

**TOWN OF MALABAR – PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
02/20/13 MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at Town Hall at 2725 Malabar Road. It was called to order by Chair Vickie Thomas at 7:32 pm. Prayer and pledge was lead by Chair Vickie Thomas.

A. CALL TO ORDER, PRAYER AND PLEDGE

B. ROLL CALL

Chair Vickie Thomas
Vice Chair Bernadette Knudson
Dick Korn
Bob Siegmann, excused
Bill Sastram
Recording Secretary Cindi Kelley

C. SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS – BILL SASTRAM

Thomas welcomed Sastram to the Board and thanked him for volunteering. Mayor Beatty swore Sastram into office and pictures were taken by Korn for Kelley.

D. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES

E. PRESENTATIONS

F. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of Minutes**
Regular Park and Recreation Meeting – 01/16/13
Exhibit: Agenda Report No.1
Recommendation: Motion to approve

Discussion: None

MOTION: Korn/Knudson to approve the minutes from January 16, 2013 meeting as presented. VOTE: All Ayes.

G. PUBLIC:

H. ACTION:

2. **Recommend Name for the 17 Acre Parcel off Weber Road**
Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 2
Recommendation: Discussion & Recommendation

There were two suggestions at the last meeting. Korn suggested Weber Road Recreation Area and Knudson suggested Agricultural Heritage Park. Thomas asked if there was any discussion. Korn stated the recommendation he made was so that if later on we wanted to name it for someone or for something, it's easy to change it that way. He has no objection to either name. Thomas asked if it was like a holding name where we don't make it permanent. Korn stated that we purchased 17 acres; his idea was just to say Weber Road Recreation Area and we could use it for whatever we are allowed to use if for under how we funded it. It was Florida Community Trust, so we can't build buildings on it; it's got to remain natural no matter what we name it. Knudson said it's a good idea; she liked the idea of the agricultural land. It's always been agricultural; it's the history of Malabar. But Weber Road serves its purpose, it identifies where it is; agricultural doesn't. Knudson is fine with that. Thomas asked if Sastram would make a motion; he stated he would second it.

MOTION: Korn/Sastram recommend to Council to name the 17 acre parcel off Weber Road as Weber Road Recreation Area. VOTE: All Ayes.

I. DISCUSSION:

3. Board Member Attendance at Every RTCM (Korn)

Exhibit: Agenda Report No. 3

Recommendation: Discussion

Discussion: This was brought to the Board by Korn. It was brought to the Board's attention through an email in regard to having a Board Member to attend every RTCM meeting. It is open for discussion. For clarification, Kelley stated that RTCM stands for Regular Town Council Meeting. Before discussion started, Thomas was thinking of a few key points. Would this be a rotating position? Would it be every meeting or would a dedicated person be assigned to that? Korn stated that his suggestion, he mentioned this to Kelley. It came up due to an issue not making it to Council. Kelley stated, in the conversation with Korn that it was forgotten; Kelley dropped the ball. Korn stated that he thinks, over the years, that we've been a little bit unfair to Kelley. We've depended upon her to communicate our wishes to the Council. That's not really her job; that's our job.

Thomas stated that Hans used to do that pretty much on a regular basis. His idea being that the Chairman, that's you, should send an email out after each one of our meetings to the Chairman of the Town Council with a copy to the Mayor and the Town Administrator expressing those things we would like Council to consider. We are a Citizen's Advisory Board to the Town Council. We shouldn't depend on staff to do part of our job. We don't work for staff; we don't advise staff, we advise the Town Council. And then I think somebody ought to be there; there have been times that I have been to Town Council and Carl knows this and Council has asked if there is anyone from the Park Board. He will speak up and say he's there for other reasons; he's sure it has happened to others of us. We can schedule the meetings rotating with each Board Member. Thomas stated that it would be a rotating schedule then. It wouldn't be fair to say you have to go to all of them. Korn called point of interest; he felt that someone from the Board should be at every meeting because there have been things that have come up at Town Council that should have come here that didn't. Korn asked Mayor Beatty what the issue was that didn't come before the Board due to time. Thomas asked Mayor Beatty for his opinion on this.

