

VOLUSIA COUNTY ECHO ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
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January 22, 2019

MEMBERS:

Damien Richards, Chair
Gerard Pendergast, Vice Chair
Pam Clayton
Larry Donnelly
Patricia Northey
Cyndi Ritchey
Regina Santilli
Catherine Storch
Jack Surrette

STAFF:

Carmen Hall, Operations Manager
Jill Marcum, Administrative Coordinator
Jaime Seaman, County Attorney

19-09: Champion Softball Field

City of Ormond Beach
700 Hull Rd.
Ormond Beach, Florida 32174

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

WELCOME/ROLL CALL

Chair Richards welcomed everyone to the meeting and roll was called. Vice Chair Gerard Pendergast was absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Shawn Finley, Assistant City Engineer, described the sports center complex and its main uses to the advisory board. He then explained that the field in the project was built to men's recreation softball standards and the city would like to update it to meet NCAA Women's Softball field standards. The project will alter the field for women's softball and construct a dugout and press box.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Pat Northey asked if the complex was used for Ormond Beach residents only or all if of Volusia could use the fields. Stefan Sibley, City of Ormond Beach explained that all citizens of Volusia County could use the facility.

Chair Richards asked why home plate was being flipped, Mr. Sibley said that the orientation for the sun was wrong as it is now.

Larry Donnelly asked if the current parking lot would be used for the field. Mr. Finley stated that it would be and that a sidewalk would be added to connect the lot to the field.

Ms. Northey asked where the handicapped parking would be and if the sidewalk would meet ADA standards. Mr. Sibley showed her the location of the spaces and stated that the project would be ADA compliant. She asked about the difference between the current field and the planned field. Mr. Sibley explained that the dimensions would be shrunk to meet the NCAA standards for Women's Softball.

Catherine Storch asked if the colleges would be able to use the fields for play. Mr. Sibley told the committee that the colleges would be using the fields.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

19-12: Community Aquatic & Park Project Phase IV

Volusia/Flagler YMCA

500 Sterthaus Dr.

Ormond Beach, Florida 32174

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Roll was called. Member Cyndi Ritchey was absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Theresa Rand, incumbent CEO introduced Chris Seilkop who will take over as CEO on February 1st.

Ms. Northey asked for a description and location of the trail. Ms. Rand explained that the trail would be around the perimeter of the property.

Ms. Rand led the committee to the dog park area explaining that the lighting in the application would be for both the trail and the dog park. She went on to explain that the Ormond Y stayed open until 9 p.m. and the lighting would allow the trail and dog park to be used until the Y closed.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Northey asked if nonmembers would have access to the trail. Ms. Rand stated that it would be open to anyone wishing to use it, she said that the YMCA was partnering with a nearby senior center to utilize the facility. Ms. Rand showed the committee the location near the dog park where the trail would begin and described the lighting and fitness stations that would be located around the trail.

Ms. Northey asked what the YMCA would be using for the surface of the trail. Ms. Rand stated that the surfaces would be ADA compliant and that they were looking into using asphalt. Ms. Northey asked if the lighting around the trail would be green. Ms. Rand said that they would use LED lighting.

Jack Surrett noted that part of the trail would necessitate crossing the road and asked how that would be handled. Ms. Rand stated that there would be markings to identify the crossing and referred the committee to the drawings submitted.

Ms. Northey asked how much ECHO money the YMCA was requesting. Ms. Rand stated that they were asking for \$400,000.00.

Mr. Seilkop commented that the crossing must be 6 – 8 ft. wide, Ms. Rand agreed and said that the YMCA could apply for an exception if needed.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

19-11: REC Center Phase I

City of Port Orange
4655 City Center Circle
Port Orange, Florida 32129

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. Roll was called. Member Cyndi Ritchey was absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Amanda Lasecki, Grants Manager, welcomed the committee and introduced Peter Ferreira, Assistant Director Parks and Recreation, who gave an overview of the facility. He explained the different types of activities and participants currently involved with the Center.

Ms. Susan Lovall, Parks and Recreation Director, briefly reviewed the partnership the city has with the Art Haus and the future plans to have them as part of the REC Center.

Ms. Lovall stated that their goal was to service the population of Port Orange. Ms. Lovall expressed a particular interest in getting the middle school children involve due to the close proximity of the middle school building. Ms. Lovall stated that Port Orange was deficient in the area of Cultural and Recreation Centers and that they want to change that.

