



THE VILLAGE OF
NORTH PALM BEACH
Village Manager's Office

"THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE UNDER THE SUN"

Environmental Committee

MINUTES

Anchorage Park Recreation Building

Monday, February 8, 2021

6:00 pm

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Marcus called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Roll Call:
 - Present: Karen Marcus, Camille Carroll, Lisa Interlandi, Mary Phillips, Shawn Woods
 - Absent: Ellen Allen, Kendra Zellner
 - Also Present: Susan Bickel, Mayor; Chuck Huff, Special Projects Director; Russ Ruskay, Functional Manager
3. The Minutes of the January 11, 2021 regular meeting were approved.
4. Public Comments: no public comments.
5. Anchorage Park Dry Storage:
 - a. Russ Ruskay presented a conceptual site plan for discussion.
 - b. There are currently twenty (20) dry storage parking spaces.
 - c. We currently have 136 dry storage leases with 300 residents on the waiting list.
 - d. The challenge is to renovate the existing dry storage area to accommodate 136 boat and RV parking spaces without removing any existing trees.
 - e. Some exotic vegetation will be removed.
 - f. The canal bank and walking trail will remain as is.
 - g. Russ Ruskay will present the plan to Village Council at the March 25 council meeting and, at that time, Council will choose either a perimeter pre-cast wall or decorative fencing to be installed around the entire storage compound.
 - h. The Recreation Advisory Board would prefer to install an eight-foot-high decorative fence with landscaping rather than a wall.
 - i. Chairperson Marcus called a motion to recommend that Village Council approve installation of decorative fencing with landscaping rather than a wall. 1st and 2nd motions passed unanimously.
 - j. Chuck Huff mentioned that once Council determines the type of screening, 2GHO will provide a landscape plan for discussion.
 - k. Russ Ruskay stated that we currently only have funding to renovate the north side of the dry storage area.
6. Lakeside Park Berm:
 - a. Russ Ruskay discussed the short-term and long-term plans for the berm improvements.
 - b. Council approved a three-year maintenance contract.

- c. The contractor recommended replacing higher vegetation with lower berm stabilizing vegetation to improve water views.
 - d. Vegetation replacement work will start on February 12 and continue on February 19 as needed.
 - e. Vegetation replacement work notification:
 - i. Signs were posted in the park.
 - ii. The “Friends of Lakeside Park” were notified.
 - iii. Parks & Recreation posted on social media. (Russ will confirm with Stephen)
 - f. The Sea Oats on the south end of the berm will be replaced with lower vegetation.
 - g. The committee expressed concern over removal of the Sea Oats which provide excellent berm stabilization.
7. Balloons and Sky Lanterns:
- a. Tequesta passed an ordinance that prohibits the release of balloons and sky lanterns into the atmosphere village-wide.
 - b. Jupiter Inlet Colony passed an ordinance that prohibits the release of balloons and sky lanterns in their parks and public facilities.
 - c. Chairperson Marcus called a motion to recommend that Village Council adopt an ordinance to prohibit the release of balloons and sky lanterns into the atmosphere village-wide and/or within parks and public spaces. 1st and 2nd motions passed unanimously.
 - d. Chairperson Marcus mentioned that Loggerhead Marinelife Center offers demonstrations on the environmental effects of such items being released into the atmosphere.
8. Osborne Park Bottle and Can Recycling Containers:
- a. Ellen Allen previously mentioned in an email that there aren’t any bottle and can recycling containers in Osborne Park.
 - b. Chairperson Marcus offered to contact Loggerhead Marinelife Center to find out where they purchase their recycling containers which clearly state the specific items to be discarded.
 - c. Russ Ruskay offered to purchase the recycling container with an anonymous \$300.00 donation to Osborne Park.
 - d. Chairperson Marcus noted that the Community Center needs a recycling container as well.
9. Discussion items:
- a. Prioritization of Initiatives:
 - i. Resident Programs:
 - Ban on Plastics
 - a) Chairperson Marcus mentioned that the Mayor of Jupiter received a letter from a Jupiter High School science teacher encouraging local governments to ban plastics.
 - b) Mayor Bickel will notify the Mayor of Jupiter that the letter was discussed at tonight’s meeting. Also, that we are prohibited from banning plastics but, continue providing recycling containers and offer educational programs.
 - c) Chairperson Marcus stated that current legislation prohibits local municipalities from banning plastics.
 - d) Several attempts to overturn that ruling have failed.
 - e) One committee member offered to research the current legislation and failed attempts to overturn it and will provide an update at the March meeting.
 - f) Chairperson Marcus mentioned that the Village adopted a resolution in support of local municipalities having the ability to ban plastics.

- ii. Village projects
 - Residential Code of Ordinances:
 - a) Mayor Bickel recommended formulating policy on pervious vs impervious surfaces on residential properties for addition to the Code of Ordinances.
 - b) The committee agreed that it should be addressed.
 - c) Chuck Huff mentioned that the proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances will be presented to Council in March or April.
- b. Existing Projects/Programs Updates:
 - i. Urban Garden:
 - Chairperson Marcus mentioned that many residents have expressed interest.
 - Osborne Park and the Community Center are being considered.
 - Chairperson Marcus requested that staff provide a list of the approved locations for discussion at the March 8 meeting. After which, a tour of each facility for evaluation.
 - ii. Speaker Series:
 - Chairperson Marcus suggested having it quarterly to determine the level of interest. If the interest level is high, it could be held monthly.
 - Chuck Huff will contact Farmer's Table for availability in the banquet room or, outside by the herb garden, on April 10 at 10:00 am.
 - Chairperson Marcus will contact Mike Stahl from Environmental Resource Management (ERM) and request he speak on planting Oyster beds in Anchorage Park and on private docks.
 - iii. Business Promotion:
 - Elimination of Single Use Plastics:
 - a) The committee will reach out and encourage Village businesses to eliminate single use plastics.
 - b) The committee agreed that businesses who implement the program will be highlighted in the Village newsletter.
 - c) Chairperson Marcus mentioned that Farmer's Table utilizes paper straws and will be highlighted in the March newsletter.
 - d) Additional means of communicating this information to the residents will be required (email blasts, texts).
 - iv. Clean-Up Events:
 - National Keep America Beautiful Month - April
 - a) Chairperson Marcus noted that an article will need to be included in the March and April newsletters.
 - b) The committee will focus clean-up of Village Parks.
 - c) The committee will reach out to SWA for assistance/coordination.
 - d) Mayor Bickel commented that Village children could volunteer to earn community service hours.
 - National Arbor Day – Friday, April 30
 - a) One committee member will research the tree planting application process.
 - b) The committee will consider combining this event with the clean-up.

c. Iguanas:

- i. The Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's website offers a variety of options and techniques residents can use to help reduce or eliminate nuisance Iguana issues.
- ii. Chuck Huff will ask Public Works to contact Shawn Woods to discuss how they can assist with removal.
- iii. Mayor Bickel mentioned that the Iguanas might be able to be donated to businesses who sell the meat.

10. Next meeting: the next meeting will be held on March 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the Anchorage Park Building.

11. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.