Mayor Beatty stated that he could answer two questions. One, the issue you are talking about had to do with a fund raiser, time would not allow it to come to the Park Board so it went directly to Council. What you are talking about now, whether you are talking about assigning one person as a permanent or rotating around to attend RTCM. The minimum that should happen is that if you have an interest or something on the agenda, someone should be at the Council meeting in case Council has questions. If you have no issues, it wouldn't be that important for you to be there per say. But he felt those are key and it's the first he's heard of it. But if you recommend something from the Park Board, you can explain it or answer any questions that may come up at Council level. Thomas asked if we do this, how would the Mayor propose that we bring up our issues; would that person be on the agenda or would they fill out a speaker's card. Kelley stated that she would still get the recommendations to Franklin and they would be on the agenda. Thomas stated that the protocol is it goes on the agenda and... Korn stated he left Kelley out of

his suggestion; the Chairman should communicate after each one of our meetings to Franklin as Town Clerk and she to Council as her capacity as Clerk and to the Chairman of the Council and as a courtesy, a copy to the Mayor as well so that they know all our thinking and they know what we would like them to consider. There were a few items from the last meeting that were not communicated to Council. Kelley stated that she had a question. Thomas asked isn't that what the minutes are for. Kelley stated that is what the minutes are for and she also had a question because if you have the Chair communicating to the Chair of Council and to the Mayor, would that be considered a sunshine violation? Thomas was also thinking the same thing. Kelley stated because this is something that is going to be voted on. Korn stated that this would be a one-way informative email to Mr. Rivet. You don't say to Mr. Rivet that Mr. Beatty said. So that there is no conversation back and forth, you do it in a one-way email and send through Franklin. Korn stated he doesn't think it's fair to you for us to depend on Kelley. Kelley stated that it's her job and she apologized again for the error on her part. Thomas stated that is what the minutes are for. Korn stated that it is your job to record the minutes; you don't have to speak for us, you can but we shouldn't rely on you. Kelley stated that she doesn't speak for the Board; she does the minutes and your minutes speak for you. Thomas asked to interject something here. If she were to speak with only one Council member, it's her understanding that it's a violation of sunshine. Mayor Beatty stated that it's not; you are two separate boards.

Mayor stated what the proposal was is to have one member of the Board present and maybe go over the recommendations from the Board and answer questions for Council. Thomas asked Korn what his motion is.

MOTION: Korn/ that the Chairman appoints someone from the Board to attend each Council meetings.

Korn stated one person attends one meeting; not the same person for each meeting. Knudson stated that this needed to be thought about; we are going to have redundancy there. She thinks it's only as needed. Korn stated that she's not listening to what Mayor Beatty is saying. Knudson continues with it should be only as needed; that means we have a specific topic. Korn stated at the last RTCM or two meetings ago, Mayor Beatty brought it up, there were some people wanting to do a fund raiser in the park; normally it would have gone through this Board but there was no time to do so. This Board has usually worked pretty much on consensus. Most of us know what each other think; whether we agree or not, and we usually do. We all know, had someone in this Board been in the meeting, the Chairman of Council might have asked what do we think, the Parks Board would think of this. He couldn't speak for the Board but as a member, he would not have had an issue with this. Korn stated that if we are going to advise Council, we need to be there. Thomas asked that Korn let Knudson have the floor please. Knudson stated she personally doesn't want to attend the Council Meetings; she has quite a bit on her plate with being on the Springfest Committee and on this Board. Korn stated that when it was her turn, she could tell Thomas no. Knudson stated that it's only the concept that needs to be clarified; it doesn't need to be every single time. It doesn't need to be two meeting a month. Korn asked how many Council meetings she attends. Knudson stated one Council meeting and she's been at 3 Springfest meetings. Korn stated that this simply comes up almost every meeting. Knudson asked if Korn wanted to attend every RTCM? Korn stated that he thinks

somebody should. Knudson stated that if you do, we can appoint you. Korn stated that the idea was to share the responsibility with all the Board. Thomas posed a suggestion. At each of our meetings, we could ask who wants to attend the next RTCM. Things come up in our lives and we can't always attend the meetings so we will offer it that maybe Korn would do it. If you don't want to you don't have to.

