



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

January 10, 2017
7:00 pm

Town Hall
13400 Griffin Road
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

Board Members

Rose Allbritton, Chris Brownlow, Mary Gay Chaples, Lana Eichel, Debra Goff-Rose, Debbie Green, Nancy Hartmann, John Herring, Aster Knight, Debbie Mantel, Marie Nix, Karen Parkerson

Council Liaison

Gary Jablonski

Staff Liaison

December Lauretano-Haines

RFNRAB Members present:

Rose Allbritton
Chris Brownlow
Aster Knight
Karen Parkerson
Lana Eichel
Nancy Hartmann
MaryGay Chaples
John Herring

Debbie Mantel

Debbie Green
Debra Goff-Rose

RFNRAB Members absent:

Marie Nix

Council present:

Gary Jablonski

Doug McKay

Staff present:

December Lauretano-Haines

Others present:

Newell Hollingsworth

Call to order at 7:05 PM. A Quorum was established.

Nancy Hartmann motioned to excuse the absence of the members listed above. Aster Knight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Aster Knight motioned to approve the minutes of the October RFNRAB meeting. Rose Allbritton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Election of 2017 Officers of the Board:

Aster Knight motioned to nominate MaryGay Chaples as Board Chair for the Calendar year 2017. Debra Goff-Rose seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Aster Knight motioned to nominate Debra Goff-Rose as Board Vice Chair for the Calendar year 2017. Rose Allbritton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Karen Parkerson motioned to nominate Chris Brownlow as Board Secretary for the Calendar year 2017. Rose Allbritton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of 2017 Proposed Meeting Schedule:

Karen Parkerson motioned to approve the proposed meeting Schedule for 2017. Debra Goff-Rose seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chair briefed the members present regarding the Advisory Board Handbook included in all members' packages for the meeting. Members are encouraged to review this information independently.

Debra Goff-Rose related a recent incident in which people were mudding with trucks in Rolling Oaks Park. The members present discussed ways to keep unauthorized motorized vehicles out of the park. Staff emphasized that costs for any kind of barriers have not been budgeted for in the recent Fiscal Year.

Debra Goff-Rose motioned for Staff to obtain estimate to enclose the fencing at Rolling Oaks Park along SW 56th Street. Aster Knight seconded and the motioned passed unanimously.

The Chair requested Board members to bring up any issues or concerns. Aster Knight stated that he thinks we need to improve the Rolling Oaks Butterfly Garden. Staff briefed the members present regarding the need for weekly maintenance of a landscape in order to achieve the appearance Mr. Knight desires and efforts taken in the past to attempt to enroll volunteer groups to adopt the site.

The members present discussed the possibility of trying to enroll High school or local gardening groups to do so. Staff would not oppose any viable project. Board members are welcome to try. Chris Brownlow requested that the Board's April meeting be held on site at Rolling Oaks and she and Lana Eichel would both like to invite groups who might potentially be involved to attend.

The Chair briefed members present regarding the goals the Board desires to meet with a proposed Bird Sanctuary Resolution.

The members discussed what language to include and made suggestions. Issues discussed included native birds or native and migratory birds; the Board then considered the idea brought by staff that perhaps the best focus would be to use language referring to all wildlife, rather than only birds. The idea of the resolution is that we support wildlife and want the message to be that Southwest Ranches residents stick up for wildlife.

Newell Hollingsworth stated the Town has passed something related to turtles, perhaps this could be helpful?

Staff briefed the members present regarding parks maintenance issues and upcoming events.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.