

**MINUTES
BAY OAKS RECREATIONAL CAMPUS
ADVISORY BOARD (BORCAB)**

Town Hall
2525 Estero Blvd.
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Thursday, May 23, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Chair Simpson.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Members present: Dan Allers, Becky Bodnar, Barbara Hill, Lee Melsek, Betty Simpson and Ray Sprole.

Excused: Janna Holmes

Staff present: Director Alison Giesen, Sarah Mayher and Chelsea O'Riley.

MOTION: BORCAB member Bodnar moved to excuse Lee Melsek for his absence at the April 25, 2019 meeting; second by Chair Simpson.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 25, 2019

Change Mr. Mayher to BORCAB member Mayher where necessary.

MOTION: BORCAB member Hill moved to approve the minutes as amended; second by BORCAB member Allers.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT - no public comment

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Department Update

Ms. Mayher reviewed the participant counts from April of 2017, 2018 and 2019. She noted that they no longer captured outdoor counts of participants in the evening due to safety concerns; however, coaches will report the number of players attending outdoor evening practices. BORCAB member Allers questioned opening the concession stand. Ms. Mayher replied that they would have to contact the Little League.

Discussion was held regarding memberships, fees, non-residents versus residents, pool and recreation center numbers. BORCAB member Mayher will provide membership data from previous years.

BORCAB member Allers discussed the lack of directional signage and closed gate at Bay Oaks. BORCAB member Mayher will follow up.

B. Director's Report

Director Giesen stated that budget workshops were underway. She noted that there was a slight increase in maintenance and repairs. BORCAB member Bodnar commented that seniors wanted transparency regarding fees. She suggested hiring a person for marketing and event planning. Director Giesen agreed and indicated she was working on it. Discussion was held concerning public relations, promoting events and digital marketing in condominiums. Director Giesen stated that Lorna Kibbey will review the Strategic Plan to help wrap it up in June. She described why maintenance and repairs would increase.

Public Works Manager Chelsea O'Riley noted that the LPA adopted a five-year capital plan that included \$320,000.00 for new lights at the ball fields. She indicated that Council would have to approve the request. BORCAB member Melsek suggested that they ask Lee County to pay for the lights. BORCAB member Allers questioned piggybacking off of the new lighting on Estero Blvd. BORCAB member Melsek stated that they had to determine who owned the property behind Bay Oaks.

Manager O'Riley played a video regarding outdoor fitness courts. BORCAB member Spole supported the idea. BORCAB member Hill suggested researching grant opportunities to help fund the course.

Cindy from the National Fitness Campaign introduced herself and explained the program. She stated that their mission was to get people healthy and make world-class fitness free. She explained different parts of the campaign, the course layout, the digital app, certification, available classes, marketing efforts, partnerships and grant requirements. She discussed matching grants, timelines and how they partnered with municipalities to raise funds. Cindy stated that they supported awarding the Town with a grant. After an evaluation call, she will contact Manager O'Riley for feedback.

BORCAB member Allers questioned the cost of the installation. Cindy replied that they could expect to pay approximately \$30,000.00 for a 38'x 38' footprint and it would take approximately 30 days to install.

Discussion was held regarding priorities for Bay Oaks. Manager O'Riley stated that the presentation was for informational purposes. Chair Simpson noted that they could bring it up with Council at the joint session. BORCAB member Bodnar did not feel that a fitness court was a priority.

MOTION: BORCAB member Melsek moved to recommend that they pursue the fitness concept; second by BORCAB member Hill.

VOTE: Motion passed; 5-1 with BORCAB member Bodnar dissenting.

BORCAB member Allers reported that the property behind Bay Oaks was owned by the Lee County School Board. BORCAB member Melsek questioned whether a survey was performed.

Ms. Mayher was not aware of a survey. Director Giesen will follow up regarding ownership of the property and the possibility of Lee County paying for new lights at the ball fields.

C. Kiddy Pool Update

They passed the building permit and the structure should be ready for installation in June.

D. Re-Sketch of Property – Board Update

Chair Simpson read a list from BORCAB member Holmes: outdoor movies in the park; children's concerts by local artists on nights when no sports were on; a walking tour for children and incentives for members including inexpensive historical boat tours or pirate ship rides. BORCAB member Allers stated that he was still working on his sketch. Discussion was held regarding utilizing the land behind Bay Oaks. BORCAB member Melsek discussed involving the community. Surveys were not supported based on previous results.

E. Town Council Joint Session on June 6, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

BORCAB member Melsek questioned beginning the process to replace the recreation building. BORCAB member Allers agreed that it should be on the radar but he supported focusing on short-term. BORCAB member Bodnar agreed with BORCAB member Melsek and commented that the building was old and she supported creating a community center similar to Sanibel. BORCAB member Melsek described problems with the design and construction of the building.

MOTION: BORCAB member Melsek moved to recommend that Fort Myers Beach begin the process of moving toward replacement of the Bay Oaks building; second by BORCAB member Sprole.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

BORCAB member Melsek questioned Town Manager Hernstadt regarding ownership of the property behind Bay Oaks and whether Lee County would pay for the replacement lights. Town Manager Hernstadt replied that Lee County owned the property and he doubted they would pay for new lights. BORCAB member Melsek questioned pursuing interlocal agreements. BORCAB member Allers questioned whether Lee County would allow them to redevelop the land or discuss purchasing the land. Town Manager Hernstadt replied negatively. He stated that he was not overly concerned regarding ownership issues since better facilities at Bay Oaks also benefitted the school. BORCAB member Melsek discussed holding additional joint sessions with Council throughout the year regarding the future of Bay Oaks. BORCAB member Bodnar suggested adding an event planner and marketing position and BORCAB member Allers suggested adding a performance pavilion.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Cereceda supported BORCAB 100% and suggested that they discuss the future of Bay Oaks at the joint session. She stated that joint committee meetings with Council were scheduled

regularly. She noted that she would request additional time for their joint meeting on June 6. Mayor Cereceda remarked that she had not received negative comments regarding a new community center but Council had not specifically discussed the idea.

BORCAB member Melsek questioned whether they would have a permanent Director. Mayor Cereceda thought Director Giesen filled that role but she was not sure if she was still considered Director. Discussion was held regarding staff turnover. BORCAB member Melsek questioned whether Bay Oaks should have its own Director. Mayor Cereceda replied that she leaned towards one Director being responsible for managing all community resources with sufficient personnel. Consensus was reached to request a marketing and event planning person for short-term needs at the joint session.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS

No items.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: BORCAB member Hill moved to adjourn the meeting; second by BORCAB member Melsek.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Adopted June 27, 2019 with/without changes. Motion by Barbra Hill
(DATE)

Vote: Lee M Signature: 

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