Korn asked if it was remembered when we used to attend the Council meetings. We attended the first Council meeting of every month. The Chairman did; it was put on the Chair. Our Chair back then went to the first Council meeting every month. Thomas asked about one meeting a month. Thomas stated that she didn't think that we needed two unless something came up. Korn stated that was what Hans did because our meeting; which was quite often the next meeting. They didn't have one Monday night, but it would have been if it hadn't been a holiday. Korn stated to compromise and do the first meeting of every month. Thomas stated that sounded reasonable to her. If none of us can't make it, then we can't make it. It would be a volunteer but we would know that there would be someone from this Board representing us. Kelley asked if the motion would be amended.

AMENDED MOTION: Korn/ to have a representative of the Parks & Recreation Board be in attendance the first RTCM each month.

Thomas asked on a volunteer basis. Korn stated it would be the responsibility of the Chair to have a volunteer to do it. Knudson asked if Thomas is okay with this. Thomas stated she was. Thomas asked if anyone will second the motion. Korn stated that Knudson does not have to be the volunteer; he knows she has a full plate. Knudson asked to have the new member speak as to how he feels about it. Sastram stated he had mixed feelings about this. You have the minutes to know what is going on so why does someone have to be there to speak up for it. If they have a question, they should...Korn made the question of "who reads the minutes?" Korn stated that time and again we will say that we recommend to Council to do something and it doesn't go to the Council, it doesn't get there. It doesn't get put on their agenda. Knudson stated that this is really rare. Korn stated that it's not rare occurrence; he can go back every month and point it out. Knudson stated that she has to disagree with Korn. It is a rare occurrence; she felt the Kelley does a good job. Korn stated that the last recommendations made didn't get to Council. And if they had gone to Council, who would have been there to speak for us? Thomas asked about not making an obligatory thing but for sort of if one of us wants to be there to let Council know that we are there if they need any information regarding our requests. That way, no one is obligated to be there. It wouldn't be set in stone. Korn stated that as an advisory board to Council; that's what we are, we are not a self-sustaining entity; we are an advisory board to the Council and he thinks the Board has a responsibility to let the Council know they can depend on us to be at one of the Council one meeting a month. Knudson asked Mayor Beatty if the communication between this Board and Council, has there been any issues with getting communication other than a very; it seems like every time I have been at a Council meeting, everything's been brought up that we have wanted brought up. The flag poles have been brought up, the Boy Scout issues and other things have been handled. She asked Mayor Beatty how he felt about that. Mayor Beatty stated there have been issues that have gotten dropped for whatever reason and he's not here to pick over spilled milk; but what he's saying that if you have an issue, then it would behoove you to have someone at the

meeting for that issue because; not picking on minutes, but minutes are only little short statements. Is someone says "what does this mean, how much is this". Then that person can stand up and say they were at the meeting and this is what the Board's intent is for that issue. But just reading the minutes and somebody messed up who said what, you have someone there to answer questions and give information. Now he's not saying that have to go to every meeting but if they have stuff that is recommended, it's just a follow-up so Council doesn't have to say well let's ask the Board this question before making a decision. He felt that was what Korn was trying to get at. They don't have to have someone assigned to every week; although that sounds good, it was not the original intent. Thomas stated that we would have to make sure we attended; she liked the idea of it being a volunteer thing. At every meeting, it will be brought up to see who can attend the Council meeting and if there is a volunteer, than that person can go. She doesn't believe that we should be obligated to do that. She felt that Korn had a good idea; there are a lot of Council meetings that Hans was there to explain things and she thought it was invaluable. She just doesn't want to make it another obligation, another night put on the backs of this committee. But Korn is on to a very good thing so what do you think about making it a volunteer basis. Thomas stated that she would help out but doesn't want to be at every meeting.

