



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

Tuesday,  
February 11, 2025

Town Hall  
13400 Griffin Road  
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

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**Board Members**

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

**Council Liaison**

Gary Jablonski

**Staff Liaison**

December Lauretano-Haines

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**A. ROLL CALL**

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. AGENDA AS FOLLOWS**

**D. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Adopt Town of Southwest Ranches Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for January 2025.
- Election of Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

**E. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Follow up/Maintenance report attached for the Board's review and discussion.

**F. AGENDA PREP FOR NEXT MEETING**

**G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**H. Quote of the month:**

- **February is National Bird-Feeding Month**
- *"Wild birds are true survivalists, but even they can use a helping hand to get through the cold winter months when ... their natural sources of food are dwindling. Be a hero and #FeedTheBirds!"*  
-nationalbirdfeedingmonth.com

**I. STAFF COMMENTS**

**J. HOA/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**



**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 25<sup>th</sup>. 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 4<sup>th</sup>. 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Chili Fest on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> at the barn. Water Matters Day is March 8<sup>th</sup>. Barn Dance is March 15<sup>th</sup>.

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



**Town of Southwest Ranches  
Recreation, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisory Board  
Follow up/Maintenance Report**

Tuesday  
January 14, 2025

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**CALUSA CORNERS PARK**

- **Owl Burrow:** A new burrow was identified on site and the Town requested Project Perch to assist in properly delineating and protecting it. It has been many years since the owls have been seen to nest on this site.

**COUNTRY ESTATES PARK**

- **Therapeutic Recreation Elements / Communication Board:** A communication board with American Sign Language (ASL) symbols is being researched for installation at playground in this location.
- **Youth Sports Program:** i9 programs began January 25th.

**EQUESTRIAN PARK**

- **Therapeutic Recreation Elements / Communication Board:** A communication board designed for inclusivity for children with autism will be installed in the playground at this location.
- **Playground upgrade:** Updated pricing has been requested from the vendor for upgrades to decks, stairs and bridges. These items represent a planned and budgeted upgrade of 25% of the play components. Work is planned to be completed within the fiscal year.
- **Equestrian Oasis:** The fountain vendor has installed a “camera” to deter minor vandalism (rocks being dislodged and thrown into the fountain, breakage of the pump compartment, soil being scooped into the waterworks of the fountain).

**ROLLING OAKS PARK**

- **Youth Sports Program:** Skyhawks’ SuperTots programs will be on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Some community pushback has been received due to groups not being able to set up for their events as early as they wish because the programs uses the Community Room.
- **New storage container:** A thermometer has been installed inside the container. No guidance on shared use has been received, but items have been placed in the container.
- **Lightning Struck Oak:** The tree was topped in February. The plan for the trunk is to carve figures of burrowing owls into it. Staff doesn’t have a commitment yet from the chosen artist, but has May deadline for this project to be completed. Pieces of the branches are being salvaged for commemorative items to giveaway for residents.
- **Interior Painting Project:** Staff will soon procure services to update the interior paint, last completed in 2017.

**SOUTHWEST MEADOWS SANCTUARY PARK AND PRESERVE**

- **New Construction:** Staff is working through permitting issues, specifically with septic/sewer and water system.

## EVENTS

- **Southwest Ranches Farmers Market:** ongoing on Saturdays and Sundays at Southwest Meadows Preserve, 10:00 am - 3 pm.
- **Monthly Open Play Chess Event:** Our monthly event takes place on the third Saturday each month from 10 am - 2 pm Town Hall. This month's event will be February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Southwest Ranches Youth Fun Horse Show:** This favored annual event will take place on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at Sunshine Ranches Equestrian Park, 9:00 am - end.
- **SoFlo Chili Fest:** Another annual community favorite, this Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation fundraising event will take place on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Rolling Oaks Park, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. WE NEED COOKS!