

**TOWN OF DAVIE
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (OSAC)
MONDAY, JULY 23, 2012 – 7:30 P.M.
DAVIE TOWN HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
6591 ORANGE DRIVE, DAVIE, FLORIDA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathy Cox, Chair
Linda Greck, Vice Chair
Wayne Arnold
Donna Evans (arr. 7:40 p.m.)
Barry Mowell
Charlene Murray
Christina Pellicane (arr. 7:52 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Donald Burgess
Toni Webb

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT

Mitch Taylor, Administration
Lisa Edmondson, Prototype, Inc.

MOTIONS INDEX

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1. ROLL CALL

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. Following roll call, it was determined a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 June 25, 2012

Chair Cox noted the following corrections:

- p. 7, 6th paragraph, add the word "Road" after "Peaceful Ridge" in the last sentence
- p. 7, 8th paragraph, "Veneer Park" should be "Linear Park"
- p. 7, 8th paragraph, "United Ranch" should be "United Ranches"

Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Mowell, to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2012, meeting as corrected. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

3. LIAISON UPDATE (delayed until later in the meeting in order to hear item 4.6)

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.6 N-20 Canal Trail

Mr. Taylor announced that a community meeting would be scheduled in the next few weeks and noted that people who signed the sign in sheet will be contacted directly with the details. At that meeting, residents can express their views. He added that Item 4.6 would be stricken from the agenda for this meeting.

[Ms. Evans arrived at 7:40 p.m.]

Chair Cox suggested that members of the community obtain the brief staff report from Central Broward Water Control District, which speaks to the variance that Central Broward granted the Town for cleaning out the canal.

Since some members of the public also expressed interested in Agenda Item 4.5, it was agreed by consensus to move that item forward on the agenda.

4.5 Majestic Groves Trail

Vice Chair Greck explained that a gate will be constructed in the property of Long Lake Ranches West, so that there can be access into the park from within the two communities. Mr. Taylor stated that at that linkage, a fence has been constructed there, which is actually public property, and the Town had to take the fence down and replace it with a gate that will be opened and locked from dusk to dawn by a Park ranger. He continued that the work order has been submitted and should be completed within one week.

Chair Cox explained exactly where the gate will be, noting that it leads into Robbins Park. She elaborated that when Long Lake Ranches was built, the developer dedicated an easement to allow the residents from Long Lake Ranches access into the park along the western boundary of Long Lake Ranches. Chair Cox continued that a resident, whose property abutted the border, took his own fence down, fenced over the Town's property and made it his backyard. The property owner is being required by the Town to remove the fence that he put up, and he will have to re-fence his backyard back to its original state.

Vice Chair Greck stated that neither egress nor ingress into Majestic Groves has been established at this time.

Chair Cox opened the floor for public comment.

Dave Czyzewski, 3161 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Asked if the new trail would be behind the Majestic Groves houses to the east, and to the west of Long Lakes. Chair Cox responded that it would be an access point to the east of Majestic Groves, but added it does not extend all the way down to 26th Street.
- Was curious if there was any way to notify residents of the trail. Chair Cox noted that the access point is from 36th Street to Robbins Lodge.

[Ms. Pellicane arrived at 7:52 p.m.]

Beth Morris, 3361 Southwest 116th Avenue:

- Voiced concern about having security for the residents along the trails

- Expressed concern they would not be notified of future changes

Jim Wollschlager, 3441 Southwest 117th Avenue

- Wondered if the Town wanted to make 117th Avenue part of the trail system, and Chair Cox replied in the negative.
- Trail users would have to come through Majestic Groves, to gain access to 36th Avenue and to Robbins Lodge. He did not want unwanted visitors having access to his neighborhood.

John Rudolph, 2731 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Complained that they never hear about any issues (trails) that involve the neighborhood
- Heard about it from a surveyor a year ago
- Wanted a way for his neighborhood to be notified of such issues and meetings

Mr. Taylor explained the process of publicly noticing the agendas and meetings. He noted that the agenda for this Committee meeting had already been posted when the suggestion came forward to have the upcoming public meeting. That meeting will be publicly noticed and everyone on the sign-in sheet will be notified.

Mr. Rudolph:

- Expressed concern that in the future there might be access from Robbins Lodge into the back area of his neighborhood in Majestic Groves and wanted to know how that might occur. Chair Cox responded that at this time there are no plans to open it into Majestic Grove, and reiterated they are merely reclaiming the Town's property. She suggested that questions regarding the future of the trail be addressed at the upcoming public meeting.

Mr. Taylor said a gate has to be there to allow Town maintenance vehicles.