Korn stated that he thought somebody ought to be at, predictably, at one Council meeting a month. Korn stated that there is always somebody at the Council meeting from P&Z. That is what he considers to be the other regular board. The Board of Adjustment meets irregularly. Knudson stated she remembered when the Board was trying to do a project with buying some water-front property, she went to the Council meeting and explained what the Board's ideas were and she brought Council feedback to the Board. That was a specific issue that needed explaining; she felt that this is how this should be handled.

Korn stated he will give a pet peeve of his; one that has him so close to wanting to resign for even citizenship of this town. Someone is going to be hurt on that bridge at the lake. I have brought this up since May of last year; we voted in July to go to Council to ask them to fix it; it has yet to be done and it has yet to be discussed by Council. Kelley stated that it is on the schedule and will be done next week. Kelley stated that it is to be done within the next week. Korn said "it wasn't done today and somebody's going to get hurt. Do you want me to go out and get hurt? I will. Kelley said "excuse me". Thomas stated with all due respect that Bonnie, our Town Administrator has already addressed our different parks and it's in a report that is going to be read by Kelley. Korn wanted to know why it took a year. Thomas stated she didn't know. Korn stated that his point is... Thomas asked to hear what is in the report before we discuss it and thanks to your concerted effort that... Korn stated we are going to have a ceiling collapse in the bathroom; do you know that, in the ladies room because the outer shell of the skylight is broken and that thing fills up with water when it rains. Thomas asked Korn to hold off until we hear the report. Korn stated the point is that these are things that have been brought up before and Council doesn't even know it. Thomas stated that the Town Administrator has looked it over and has made recommendations. Thomas asked if Kelley could read the reports. Korn state that Mayor Beatty would like to speak. Thomas gave the floor to Beatty. He stated he spoke to Town Administrator about this

and, what they have now once a month, every park will be inspected and the paperwork will show what is good and what is bad; not "he said, she said". It's documented which means the Town is responsible for fixing the issues. Kelley stated this also part of our safety program to assist with our liability insurance premiums. Thomas asked if there has been a reduction in the liability. Kelley stated that it is being worked on right now and will be sent into the Florida League of Cities. Thomas asked if Mr. Korn's concerns have been addressed. Mayor Beatty stated he would have to see the pictures; it does show the bridge. Thomas stated the bridge is included; what about the ladies restroom, is that included? Kelley stated that she would take a look. Thomas stated that she felt Korn got what he wanted; she thinks that the safety issues are being taken seriously. Korn stated that the cloth under the mulch by the slide is coming through. He is concerned that a child could get their foot caught on it, otherwise the playground on the ground is fine. The poles are fine but the upper frame is rusting. Kelley stated that this is all in the report and is going to be taken care of. Korn stated that the part he is speaking of is on the top of the equipment; the top part is rusty and needs painted. Mayor Beatty stated he spoke with Town Administrator about having the ladder truck and it could be used to inspect the equipment; Korn stated it would make it easier. Thomas asked who is responsible for these inspections; it is quite impressive. Kelley stated that the Town Administrator does this as our safety inspector. Thomas asked who actually goes out; Kelley stated that the Town Administrator does. She thought that all the past effort of Mr. Korn has not been in vain; it's being taken very seriously. Thomas asked if a pdf of the report could be available. Kelley stated she would ask the Town Administrator. Thomas asked if anyone would like to discuss the report; Kelley stated she had one for Huggins Park and Fern Creek Crossing Park as well. Thomas would like a pdf of those reports as well. She asked that they be sent to all the Board members. Kelley stated she would make the request through the Town Administrator.

Knudson asked if the members of the Board would still be reporting on their parks each month. Kelley stated that the inspections that the Town Administrator has done are very extensive. But while the Board members are out and about and they see something, to please bring it to our attention. It could be a week that maybe the Town Administrator was not out there. The members of the Board are the eyes and ears; we need to know if anything needs attention in the parks. Thomas stated that is bricks and mortar too; some of us have things we would like to bring up or comments we would like to make; they are brief and she liked the idea of each one keeping their own park unless anyone has an objection to that. Thomas stated that we will need to give a park to Sastram.

