



Fleischmann Community Center
1600 Fleischmann Blvd.
Naples, Florida 34102

Community Services Advisory Board Regular Meeting February 23, 2006 – 5:33 p.m.

Vice Chairman Selfon called the meeting to order and presided.

CALL TO ORDERITEM 1

ROLL CALLITEM 2

Present:

Lois Selfon, Vice Chairman
Douglas Finlay
Dianne Mayberry-Hatt
Carol Olsen
Jenah Victor

Also Present:

David Lykins, Community Services Director
Steve Olmsted, Planning Administrator
Robin Singer, Community Development Director
Tony McIlwain, Planner II
Kathy Brisson, Sr. Administrative Specialist
Ralph Anthony, PESD/Police Operations Officer
Mike O’Reilly, PESD/Police Operations Sergeant
Rob Bock, PESD/Police Operations Lieutenant
Glenda White, Technical Writing Specialist
Other interested citizens and visitors.

Absent:

Martha Dykman, Chairman

ITEMS TO BE ADDEDITEM 3

Community Services Director David Lykins informed the Board that hours of operation of Cambier Park would be posted prohibiting activities between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. This will enable police officers to cite violators, he added.

LEVEL OF SERVICE.....ITEM 4

Planning Administrator Steve Olmsted of the Community Development Department referred to the requirement in the City’s Comprehensive Plan that a Level of Service (LOS) report be for such services as recreation, transportation, solid waste collection and the like. The recreation LOS (a copy of which is contained in the file for this meeting in the City Clerk’s Office) will be addressed by City Council along with the various other elements and a determination will be made as to additional facilities or, in the case of deficiencies, whether needs are actually being met or what is required to meet the LOS standards. It is not the intent at this stage of the process to lower standards, as this issue would involve public participation, the Community Services Advisory Board, City Council and the Planning Advisory Board (PAB). In conclusion, he said that upon this Board’s approval, the 2005 LOS report would be transmitted to the PAB, then City Council and lastly submitted to the State of Florida.

Community Development Director Robin Singer stated that all needed facilities are in place since the community is virtually built out. Director Singer said that needs change over time and thus the reason for revisiting the Comprehensive Plan as required.

It was noted that the 2005 LOS report had been distributed at this meeting which would show some changes from the 2004 edition previously provided. In response to Member Finlay, Planner Tony McIlwain explained that while demographic information is provided by the University of Florida School of Business, it is necessary to make projections until this information is received. This was done by reviewing the number of building permit applications; trends of movement of individuals to and from the area; rezoning in order to increase density; and various other applicable factors. Planning Administrator Olmsted said that his belief was that the population figure should be adjusted upward to take into account large development projects recently approved in the City. Director Lykins clarified that the prior LOS report had contained a significantly higher projected five year growth and that an appropriate adjustment would therefore make the LOS report more accurate and consistent with the projections for other City departments. He said he had however taken care to substantiate the information before any adjustments were made to the LOS.

Regarding future annexations, Planning Administrator Olmsted said that any large increase in population would necessitate the City determining whether to maintain its LOS standards or make changes to address any deficiencies or surpluses. Planner McIlwain also pointed out that, prior to any annexation, the City would engage in a number of analyses to determine if the annexation were feasible and whether the City would be able to absorb an increase of a particular magnitude and still meet concurrency standards. Furthermore, he said, the State of Florida precludes a City from annexing a large population without providing roadways, stormwater facilities and even parks and parkway facilities to meet the population growth.

Director Lykins reiterated his point regarding adjusting data for accuracy and consistency, pointing out that the City plans to refine area calculations regarding public space acreage either through the use of a professional land surveyor or its GIS (Global Information System).

In conclusion, it was requested that a footnote be placed on the LOS report that would indicate Director Lykins attempted to substantiate the numbers and based upon the population growth numbers available, some of the standards had been adjusted to bring them in line with the other City departments to provide a more accurate LOS report. Mr. McIlwain also reminded the Board that the LOS report is a depiction of the past year and that the Comprehensive Plan is a projection of the future.

MOTION by Victor to ACCEPT the Level of Service Report as presented; seconded by Mayberry-Hatt, and carried 4-1 (Finlay-no, Mayberry-Hatt-yes, Olsen-yes, Victor-yes, Selfon-yes, Dykman-absent.)

