the upgrades for girls softball. He asked whether temporary fencing could be used for the season to save money. Could they use one of the current fields?

Mr. Carolin stated what was needed was a certified high regulation girls softball field. He noted the ballfield size was different from the regular softball field, the current fields were used frequently and to put a temporary fence up every time the girls played would not be practical. Field #7 would be a new field. Mr. Carolin stated in the 2004 Master Plan for the Sports Complex, there was suppose to be a standalone championship girls softball field, and this was pursuant to complete that initial Plan.

Mr. Carolin stated the new field would be high used by other organizations and noted Bethune-Cookman University just finished their MEAC tournament and used all four fields. The new field would be marketable and used by Seabreeze High School as well.

Mr. Nave stated it would make more financial sense for them to use current fields with temporary fencing.

Mr. Carolin stated field #7 is one of the oldest fields and would have to be upgrades at some point in the future. It has poor lighting and was used as an overflow field.

Mr. Railsback stated it would make sense to have a championship field for girls softball field in the future if there was a need.

Ms. Smith stated the attitude of the users have changed over the years at the Nova Community Park. She noted some of the teenagers were not as nice and friendly to the younger children.

Mr. Carolin stated it was up to the users to demand the change in attitude of the teenagers, to make it uncomfortable for them to be there with their attitude. If we demand better, they would act better or go elsewhere. There are people that do police the area.

Mr. Nave moved that the City only spend a portion of the funds allocated for Field #7 on one off the men's quad fields to temporarily regulate it for girls softball. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Railsback moved, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Quality of Life Advisory Board endorses the recommendations of the proposed projects for funding in FY 2013-14 within the following categories: Beautification (pages 35-42), Facilities Renewal and Replacement (pages 97-112), and Parks/Recreation/Cultural (pages 143-192) as presented in the packet. The motioned passed unanimously.

Mr. Railsback moved, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the Three Chimney project remain in the CIP as an additional request project. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Railsback moved, seconded by Dr. Woodard that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the Lisa Lake Dredging project remain in the CIP as an additional requested project. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Railsback stated he thought it was important to preserve the ability to access the Tomoka River.

Dr. Shapiro stated when you buy water front property you wanted it to be maintained, and it was the City's responsibility to maintain it.

Ms. McGuire stated the City would maintain the property, but it would be done through special assessments for the home owners.

Mr. Nave moved, seconded by Ms. Page that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the Granada Medians West of I-95 project use drought tolerant, low maintenance landscaping. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Railsback asked why the pavilion for the Andy Romano Beachfront Park was in the unfunded section.

Mr. Carolin stated the pavilion was in the initial plan, the park is heavily used, but because of cost the pavilion was put on hold.

Mr. Railsback moved, seconded by Dr. Woodard that the Quality of Life Advisory Board recommends that the Andy Romano Beachfront Park Pavilion project remain in the CIP as an additional requested project. The motion passed unanimously.

3) Member Comments

Dr. Woodard thanked staff for the delivery of his packet.

Dr. Shapiro asked about the status of the Gymnastic Center proposal.

Mr. Carolin stated it was on the June 3rd City Commission agenda for approval to request proposals.

Mr. Railsback asked whether there was any reason any of the unfunded projects would come out of the proposed budget.

Ms. McGuire stated the unfunded projects would stay in the proposed budget.

Memorial Day

Mr. Carolin reminded the Board of the Memorial Day Remembrance at the Casements on Monday, May 29, 2013, at 9:00 a.m.

4) Adjournment – Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shá Moss, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Dr. Philip J. Shapiro, Chairman