Frank D'Aquino, 3295 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Wondered why a gate is needed now when a fence was there before?
- The type of gate is important. Mr. Taylor believed the gate now there is not current to Town specifications and needs Town locks.
- Asked if the new "gate" would be built to specifications for a "gate" or a "fence"? Mr. Taylor will check with Public Works.

Kris Pascoe, 2741 Southwest 117th Avenue, Majestic Groves:

- Wondered if people would have egress and ingress (via the gate being discussed) into their subdivision. Chair Cox responded "not at this time."

Larry Khoury, 3221 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- He thought the Town of Davie wants to make as many horse trails as possible and connect them all. He did not think the Town was being truthful about their intent. He did not want trails or horses in his area.

Ron Lempicki, 3201 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Regarding the canal and entrance to Robbins Lodge Park, 99% of people in Majestic Groves do not want either.

Andre Siracusa, 2850 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Asked about what type of security would be provided. Mr. Taylor reiterated the gate would be opened in the morning by a ranger and locked at dusk by a ranger.

Jim Morris, 3361 Southwest 116th Avenue:

- Wondered how the ranger would get to the gate to lock and unlock it. Mr. Taylor will ask the park ranger supervisor, but assumed it would be through Robbins Lodge/Park.

Mr. Arnold suggested providing residents with detailed written material in advance regarding the content of the upcoming public meeting. Chair Cox recommended including the Central Broward Water Control District report regarding the improvement of the canal and drainage.

Andre Siracusa, 2850 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Was curious what this would cost the residents in taxes. Chair Cox thought the money would come from the Open Space Bond Issue passed several years prior.

Dan Barr, 3361 Southwest 116th Avenue:

- Claimed that the project was to benefit one of the Majestic Groves homeowners who is an equestrian.
- People would be able to come out of Robbins Lodge into Majestic Groves if there is a gate, and felt the security of the area would be compromised.

Chair Cox closed the public hearing.

Ms. Pellicane was curious about the crime rate in the neighborhood, and 13 people in the audience had their homes recently broken into. Mr. Taylor said he would take care of compiling some data on the crimes committed in the area and their timeframes.

Larry Khoury, 3221 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Claimed that not only breaking and entering was occurring, but also lack of privacy.

Ms. Evans mentioned she had been broken into also, but explained that this is an advisory board. Any decisions need to go before the Town Council, and she urged the residents to contact their own Councilmember and copy the rest of the Councilmembers.

Mr. Henseler, 2901 Southwest 117th Avenue:

- Was curious what the Committee would report to the Town Council. Chair Cox said that the minutes will report who spoke and that the Committee did not take any action.
- Will the Committee report there was 100% consensus to drop the project? Chair Cox reiterated that decision would not be made at this meeting, but at the public meeting with Councilmember Starkey.

Chair Cox reminded the audience that the public meeting would address both the N-20 Canal Trail and the Majestic Groves Trail.

Chair Cox then returned to the agenda.

3. LIAISON UPDATE

Ms. Evans left the meeting from 8:18 - 8:20 p.m.

Mr. Taylor provided the Liaison Update.

N-23 Bridge on 14th Street Trail. This item is going before the Town Council on August 1 for award of the construction contract. Chair Cox established that this would be the bridge at 130th Avenue.

Owl Park. Shelters, benches and other amenities will be installed at that park within the next two weeks.

Devine Parcels. Behar Construction was selected for the bid, and the bid award is scheduled for the August 1 Town Council agenda. Mr. Taylor will research the exact nature of the work to be done, including anything involving the potential dog park.

Robbins Lodge. A work order has been placed to remove and replace the fence discussed earlier. Public Works will not move forward with the destruction of the fence until they know what the Town Council decides on what to have there.

C-11 Bridge. The bridge has to be relocated further east. The design has to be revisited and then go back out to bid.

Old Davie School. The playground will be completed within the next two weeks. The drainfield will be decommissioned, and all that will remain to be done is sodding of the berm at the rear of the park. Mr. Taylor mentioned that some of the amenities in the portion that was attached to Old Davie School were funded using Broward County grant funding of "Parks for People."

Sunny Lake. The parking and drive areas should be paved within the week. The landscaping is complete in the parking area, and the park might be open for use after paving. In the expansion area, grading, sod and fence construction are being done.

Ms. Pellicane wondered when the gate at the Long Lakes parcel became a fence, and Vice Chair Greck thought it was at least two years ago. However, there was no permit.

Chair Cox then returned to Old Business.

4. OLD BUSINESS (continued from earlier)

4.1 Walmart Trail

There was a discussion about various options for the trail to cross University, including moving the guardrail, installing pedestrian cross buttons, and using secondary bridges. Mr. Taylor remarked that Councilmember Starkey met with Mr. Quigley and the Town Engineer, requesting information for a crossing similar to the one at Orange and Flamingo. It is not known what will be decided.

Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Evans, to table the item until the Committee hears about the crossing light. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Trail Map Publication

Mr. Taylor reported that the current quote is for publication of a map similar to the Parks and Trails Guide at 5,000 copies for \$1,785. They are in the process of obtaining a second quote.

Mr. Taylor brought samples of previous ideas including the fold-outs and Trip-Tik type.

Vice Chair Greck was curious how many were ordered the last time, thinking that 5,000 copies was not much. Chair Cox thought it was about 5,000 for each of the maps (bicycle and equestrian). She added they had sponsors to help with the cost. Vice Chair Greck pointed out there is generally a volume discount for printing.

Mr. Arnold wondered if the maps would be laminated, and Chair Cox said it is a strong paper, but would not be laminated. A discussion ensued about the map details.

Ms. Evans wondered how and when a trail change could be updated. Chair Cox replied she did not know of a mechanism for updating them. Ms. Evans suggested printing enough to last one year.

By consensus, the Committee agreed to go forward with the presented format.

Chair Cox reminded the Committee that Councilmember Starkey had requested feedback on their ideas as far as trail development/additions to the map. Chair Cox noted that she had added a few trails.

4.3 Westridge Park Management Plan

4.4 Robbins Lodge Management Plan

Mr. Taylor reported that Town Administrator Mr. Lemack requested that OSAC form a subcommittee to address those plans. Chair Cox hoped that Mr. Burgess could participate. It was noted that, per Sunshine, a subcommittee (of two or more) could meet for fact-finding purposes without being recorded. If, however, the subcommittee is to make recommendations to the Committee, then the meetings have to be recorded and noticed.

Ms. Evans advised asking Mr. Burgess to bring his recommended revisions to the Committee. Chair Cox asked Mr. Taylor to discuss that with Mr. Burgess.

4.5 Majestic Groves Trail

4.6 N-20 Canal Trail

Although already discussed, Mr. Taylor announced a public meeting will be set up for those two issues within two weeks. All who attended this meeting will be notified directly. He added that the Committee would also be noticed.

Chair Cox brought up another matter under Old Business: the status of the DRCs. Mr. Taylor reported that the DRCs have not yet gone before the Town Council and he has not been provided with a prospective date. Chair Cox asked for that matter to go on the next Committee agenda.

Returning to a discussion of the Management Plan process (Agenda items 4.3 and 4.4), Vice Chair Greck sought clarification on the process. Mr. Taylor responded that the Town Administrator said it is something the Committee can do, but would like to see it done in a subcommittee. The subcommittee would report to the Committee, and from there the matter would proceed to the Town Council.

Chair Cox explained some details about the contents of a Management Plan, noting it is very particular. Vice Chair Greck questioned the appropriateness of this Committee creating a Management Plan. It was pointed out that Mr. Burgess is most qualified to revise the Plans.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Pellicane remarked connectivity is needed not only within the Town of Davie, but also outside the borders. She mentioned several trails that are inaccessible from Davie since a rider would have to go under Interstate 595. She hoped to see connectors from Davie trails going out to places such as Plantation.

Vice Chair Greck believed that on Flamingo Road, the County is connecting the trail on the north side of the canal to the south side. Chair Cox described the particulars of the connection. She remarked that Mr. Burgess might be able to provide the County plan.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Emergency Markers Update

Ms. Evans reported it has proven expensive and possibly illegal to get the trails surveyed via GPS. If the Town does the surveying, puts the information onto a public map, and it was not done by a certified surveyor, it is illegal.

Ms. Evans continued that a loophole exists, whereby the surveying can be done for emergency purposes. Plotting could be done for the emergency markers only and then allow that information to transfer to the current maps to bring them up to date. Ms. Evans said that Mark Collins is obtaining a legal opinion on that course of action. No cost would be incurred doing the surveying. Once a legal opinion is received in favor of that, they will proceed with the plotting.

There was a short discussion on whether GPS emergency markers would be printed on the trail map. Chair Cox said the monument markers should be indicated on the map, and maybe they could be identified with a unique number.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Items suggested were:

- DRC update
- Management Plans

- C-11 Bridge (for the liaison update)
- Traffic Light at University/Walmart site

Mr. Mowell asked if they could request an official opinion about deepening the N-20 canal regarding offsetting the loss and volume of water. Chair Cox responded that at the Central Broward Water District meeting, that matter was discussed, resulting in a two-page report. The proposal is to remove some fill from the north side of the canal and put it on the south side of the canal. In addition, fill will be removed from the canal to deepen it. Chair Cox advised Mr. Mowell to read the report.

Mr. Massa from the audience commented that would not be an improvement because the water table is "what it is" and cannot be changed.

8. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Evans, to adjourn the meeting. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]

9/24/12

Approved



Chair/Committee Member