Ms. Lovall discussed the need of an elevator to make the building ADA compliant and allow class to be held on the second floor. She took the committee upstairs and described the changes that would be made there, including a parent lounge, an exercise room and restrooms.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Northey asked what green elements would be brought into the building. Ms. Lovall said they intended to be as green as financially able. She went on to say that green was great but costly and the City must be fiscally responsible. She explained that the City used solar for hot water and LED lights in all their facilities, but that for now that was all they did.

Ms. Northey affirmed that the vision was to turn the facility into a real community center. Ms. Lovall agreed.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

19-10: Davies Lighthouse Park

Town of Ponce Inlet
4931 S. Peninsula Dr.
Ponce Inlet, Florida 32127

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. Roll was called. Member Cyndi Ritchey was absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Amy Zengotita, Cultural Services Manager, explained that the park was often used for school groups and special events, saying that their goal was to replace the current playground with new ADA accessible playground equipment and shading. She explained that the sidewalk trail would be expanded and lighting would be added allowing the trails to be used later in the day.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Northey asked what kind of lighting would be used and what the width of the trail would be. Ms. Zengotita told her that they would be using LED lighting and the trail would be 8 feet wide.

Mr. Surrence asked what kind of cover would be used for the playground. Ms. Zengotita stated that they would be using a fabric engineered to withstand high winds.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

19-05: Marine Discovery Center Phase III

Marine Discovery Center
520 Barracuda Blvd.
New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Roll was called. Member Cyndi Ritchey was absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Chad Truxall, Executive Director, took the committee through the complex to show how the components of the phase III project fit with the previous phases. The proposed sidewalk will connect to the pavilion and will be landscaped. The existing roof will be replaced and fans will be installed to make outdoor classes more comfortable. The entryway will be updated and shade added to make the entrance more attractive and professional. Mr. Truxall showed the wildflower garden near the entrance recently planted and paid for with a wildflower grant and local donations.

Mr. Truxall explained that part of the new application will be to update and add new educational signage that will be uniform throughout the complex. The parking lot fencing will be updated and LED lights will be placed throughout the park.

Mr. Truxall reminded the committee about the trailhead the county was building onsite that would provide restrooms for both the trailhead and the Center.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Northey asked if the amphitheater would be rented out. Mr. Truxall explained that it could be rented when the Marine Discovery Center was not having educational programming. Ms. Northey congratulated MDC on their progress.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

19-06: The Old Fort Wall at Old Fort Park

City of New Smyrna Beach
115 Julia St.
New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order 11:37 a.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Nancy Maddox, Leisure Services Director, guided the committee to the damaged portion of the Old Fort Wall. Michelle Vallance, Capital Projects Manager, reviewed some of the history of the wall, explaining that it had been constructed during the depression and was thought to be a part of Turnbull.

Kyle Fegley, City Engineer, stated that they were currently assessing the damage and reviewing the most appropriate restoration methods.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

19-07: Women's Club of NSB

City of New Smyrna Beach
403 Magnolia St.
New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 11:56 a.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Ms. Maddox explained that the house had been constructed in 1923 and was on the National Historic Register. She went on to say that the building had always been used for community activities.

Ms. Vallance stated that the major part of the project would be to restore the outside of the building. She said that the roof needs to be replaced and that the floor joists were in bad shape. The inside restrooms and kitchen also need to be restored. Ms. Vallance stated that project design was at 30% completion.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Cyndi Ritchey asked what the danger was and Michelle explained that they had to set a limit to the number of people who could be in the building because due to the condition of the floors.

Ms. Northey asked by the City hadn't applied for an emergency grant. Ms. Maddox explained that the city had known about the issues for a while and didn't feel like applying for an emergency grant was the right thing to do.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

19-08: Sunrise Park Phase II

City of Oak Hill

275 River Rd.

Oak Hill, Florida 32759

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 1:49 p.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Oak Hill Mayor Douglas Gibson welcomed the committee. Ms. Beth Lemke, President, Planning Solutions Corp, reviewed the proposed project illustrating where the amenities would be when the project was completed. She explained that the site was well-used because of red fish in the area.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Larry Donnelley asked about the property on the opposite side of the road. Ms. Lemke stated that the city owned the land and hoped to develop it in the future.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

19-04: Rookery Nature Park/Snook Park

City of Deltona

1835 Snook Dr.

Deltona, Florida 32738

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 2:54 p.m. Roll was called. Members Pat Northey, Larry Donnelley and Gerard Pendergast were absent.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Mr. Scott McGrath, Planner, City of Deltona, described the proposed project details and told the committee that the property is a total of 17 acres and that the planned trail would end at an overlook on the lake. He assured the committee that no tree over 6 inches would be removed.