Korn stated that he spoke with someone today; he's from Ireland. He was riding around the town; thought it quite quaint. He stated we have no business district; we have no town identity like a big school or something; other than the parks. The two obvious parks; the Disc Golf Park and the Malabar Community Park. Now the Disc Golf Park looks outstanding; there has been a crowd there all day today. Knudson stated it's crowded every day. Korn stated that Tuesday evening there is always a crowd. Kelley stated we need a point of order; we have a motion on the floor and it needs to be seconded. Thomas called a point of order.

Korn withdrew the motion; it will make it simpler. Korn stated that we need to be sure, if the parks are the most obvious things as identity for our town as people come through,

they speak well for our town. There are some things at the Malabar Community Park that do not speak well for our town. Thomas stated that those could be brought up in our individual reports. Looking at the clock, we need to move along here.

J. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

New Business: None

Old Business: None

K. BOARD MEMBER/STAFF REPORTS:

- **Cameron Preserve – Thomas**

Thomas reported that it is the same old same old. She noticed that the area around the picnic table near the Trailhead has been cleaned; it is a lot more popular now. As a result of the traffic, people are trashing it up a bit with broken glass and garbage; the palm fronds are being hacked by someone as well. Thomas asked why the Palm Bay trucks are there. Korn stated they are eating their lunch in that area.

- **Disc Golf Park – Knudson**

Knudson reported that is beautiful; doing great. Parking is becoming a major issue there; doesn't really see a way to resolve that right now but it may be a future issue. Thomas asked for suggestions. Knudson suggested that a caution light be placed at the Fire Department and have the player's park there. They could cross the street using the caution light. Korn stated that the people driving around the curve, someone is going to be killed. As he has stated in the past, Malabar Road is the only road from Cocoa Beach south that exceeds 45 mph. The Sheriffs have stated that there is nowhere to pull people over on Malabar Road to give tickets. Korn stated that he had made contact with the State about this and was told that the State has never received anything from the Town of Malabar about this issue. Mayor Beatty stated that the speed limit coming around the curve to the fire department had been discussed at Council. There used to be a speed limit sign there and it was knocked down and never put back up. Korn stated he would like the Board to make a recommendation to Council to try every means to get the speed limit reduced on Malabar Road to not exceed 45 mph; especially around the areas of the parks on Malabar Road. Thomas stated that this is the highest speed zone where people cross the street. She asked Korn to make a motion of recommendation to Council. Korn stated he had done this before but he will do it again.

Mayor Beatty will check with Bonnie tomorrow. Those concerns were brought up before. He stated that they want to do a turn lane onto Corey Road before putting a flashing light at the Fire Department. Thomas asked why we don't have a flashing light at the Fire Department; everywhere else she has seen, all other fire departments have one of these. Korn stated when this came up before, it would cost \$78,000 to put up the light and we would have to maintain it, change the lights and pay the monthly electrical fees. That kind of killed that. Mayor Beatty stated that the Town Administrator was to coordinate with the State our request and he can't remember receiving information back as to the status of this. Thomas stated she remembered it being discussed before.

MOTION: Korn/Knudson to ask Council to explore every possibility to get the speed limit reduced in Malabar on Malabar Road reduced to a maximum of 45 mph particularly around the areas of the parks on Malabar Road

Thomas asked if he wanted to keep it consistent so it's 45 mph the whole road. He would like to see that; it would save confusion. Sometimes when he's travelling up and down the road, he doesn't know the speed limit. Thomas stated that she begs the difference with Korn; she has seen the police officers pull people over and issue tickets.

VOTE: All Ayes.

- **Fern Creek Crossing Park – Siegmann**

Siegmann was excused.

- **Huggins Park – Knudson & Thomas**

Thomas stated she didn't know she was on the agenda to report on this. Kelley advised the Board that Marsh turned this park over to both Thomas and Knudson at the last meeting she attended.

Thomas and Knudson both stated they did not go to the park.

