



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

September 10, 2019  
7:00 pm

**Board Members**

Chris Brownlow, Mary Gay Chaples, Lana Eichel, Debra Goff-Rose,  
Debbie Green, Aster Knight, Marie Nix, Karen Parkerson

**Council Liaison**

Gary Jablonski

**Staff Liaison**

December Lauretano-Haines

Members:

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

RFNRAB Members absent:

Marie Nix

Staff present:

December Lauretano-Haines

Council present:

Gary Jablonski  
Mayor Doug McKay  
Bob Hartmann

Others present:

Aryaan Verma  
Rajiv Verma  
Kevin Wernath  
Sylviane Wernath

Call to order at 7:10 PM. A Quorum was established.

Debra Goff-Rose motioned to excuse the absence of Marie Nix and Lana Eichel. Aster Knight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Debra Goff-Rose motioned to approve the minutes of the August 2019 meeting. Aster Knight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Eagle Scout Candidate Aryaan Verma addressed the members present regarding his proposed project to install an American Flag disposal box at Town Hall.

Debra Goff-Rose motioned to recommend in favor of Aryaan Verma's Eagle project at Town Hall. Aster Knight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Eagle Scout Candidate Kevin Wernath addressed the members present regarding his proposed project to install site furnishings (hexagonal picnic table and trash receptacle in recycled plastic lumber) into the new Frontier Trials Park pavilion when the amenity is completed.

Chris Brownlow motioned to recommend in favor of Kevin Wernath's Eagle project at Frontier Trails. Karen Parkerson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The chairperson briefed the members present regarding a Country Estates Fishing Hole Park entrance design contest. The members discussed the matter in relation to the Town's established Rural Identification Design Standards, set by the Council via the Rural Public Arts and Design Advisory Board (RPAADAB). Member Karen Parkerson, who serves on both Advisory Boards, and Staff recommend the RPAADAB be invited to discuss this idea at a joint meeting.

The members present discussed the following Board suggestions from the August 13 meeting:

- placing fencing around the Country Estates Fishing Hole park playground and restroom
- use 3-rail vinyl fencing to match other parks when the SW 190th Avenue fence line is improved
- need for shade canopy on the playground
- clearing of exotic vegetation east of the playground

Staff responded regarding the Board's requests for information:

- Ask Board for discussion about the need for a third layer of fencing
- Several fencing prices have been procured in past 2 fiscal years (though not approved in Budget)
  1. A volunteer project to remove the razor wire was proposed and this was the 190th Avenue fencing improvement project Staff believed was going to take place.
- costs quoted for recent shade structures over play areas (Calusa Corners)
- cited need:
  1. For mindfulness about the ongoing costs of maintaining cleared areas
  2. to include planning in volunteer activities to ensure only unwanted vegetation is removed.
  3. To acknowledge there is no funding for shade and existing vegetation east of the playground currently provides the only shade for the playground.

Mayor McKay stated strong feelings about the cost of shade structures for playgrounds. It is his opinion that the Town can procure this kind of equipment at far less cost and that the Town can have projects engineered [to meet code and safety standards].

Staff briefed the members present regarding the Board's Natural Resources purposes and objectives. The Board has a role in setting an example for and providing education to the community on issues including proper tree canopy maintenance, management, and protection; preservation and protection of the environment; and protection of wildlife.

Staff briefed the members present regarding a drainage project beginning on Mather Boulevard this week. The Town's Landscape Inspector provides information and guidance on tree preservation during construction.

The members present discussed the maintenance report. Staff asked the members if they had further recommendations on the removal of damaged fencing at Calusa Corners park that was accomplished by volunteers. The members believe the existing fence looks better now and should remain as it is. Staff will request the dislocated Board to be popped back into place.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday October 8th at Town Hall. Staff will issue the discussed invitation to the Rural Public Arts and Design Advisory Board.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.