



**Town of Southwest Ranches
Parks, Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board
Minutes**

January 14, 2025
7:00 pm

Board Members

Chris Brownlow, Dena Butler, Debbie Green, Ron Martinez, Laurie Morse, Marie Nix

Emeritus

MaryGay Chaples, Aster Knight

Council Liaison

Gary Jablonski

Staff Liaison

December Lauretano-Haines

Members present:

Debbie Green
Ron Martinez
Laurie Morse
Dena Butler

RFNRAB Members absent:

Chris Brownlow
Marie Nix

Staff present:

December Lauretano-Haines

Council present:

Gary Jablonski
Bob Hartmann
Steve Breitkreuz
Jim Allbritton
David Kuczenski

Others present:

Wyatt Krueger (and parents)

Call to order at 7:06 PM

The members present reviewed the minutes of the November 2024 meeting.

Debbie motioned to approve the November 2024 minutes. Dena seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Staff reviewed the purview of this board. We reviewed the proposed calendar for board meetings. Staff reminded us that these meetings are publicly noticed and work within the Sunshine Law of Florida. We moved elections of the board to the next meeting when most members will be present.

Wyatt Krueger of Troop 128 (Davie) presented his Eagle Scout project. He has proposed 2 bat boxes to be placed around the barn at Rolling Oaks Park. They will be placed on steel poles 20 ft off the ground and buried 4ft deep. They will serve as roosting houses for bats and protection from predators. Wyatt chose this model, because he believes will be more wind resistant. He plans to make from waterproof plywood. He will seal the corner with a sealer he found that is used for docks. It was suggested that Wyatt reach out to George Morris to possibly assist with burying the poles in the ground. Wyatt is working on fundraising.

Laurie Morse motioned that the board recommend the approval of Wyatt Krueger’s Eagle Scout Project as presented, to build bat houses at Rolling Oaks Barn and to forward on to the Town Council for consideration. Ron seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Staff updated the board on the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary Development project. Contractor has been selected for the restrooms, pavilion area, and parking projects. Town is working through some issues with

permitting in regard to the septic system. Drainage project is also happening concurrently. This will bring marsh areas to the park. The landscaping project is tied to the drainage project.

Habitat at the wetlands area at Rolling Oaks is thriving. Gilbert is out watering the trees throughout Town. At County Estates Park we are planning to put in a therapeutic communication board. Also plan to do an unveiling of a new therapeutic communication board at the lunch break at the horse show at the Equestrian Park.

Youth sports program held at Country Estates Park is beginning back up January 25th. The program director is happy with the field, and we have continued to maintain it. Mayor asked if we could get an overview of which sports are participated in and where the participants are from. Still investigating leak at the men's restroom at Country Estate Park. Park use has been steady. At Rolling Oaks Park, the tot sports program is starting back up on February 4th. The program started out small, and this time around going to try in the afternoon as opposed to the morning. Gate on the butterfly garden has been repaired. There are shelving units on each side of the storage container for use by ROCA and the SWR Ed Board. The lightning struck Oak Tree is planned to be carved into a burrowing owl. This should be completed by the Chili Cook-Off.

Events – Carnival will take place over Martin Luther King weekend. Farmers Market continues on Saturday and Sundays. Town has entered a monthly contract with Compost for Life to set up pilot compost program at the Farmers Market. Compost for Life will come every two weeks to pick up the toter. Will look at adding bold, creative, bright signage for the recycle and compost bins. The Love our Pony Horseshow is February 15th. Chili Fest on Feb 22nd at the barn. Water Matters Day is March 8th. Barn Dance is March 15th.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.