

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

Tuesday
March 12th, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Town Hall
13400 Griffin Road
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

RFNRAB Members Present:

Chris Brownlow
MaryGay Chaples
Lana Eichel
Debra Goff-Rose
Debbie Green
Karen Parkerson

RFNRAB Members Absent:

Aster Knight
Marie Nix

Council Present:

Gary Jablonski

Staff Present:

December Lauretano-Haines

Call to order at 7:07 P.M. A quorum was established.

Karen Parkerson made a motion to excuse the absence of the members listed above. Debra Goff-Rose seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Debra Goff-Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2019 meeting. Debbie Green seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The members present discussed Fiscal Year 202 Budget Priorities.

Debra Goff-Rose made a motion for the Board to recommend Council designate Southwest Meadows Sanctuary as the #1 development priority , Country Estates is #2 (fence repair & safety), Frontier Trails is #3, and Calusa Corners is #4 (fencing).

The Chair requested the members present discuss a potential wetlands dredging project at Rolling Oaks Park. The Chairperson would prioritize removal of silt build-up (Staff would prioritize removal of exotic vegetation and planting of beneficial natives). The Chair would like the support of Council as she has residents willing to do the work for free. Dried muck can be used to help level the field. She is planning to speak with Al Suarez for plant donations.

Lana Eichel made a motion to recommend to Council that a project to dredge the wetlands at Rolling Oaks be done with 99% volunteer labor and resources. The Parks Foundation could be requested to subsidize the project so there would be no cost to Southwest Ranches. Debra Goff-Rose seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

As we are discussing Budget Priorities and development, the members present would like to do site meetings at each park. Board members decided to begin the April meeting at 6:30 PM and to meet at Founders Trailside Park, the move on to view the Equestrian Park and Calusa Corners. In May, the parks the Board will visit are Southwest Meadows Sanctuary, Rolling Oaks, Frontier Trials and Country Estates Fishing Hole.

Discussion Items:

- Staff reviewed the monthly maintenance report and upcoming events as listed in the evening's packet. The Sikh Society Run will feature craft booths and blood mobile.

- Board members feel the turn into and out of Mather Boulevard has a visibility issue. Also, Board members suggested that reflective paint should be used on the medians for better night visibility.
- Water Matters Day was a success! The Town's display was popular as usual. The Town received an Emerald Award for choosing to create a wetlands at Calusa Corners Park as part of the Dykes Road drainage project.
- Notes on Country Estates: The fence needs repair/replacement along the Griffin Road corridor.
- Notes on Calusa Corners: Staff suggests removing damaged fencing. New fencing is priced at \$16-\$20 per foot. Not all fencing is in poor shape though. Board members suggest the fence is an important item as it deters ATV users...this is a passive park and open to the public, but not for motorized vehicles.
- Notes on Southwest Meadows Sanctuary: Trees have been planted and exotics removed. Funding is behind to 2017. MaryGay would like to talk with the town's attorney: when the fill is gone, let's move the rock and demuck in order to stabilize the ground (muck may be repurposed). She suggested utilizing volunteer residents with expertise in earthwork. Parking, seating, and shade are needed. If possible, the Town will apply for a non-matching FRDAP grant (\$50,000) to assist with some development funding for 2020. The Parks Foundation can be requested to assist.
- Notes on Frontier Trails: The Council just approved the first phase of development, and further development is funded. Improvements needed include picnic facilities, parking, archaeological signage, and wetlands clean-up. There is \$50,000 allocated for this year.
- Notes on Rolling Oaks Park: Debra noted a broken curtain rod in need of repair. Staff mentioned it will be repaired, and the barn pressured cleaned, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.