Mr. Jerry Mayes, Director, Economic Development, explained the reason for the park name. He said wading birds nested in large colonies to raise their young and that there was an island in the middle of the lake that held such a colony. The colonies are called “rookeries”.

Mr. Mayes stated that the park would be used by residents and tourists mainly for birding.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Ritchey asked if the overlook decking would disturb the bird habitat. Mr. Mayes said that the rookery would not be disturbed.

Ms. Storch asked for the hours of the park and if there was a restroom. Mr. McGrath stated that the park would be open from sunrise to sunset and there would not be a restroom.

Chair Richards stated that the trails were not 8 feet wide and Mr. Mayes said that because they weren’t going to be paved they didn’t need to be 8 feet.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

19-03: Ft. Smith Nature Park

City of Deltona
1782 Fort Smith Blvd.
Deltona, Florida 32725

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Mr. Scott McGrath, Planner, City of Deltona, described the proposed project details, explaining that there would be a nature trail built around the lake and that butterfly gardens would be constructed on either side to promote cross pollination.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Storch asked where the parking would be located. Mr. Mayes said that there would be a small lot on the other side of the lake.

Mr. Surette asked if that location was in a residential area and Mr. Mayes affirmed that it was.

Pam Clayton asked if lighting would be included and was told there would be no lighting, that the park would be opened from sunrise to sunset.

Ms. Northey asked if the nature trail would loop around the lake and what it would be made from. Mr. McGrath said that the trail would not loop around the entire lake and that they would use a permeable surface. She asked if an overlook would be included in this project and was told that there was not one planned at this time.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

19-02: Brewster Nature Park

City of Deltona
2085 Brewster Dr.
Deltona, Florida 32738

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

Mr. Mayes said that the City of Deltona was looking to embrace ecological tourism for both residents and tourists. He stated that Brewster Nature Park or Three Island Park would contain a non-permeable surfaced nature trail, an observation deck and would have both wayfinding and educational signage.

Mr. McGrath described the plans for the parking area and cross walks.

COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:

Ms. Northey asked if the neighborhood knew that the park was going to be constructed. Mr. McGrath stated that they had not held any public meetings and were waiting to see if the funding would be awarded.

Ms. Ritchey asked if there was a plan for regular maintenance. Mr. McGrath said that the city's maintenance department would maintain the park.

Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

ECHO Grant Eligibility Meeting

Deltona Regional Library
2150 Eustace Ave.
Deltona, Florida 32725

RECONVENE/ROLL CALL

Chair Damien Richards called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m. Roll was called. All members were present.

Chair Richards explained that the purpose of the meeting was to determine if the application met the technical requirements to be moved forward. Chair Richards went on to state that the committee would address the issues that staff brought up that are necessary to get on to the scoring meeting in February.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 23, 2018 MINUTES

Catherine Storch made a **MOTION** *"To approve the minutes of the October 23, 2018 meeting"*. Larry Donnelley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

19-02 City of Deltona, Brewster Nature Park

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall reported that 19-02, Brewster Park, had a planned sidewalk across from the park that would not be eligible for ECHO funding and would need to be taken out of the grant budget.

Ms. Hall went on to explain that the City of Deltona projects 19-02, 19-03 and 19-04 had clean hands issues but that the city was working with the county to resolve the Clean Hands issues.

Chair Richards asked that if the projects would be scored if the issue was not resolved by February.

Ms. Hall stated that the decision to score the projects would be made by the committee but that staff would be required to deem the project ineligible if the clean hands issues were not resolved.

Ms. Hall then informed the committee that the cash match in the resolution for the 3 projects was short \$29,851.00. She stated that the resolution needed to be updated to reflect the correct amount or the budgets needed to be adjusted for less money.

Mr. McGrath, City of Deltona, stated that he could adjust the budgets.

Ms. Northey suggested that the resolution be updated to include the dollar amount for each project separately. Ms. Hall agreed that she would advise the city to update it in that manner.

Chair Richards stated that updating the budget just made it seem like the City had over budgeted by \$30,000.00. Mr. Donnelley agreed and said he would rather see a new resolution.

