

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

Temporary Town Hall at  
DiamondHead Beach Resort  
2000 Estero Blvd.  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931  
Tuesday, May 2, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Bruce Butcher, John Dussliere, Jesse Field (via phone), Becky Guidry, Barbara Hill, Betty Simpson and Joy Sullivan.

Staff: Cultural, Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hauge

Council Liaison: Karen Woodson

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 4, 2023**

**MOTION:** BORCAB Member Hill moved to approve the minutes; second by BORCAB Member Butcher.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.**

**V. STAFF LIAISON REPORT**

Director Hauge noted that Bay Oaks was delayed due to the lack of blueprints and DRMP was hired to draw new building plans. The work should take a month to a month-and-a-half to complete.

The interlocal agreement with the school was in the attorney's hands. Liaison Woodson provided details concerning the pause in negotiations. She hoped an agreement would be signed by the end of the month.

Director Hauge stated that they were planning a summer camp at the Mound House and it would be more like an outdoor adventure camp, which was in the strategic plan. He recommended increasing the fee and added that enrollment was limited to 25. He discussed several options for field trips and how they would keep the kids cool during the summer. He noted that some funds were available for scholarships this year and that they distributed \$2,000-\$3,000 scholarships last year. Discussion was held regarding how much they needed for scholarships and Director Hauge revealed that the Community Foundation donated \$8,000.00 to Bay Oaks. Liaison Woodson stated that \$17,000.00 was still available from the old 501(c)(3) fund. She commented that about \$1,700.00 was still available from the Womens Club, but the check had to be reissued.

FEMA assessed the pool and an RFP will go out for repairs. He indicated the pool was acid washed and cleaned out. He noted a new pump room might cost \$100,000-\$200,000.00, but the pool was

in pretty good shape. Work was moving forward and opening the pool was a priority. Liaison Woodson was hopeful that FEMA would provide funding. BORCAB Member Dussliere brought up involving the fire department regarding storing hazardous materials. Director Hauge responded that they discussed securing the chemicals.

## **VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **A. Friends of Bay Oaks**

BORCAB Member Field stated the 501(c)(3) paperwork has been submitted and he indicated that he had to put four names on the paperwork, but they could be changed when it went through.

He noted that the Minnesota Twins had grants available. He indicated that many people wanted to donate, but they had to show progress in the meantime.

### **B. CRAB Merger**

Liaison Woodson stated that CRAB's responsibilities were divided between CELCAB and BORCAB and BORCAB took over beach accesses. She will contact the Town Clerk to put the topic on a future Town Council agenda for a vote to disband CRAB.

### **C. Ball Fields**

Director Hauge has a ZOOM call today regarding the Scott's Turf Building Grant of \$50,000.00 for the fields, which looked promising. He is meeting with the Fort Myers Branch Little League concerning equipment donations from the Minnesota Twins and Boston Red Sox. BORCAB Member Butcher felt a universal field would benefit the community more than two separate fields. Director Hauge did not think a multi-use field was in the plans; however, BORCAB could make a recommendation. BORCAB Member Butcher questioned how much the little league donated to the fields. BORCAB Member Field did not oppose a multi-use field, but he would like to see the plans and costs. He did not think it would take a lot to get the current field up and running and a multi-purpose field could be separate. He stated they had to have a little league field and it appeared that a player on the Boston Red Sox would donate some equipment. BORCAB Member Guidry agreed with BORCAB Member Field and commented that they should focus on getting more kids on the island.

BORCAB Member Dussliere said they were not fundraising for little league uniforms this year. He discussed building excitement concerning the Scott's grant and avoiding the bank account doubts. BORCAB Member Field stated that the little league field was in the perfect spot and donors would see that they were making progress when they saw kids playing ball. He noted there was plenty of room for another field and the amphitheater. BORCAB Member Butcher questioned the budget for the ball field. Director Hauge replied that a plan was being put together to determine the costs.

## **VII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

BORCAB Member Guidry commented that last year the Regal Bell Tower sold tickets to kid-friendly movies for \$2.00 during the summer.

BORCAB Member Butcher suggested that they determine CRAB's vision and incorporate it into BORCAB's strategic plan.

BORCAB Member Hill stated that all her records were destroyed during the hurricane and she would like a copy of the DRMP redevelopment plan for the community center. Liaison Woodson indicated that conversations were ongoing regarding the status of the revolving loan from the state. BORCAB Member Hill remarked that it was important for BORCAB to advocate for the community center to help bring people back.

BORCAB Member Dussliere described two federations with grants available, but the water had to be in the pool first. He felt that the US Masters was the best grant program for them to pursue. USA Swimming focused on offsetting costs for family swimming dues. He contacted swimming companies, and some made informal agreements to provide items at cost. He offered to assist with getting contracts in the right hands.

BORCAB Member Sullivan requested copies of the fields and community center pictures. Director Hauge noted he had copies and would forward them.

Chair Simpson was happy with everyone's enthusiasm.

Liaison Woodson invited everyone to the meeting on Thursday night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at DiamondHead hosted by Commissioner Ruane to discuss what to do with the \$1.1 billion in funds.

BORCAB Member Field felt they had a good handle on where they wanted to go and their priorities were in line. He would also like to see the previous plans for the campus.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT** – no public comment.

**IX. NEXT MEETINGS AGENDA AND DATE** – June 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at DiamondHead.

Add strategic plan discussion and the DRMP report.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** BORCAB Member Hill moved to adjourn; second by BORCAB Member Dussliere.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Adopted 6/6/23 with/without changes. Motion by \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: *Ritch Simpson*

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