

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
BAY OAKS RECREATIONAL CAMPUS ADVISORY BOARD (BORCAB)**

Council Chambers
2525 Estero Blvd
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Thursday, April 7, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Simpson.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Members present: Becky Bodnar, Janna Holmes, Denise Monahan, Tom Myers, Betty Simpson and Rae Sprole.

Excused: Dave Anderson

Staff present: Adam Leicht, Sarah Mayher and Danielle.

Council Liaison: Tracey Gore

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 9, 2015 and August 6, 2015 - approved on November 5, 2015.

MOTION: Ms. Holmes moved to approve the minutes of November 5, 2015; second by Ms. Monahan.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Sprole moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2015; second by Ms. Holmes.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Charlie Whitehead described how many people benefitted from Bay Oaks and he felt that Bay Oaks needed more help, not less. He reminded people that BORCAB cared about the community and Bay Oaks. Mr. Whitehead urged that all groups to work together to make Bay Oaks better.

Jan Fleming distributed a list of ideas to help Bay Oaks. She felt the major problem was the lack of advertising and signage. She shared ideas for advertising opportunities, the Farmer's Market, the pool and the gym.

Annette Dwyer discussed successful programs at Bay Oaks. She asked BORCAB to reach out to the community when BORCAB needed help.

Former Mayor Anita Cereceda reiterated that Bay Oaks was not closing.

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - Town Manager Stilwell and Bay Oaks Senior Staff

Town Manager Stilwell addressed the rumor that Bay Oaks was going to be shut down. He explained that staff was working on recommendations to present to Council in May. He stated that they would look at options to make Bay Oaks stronger. Town Manager Stilwell noted that years ago, projected annual operating costs were about \$300,000 and now they were over \$800,000 per year. He discussed core services and focusing on seniors and the youth.

Ms. Bodnar questioned Town Manager Stilwell regarding discouraging national sponsorship opportunities for funding. Town Manager Stilwell replied that he would never dissuade anyone from reaching out to any business or group for funding. Ms. Sprole questioned who would be involved with making recommendations. Town Manager Stilwell responded that Sarah, Adam and Danielle were involved. He indicated that Danielle would be promoted to full-time, which left two full-time positions to be filled at a later date. Ms. Sprole questioned whether three people could handle the summer schedule. Ms. Mayher felt that they could cover classes and pool operations with available staff. Mr. Leicht agreed, but he admitted that maintaining marketing efforts was one of the challenges the limited staff faced. Discussion was held regarding marketing personnel, special events personnel and identifying the specific needs of Bay Oaks.

Maureen Rischitelli, Director of Administrative Services, discussed expectations, current programs, refunds, special events, staff time, communications and developing a plan and goals. Maintenance and big ticket items would be addressed first. Ms. Sprole expressed concern regarding scaling back programs. Ms. Rischitelli replied that they were refocusing on building a good foundation.

Ms. Gore summarized points to bring to Council. Chair Simpson stated that the Five Year Plan needed to be updated and BORCAB wanted to be involved with developing the plan. Discussion was held concerning late reappointments.

Ms. Monahan questioned whether a member of BORCAB could be involved with the recommendation process. Ms. Rischitelli replied that they were trying to identify costs associated with how Bay Oaks was operating right now. Her next step will be to identify enhanced pieces and determine the true costs to run those programs. She described core services, enhanced services and lifestyle services.

Ms. Gore questioned the number of staff, their duties, responsibilities and the lack of a manager or director. Ms. Rischitelli replied that it was a team effort and cross-training was crucial. Ms. Gore questioned concessions at the pool. Ms. Rischitelli responded that they were looking at it. Ms. Gore commented that more activities should be held at Bay Oaks and she was interested in some of Ms. Fleming's ideas. Ms. Gore questioned staff opening and closing the Chapel by the Sea for bridge players. Town Manager Stilwell remarked that the practice would stop. Ms. Sprole understood that the seniors played bridge there because of the lack of space and parking at Bay Oaks. Ms. Gore volunteered to help BORCAB in any way she could legally be involved.

Ms. Monahan questioned Public Works storing equipment at the gym. Town Manager Stilwell replied that it was a concept for discussion, but Council had not discussed the issue. Ms. Monahan and Ms. Sprole expressed concern about creating a disadvantage for the community. Chair Simpson posed the question of whether Public Works needed all the equipment and

whether or not they could sell some items. Ms. Sprole brought up scheduling a work session with Council after Ms. Rischitelli completes her summary.

Chair Simpson questioned what happened to the three banners. Ms. Rischitelli replied that one was destroyed as a result of a car accident. She will contact Mr. Baker for details regarding the remaining two banners.

VII. MEMBER ITEMS

Ms. Holmes thanked the three staff members for doing a great job. She commented that Bay Oaks needed additional marketing and signage.

Ms. Sprole thanked staff and she was excited that Danielle was heading the senior programs.

Ms. Bodnar did not think Bay Oaks was out of the woods yet; many questions remained.

Mr. Myers stated that Bay Oaks was an asset to the community and BORCAB was there to help.

Ms. Monahan echoed members' comments. She provided a sign-up sheet for information regarding creating a Friends of Bay Oaks group.

Chair Simpson commended staff and everyone who contributed to public comments. She thanked Town Manger Stilwell and Ms. Rischitelli for attending the meeting and she thanked members of BORCAB for their participation. She was thrilled to have Ms. Gore as Council Liaison. Consensus was reached to continue holding meetings at Town Hall.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Myers moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Sprole.

VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Adopted _____ with/without changes. Motion by _____
(DATE)

Vote: _____ Signature: 

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