19-03 City of Deltona, Ft. Smith Nature Park

Staff Comments:

No additional comments

19-04 City of Deltona, Rookery Nature Park

Staff Comments:

No additional comments

Ms. Jamie Seaman, County Attorney suggested a motion stating that the resolution needs to be updated prior to the February 5, 2019 Grant Panel Review meeting.

Pat Northey made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of Deltona on the condition that the resolution is updated prior to the February 5, 2019 Grant Review Panel"*. Cyndi Ritchey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Seaman directed Ms. Hall to send a letter to the Mayor and City Manager of Deltona to explain that the projects will be deemed ineligible if the resolution is not updated prior to the February 5th meeting.

19-05 Marine Discovery Center

Staff Comments:

No additional comments

Catherine Storch made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the Marine Discovery Center Phase III Project"*. Reggie Santilli seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-06 City of New Smyrna Beach, Old Fort Wall at Old Fort Park Restoration

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall noted that the maintenance plan referenced the wrong project and needed the city to ensure them that it was the correct plan.

Ms. Maddox, City of New Smyrna Beach affirmed that it was just an error.

Staff had no additional comments

Reggie Santilli made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of New Smyrna Beach Old Fort Wall at Old Fort Park Restoration Project"*. Pam Clayton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-07 City of New Smyrna Beach, New Smyrna Beach Women's Club

Staff Comments:

No additional comments

Catherine Storch made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of New Smyrna Beach Women's Club Project"*. Reggie Santilli seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-08 City of Oak Hill, Sunrise Park

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall noted that the Clean Hands issues had been resolved.

Larry Donnelley made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of Oak Hill Sunrise Park Project"*. Jack Surrette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-09 City of Ormond Beach, Champion Softball Field

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall noted that the City had 2 Clean Hands issues she stated that the Impact Fees had been paid, but that the Real Estate Tax issue had not been resolved.

Ms. Seaman informed the committee that the County Property Appraiser had deemed the property use as public and that the City of Ormond Beach owed the taxes. She stated that the decision was disputed by the city and that the issue was currently in litigation. She went on to remind the Committee that the same situation came up during the last cycle and the County Council had approved the project, she stated that enough precedent had been set to send the application through if the committee was so inclined.

Catherine Storch made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of Ormond Beach Champion Softball Field Project"*. Reggie Santilli seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-10 Town of Ponce Inlet, Davies Lighthouse Park

Staff Comments:

No additional comments

Reggie Santilli made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the Town of Ponce Inlet Davies Lighthouse Park Project"*. Cyndi Ritchey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

19-11 City of Port Orange REC Center

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall noted that the updated resolution had been submitted.

Ms. Northey asked if the State Green Laws that required new and retro-fit buildings be certified green was still in effect.

Ms. Seaman said that the State Green Laws were still in effect and that the City of Port Orange adopted Ordinance for green building standards.

Pat Northey made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the City of Port Orange REC Center Project"*. Larry Donnelley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Northey stated that she would like to address the "Green" standards prior to next year's grant cycle.

19-12 Volusia/Flagler YMCA – Ormond Beach, Aquatic and Park Project

Staff Comments:

Ms. Hall noted that the YMCA was aware that they must provide documentation that they have enough cash to cover previously awarded open grants in addition to the new grant project. She stated that they planned to provide documentation by the February 5th meeting.

Ms. Storch asked if there was any way the committee could get the document sooner. Mr. Seilkop stated that he would discuss the issue with their finance department and try to get the documents to the committee early.

Reggie Santilli made a **MOTION** *"To approve eligibility for the Volusia/Flagler YMCA Ormond Beach Aquatic and Park Project"*. Catherine Storch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

08-18 Ocean Center ECHO Gallery Change of Scope Request

Ms. Hall stated that the Volusia County Ocean Center had submitted an updated change of scope request and would present at the February 5, 2019 meeting.

2018/2019 ECHO Calendar Updates

Ms. Hall requested that the ECHO Meeting schedule be adjusted due to the County Council schedule changes. After some discussion it was determined that the meetings would continue to be on Tuesday at 3:00, but that the weeks would change around the Council schedule.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Maddox, City of New Smyrna Beach, told the committee that the opening for the Live Oak Cultural Center would be on February 14, 2019 and they would be getting invitations soon.

Mr. McGrath, City of Deltona, told the committee that they were putting on Lake Monroe Marathon in November.

Mr. Truxall, Marine Discovery Center, asked for the date and time of the Grant Panel Review.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Ms. Northey requested that staff provide a budget report at the next Advisory Committee Meeting if possible.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Richards adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.