Before going on with his report, Korn stated that since Bob is not here, he would like to give information on Fern Creek Crossing. The character of that has changed now. The bridge is opened back up now as the property owner died. Knudson stated it looks great. Korn stated that it looks good and it is good that it's been clean up but he wanted to know if the Park Board had any input to making that change; seeing as we are the ones that decided to close the bridge? We should have; Knudson asked why. It looks beautiful, we shouldn't look a gift horse in the mouth.

- **Malabar Community Park – Korn & Thomas**

Korn gave a report on the list he turned in last month. The kiosks are nice and new; noticed that the kiosks are not being used to their full potential. We need to put some useful information in the kiosks. Why can't we just put a piece of paper in them with instructions on how to reserve the park and the pricing. Why not let people know when the park is reserved. Thomas stated that the Park Board doesn't have this information. We also need to put useful information in the kiosks. Thomas stated we could have a QR code and people could take a picture with their phone and have information then and there. Thomas stated that QR codes provide up to the latest minute with information. That actually would be a Town Administrator's function not an individual Council member function. Knudson stated that we have no idea who rents the park. Korn stated that he recommends that it go to Council by the way it was set up that the kiosks be better used. Thomas stated really likes the idea of QR codes because the information is up to the minute. We would just like to see the kiosks being better used.

The batting cage was approved. Thomas stated that it is up. Korn asked where it is; Mayor Beatty stated that it is on the east side of the baseball field. Korn asked Mayor Beatty about the clay for the baseball field. It is in rough shape. The clay was hauled down from Georgia. Korn asked if there is a local source; the infield needs to be improved. That infield is a mess. It doesn't speak well for the Town and for anyone trying to play on it. Thomas asked where the funds came from to pay for the Georgia clay. Korn stated it would have to come from the Parks budget. Thomas asked if we have the fees to cover it. Korn asked Kelley if we have a contract. Kelley stated we do

have a contract; it is a Malabar resident who is using the field; they practice at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings. Korn stated we should pay attention to the condition of the ball field.

The playground cover was put up just before Springfest; it was taken down just after Springfest because here comes hurricane season. And now he understands the new cover is in for repairs. Kelley stated yes; Korn stated a new cover and it's already in for repairs and it's been up for less than a month? Kelley stated that it was taken down because it was torn and it has to be repaired. Korn stated that he thinks we should speak on that. Thomas stated that everything he is covering, it is a detailed report, should be in the report by the Town Administrator. Korn stated that top wasn't the one we ordered when we first purchased the equipment 10 or 11 years ago; it came in a different fabric and a different color than what was originally ordered and we said "oh well, let's just keep it. Mr. Booth didn't want to argue with them about it. The mulch looks really good with the exception of it by the slide; he worries that someone will come down and get their foot caught and slip and slide.

Korn reported that all the pavilions look good and four of them had people having lunch in the park today. The grills have been removed; Knudson stated they were in bad shape. Korn stated the skylight at the women's bathroom has issues and the floors in both bathrooms need to be repainted. He asked about painting with epoxy. Sastram stated he has had experience with epoxy but you have to know what was used before. It could be that before painting with epoxy, all other materials must be scrapped up. We need to know what is under the concrete as well.

At this time, Sastram asked who he could speak to regarding questions he has regarding the parks and safety issues. Thomas stated that he should speak with the Town Administrator. You cannot talk to us outside a public meeting. Korn asked Sastram if he was familiar with the sunshine law. Sastram stated he was and Kelley advised the Board that he was provided information regarding sunshine.

Thomas stated that the Board needs to assign a park to Sastram. Huggins Park was assigned to him; Thomas stated she would send him information regarding the park as a pdf file. Korn gave a brief description of what the Board would like to do with the park.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, general consensus. **MOTION: Knudson/Korn to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: All Ayes.** This meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

By: *Vickie Thomas*
Vickie Thomas, Chair

ATTEST:
Cynthia Kelley
Cynthia Kelley, C.M.C.
Recording Secretary

Date Approved: 03/20/13