

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

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

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Simpson.

Members present: Beth Cherry, Barbara Hill, Janna Holmes, Lee Melsek, Betty Simpson, Holly Sweeten and Karen Woodson.

Staff: Director Culture, Parks & Recreation Alison Giesen, Recreation Campus Manager Sarah Mayher and Public Works Director Chelsea O'Riley.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. REORGANIZATION OF BOARD

MOTION: BORCAB Member Melsek moved to nominate Betty Simpson as Chair; second by BORCAB Member Hill.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: BORCAB Member Melsek moved to nominate Barbara Hill as Vice Chair; second by BORCAB Member Holmes.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

New members Beth Cherry and Holly Sweeten introduced themselves.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 1, 2020

MOTION: BORCAB Member Holmes moved to approve the minutes with amendments; second by BORCAB Member Woodson.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Redevelopment Update

Director O'Riley reported that the 30% design was still over budget and they had to pare it down. She stated that they hoped to complete the shared-use agreement with the school by the end of January 2021.

BORCAB Member Melsek questioned whether a second phase was planned. Director O'Riley replied negatively and indicated they had to stay within their budget of

\$5.5 million. She confirmed that the other buildings were scrapped in the 30% plan. BORCAB Member Melsek commented that he was confused regarding the money aspect since he heard the Town Manager mention a \$7 million budget.

BORCAB Member Melsek questioned why the October 9 presentation to Council did not go to BORCAB first so they could provide options to scale down the project. Town Manager Hernstadt replied that BORCAB's original design was \$15 million and adjustments had to be made. He encouraged BORCAB to submit ideas. Discussion was held regarding the budget, design and needs of the community. Town Manager Hernstadt commented that the gymnasium would remain until they had enough money to replace it. Discussion was held concerning utilizing the new building as a shelter in the event of a hurricane, future fundraising opportunities, the amphitheater, the design of the community center and the overall feel of the campus. Director Giesen reminded members what they got with the 30% plan and encouraged them to review their original list of what they wanted.

BORCAB Member Holmes felt it was essential to keep moving forward with the plans. BORCAB Member Melsek reminded members that their first vote was to tear down the gym and build a new one, although he was ecstatic about the community building.

Director Giesen stated that the smaller footprint of the community building would still accommodate their needs. Town Manager Hernstadt verified that the pool and restrooms would stay in the same place for now.

Town Manager Hernstadt suggested they review the floorplan and the layout. He noted that he would forward feedback to Council.

Discussion was held regarding the lack of communication with the community about changing the design of the campus. BORCAB Member Melsek confirmed that the large field had to be moved to accommodate the community building.

Town Manager Hernstadt described different floorplan options and noted that they constantly considered ideas to make the building better. He indicated that he would provide a summary of the project status meeting and Chair Simpson could schedule a special meeting if BORCAB had questions.

BORCAB Member Melsek discussed moving the community building to their original location by the library and Estero Blvd. He felt they had to spend more time planning. BORCAB Member Holmes supported the current location of the building. Director Giesen added that the buildings were consolidated due to related costs including stormwater, drainage, permits, the budget and building codes.

BORCAB Member Melsek suggested scheduling additional meetings. Manager Mayher will check the chamber schedule and forward possible dates.

B. Department Update

Manager Mayher described continued safety measures, maintaining an online presence, virtual athletics including a virtual 5k and youth programs. She reported that the pool was open. A new recreation advisor, Millie, was scheduled to start on November 23, 2020. Director Giesen indicated that some programs would not be offered due to COVID-19.

She noted that Denise Monahan would provide an update on the Friends of Bay Oaks at their December 1, 2020 meeting.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

VII. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

BORCAB Member Melsek suggested that Social Media and Communications Coordinator Jennifer Dexter include information regarding the Community building on the website to inform the community. Director Giesen replied that she would send an email to Coordinator Dexter. BORCAB Member Holmes agreed that they needed to communicate better and continue to move forward.

BORCAB Member Woodson discussed fundraising and keeping communications open.

BORCAB Member Hill welcomed new members. She noted that the Friends group was responsible for raising funds.

Chair Simpson noted she was excited to have a full board and welcomed new members. She looked forward to their input and thanked everyone for their efforts.

VIII. FUTURE MEETING DATE – December 1, 2020

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: BORCAB Member Hill moved to adjourn the meeting; second by BORCAB Member Holmes.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Adopted 11/18/20 with/without changes. Motion by Janee Holmes
(DATE)

Vote: _____ Signature: 

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