VANDALISM IN CITY PARKS.....ITEM 5

Officer Ralph Anthony, Lt. Rob Bock and Sgt. Mike O'Reilly from the Police and Emergency Services Department (PESD) appeared before the Board. Sgt. O'Reilly reported that occurrences of vandalism are primarily associated with the two larger parks, Fleischmann and Cambier. Sgt. O'Reilly explained that a major contributing factor at Fleischmann Park is the fence having been temporarily dismantled due to the ongoing construction project as well as the park's close proximity to Coastland Mall. He said that the damage to equipment and property is not caused by young people using the center for recreation, but those who enter the park after hours.

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Neither the PESD nor Community Services, he said, has sufficient manpower to provide around-the-clock security, although a six-foot perimeter fence would enhance security at Fleischmann Park. Such a fence should be properly posted with park hours at the entrances, and locked at closing time.

Sgt. O'Reilly stated the issues at Cambier Park are however primarily involving the children's playground from graffiti and refuse and there have been instances of fires to the shelters consisting of palm-thatched chickee huts. He said that installation of some type of low lighting in the playground areas is recommended and acknowledged the positive impact of the new signage posting park hours, further recommending that the playground be closed at sunset or at least by 9:00 p.m. since most of the after hours congregating occurs between 9:00 and 11:00 p.m. He clarified that the closing hours would apply to the children's play area, the gazebo, and the band shell, as well as the ball fields.

Officer Anthony, who indicated that he patrols River Park, Royal Harbor, Oyster Bay and Bayfront districts, reported no significant increase in vandalism in the River Park area. He also noted his weekly meetings with the staff at the River Park Community Center. With reference to Anthony Park, where there had been some issues in the past, he said he had stressed the importance of locking the gate nightly. Officer Anthony said he felt there was sufficient signage at Anthony Park.

Lt. Rob Bock said that each park nevertheless had its own identity and characteristics and needed to be addressed differently.

Member Mayberry-Hatt inquired with reference to vehicles being broken into at Lowdermilk Park, and Sgt. O'Reilly pointed out that this most often occurs when visitors leave personal belongings in their cars. He said that it takes a thief just four seconds to break into a vehicle, to steal items and then flee. Moreover, Lt. Bock said that these are often not even forcible entries since vehicles have been left unlocked. Responding to Member Finlay, Lt. Bock said there is currently no auxiliary police force, however this issue had been discussed; he however noted that PESD was utilizing part-time officers to assist with normal patrol functions.

Member Olsen said although only minor problems have occurred, young people congregate after hours daily at Naples Preserve, leaving trash and debris behind. She therefore requested specific signage that would address the picking up of trash. Further she said she felt it would be beneficial to install some type of motion activated lighting in some of the darker areas of the Preserve and noted the option of providing an on-site park ranger which she said, in her experience, had been effective in dealing with these types of problems. Lt. Bock and Sgt. O'Reilly said that they had also discussed something similar and felt that Fleischmann Park had expanded to a point where the PESD will need to staff it as they do the Fishing Pier.

Vice Chairman Selfon stressed the importance of safety within the park system and expressed concern over assaults that may be going unreported. She said she felt it would be beneficial to have monitored video surveillance in some of the parks as a possible deterrent. Sgt. O'Reilly explained the current camera system while activated in some areas, shows individuals walking but does not show faces clearly. Furthermore, he said the system is not monitored as the PESD force is assigned to active patrols and that the goal would be better served if someone patrolled the parks on foot for more rapid response rather than utilizing a video monitoring system.

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Member Olsen said she would obtain information on the park ranger program for Director Lykins to discuss with Chief Moore.

During further discussion it was noted that savings in repair costs might offset the hiring of an individual to monitor the video camera systems. Director Lykins said he believed the repair costs would exceed \$10,000 but would confirm this figure with the Risk Management Department.

In conclusion, Sgt. O'Reilly expressed appreciation to the CSAB for its active involvement and concern and suggested that Director Lykins discuss with Chief Moore the various suggestions that had been made.

PUBLIC INPUTITEM 6

None.

ADJOURN.....ITEM 7

7:11 P.M.

Martha Dykman, Chairman

David Lykins, Community Services Director

Minutes prepared by:

Glenda White
Technical Writing Specialist

Minutes Approved: April 11, 2006