

**VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2004
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

**SOUTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
16301 S.W. 80 AVENUE
PALMETTO BAY, FL**

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Flinn called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. The following members of the Village Council were present:

Mayor Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.
Vice Mayor Linda Robinson
Councilmember John Breder
Councilmember Ed Feller
Councilmember Paul Neidhart

The following staff members were present:
Village Manager Charles D. Scurr
Village Attorney Luis Figueredo
Village Clerk Meighan Pier

Mayor Flinn lead the pledge of allegiance.

- II. PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS:** None at this time.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None at this time.
- IV. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT:** None at this time.
- V. VILLAGE ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None at this time.
- VI. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None at this time.
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA:** None at this time.
- VIII. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA; APPROVING THE PARKS MASTER PLANS FOR CORAL REEK PARK AND PERRINE PARK; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Each member of the Council expressed how they had spoken to many individuals regarding the future of the two parks.

Mr. Scurr and Ana Garcia, Director of Community Services, provided staff report. Ms. Garcia noted how there has been “tremendous community participation” and the Village remains ready for the challenges of planning the future of its parks, the number of which have doubled since incorporation.

Discussion commenced regarding Coral Reef Park.

Councilman Feller provided his suggestions/changes to the proposed plan: eliminate the beach area; the western and northern ball field would remain in its current location; reverse the infield of the southern field; the ball field currently being used by Palmetto High would remain as is; construction of the restroom and refreshment facility to be built further to the west than what is depicted for ease of use by everyone; widening and improvements to the walking path should be done; however, the location of the path on the north side of the park to remain as is; the number of tennis courts to be increased; however, the “footprint” shall remain the same; relocate two racquetball courts, with design input from the racquetball players; the entrances to the park shall not be moved; and football fields would not change.

Mayor Flinn suggestion that the Village spend a maximum of \$3,000 to refurbish the racquetball courts now. He stated that the parking lot area currently overflows into the canoe launch area. He suggested that not only should the walking paths be widened, but also marked and measured.

Vice Mayor Robinson suggested that the park only include two bridges. She stated that she, too, would like the entrances to the park to remain as is. She suggested expanded the parking lot on the southeast area of the park to the south. Vice Mayor Robinson concluded that an additional bathroom should also be installed.

Councilman Breder stated that he is in favor of the construction of a third bridge. He concurred that the relocation and re-configuration of the racquetball courts should include input from the racquetball players. He remarked that the current vendor should maintain the racquetball courts, as the courts remain the vendor’s responsibility.

Councilman Neidhart concurred with Councilman Breder.

Mayor Flinn stated that there should be improvements to the tot lot, picnic areas and installation of a children garden. He also remarked that a wireless web component (WIFI) should be configured at the park.

Councilman Feller noted that the plan can be modified in the future, depending upon funding and priority. He moved to adopt the plan with his suggested modifications (eliminate the beach area; the western and northern

ball field would remain in its current location; reverse the infield of the southern field; the ball field currently being used by Palmetto High would remain as is; construction of the restroom and refreshment facility to be built further to the west than what is depicted for ease of use by everyone; widening and improvements to the walking path should be done; however, the location of the path on the north side of the park to remain as is; the number of tennis courts to be increased; however, the “footprint” shall remain the same; relocate two racquetball courts, with design input from the racquetball players; the entrances to the park shall not be moved; and football fields would not change.) Seconded by Councilman Breder.

Vice Mayor Robinson moved to amend the motion to include the removal of the third bridge. Seconded by Mayor Flinn. The Motion failed 2-3, with Councilmen Feller, Neidhart and Breder voting against same.

All voted in favor of the previous motion made by Councilman Feller, revising the park plan for Coral Reef Park to include his modifications. The Motion carried 5-0.

Staff was directed to revise the drawing accordingly.

Discussed ensued regarding Perrine Park.

Councilman Feller stated that his position remains unchanged: he does not wish the park to become a major athletic facility, but does not wish the park to be a “low-key” neighborhood park. He stated that he wants large areas of green space, adequate ball fields, not just for girls softball, but multi-purpose fields that can change for seasons, walking paths, picnic tables, indoor recreation building, boundless playground, and adequate parking. Councilman Feller opined that four fields should be built on the west, two smaller/little league on the east – t-ball or girls softball, and include a large buffer of green space. He stated that he will propose that only the west field should be lit, with appropriate low lighting.

Mayor Flinn stated that there is a disparity in availability of fields for girls’ sports and he is in favor of providing services for all. He stated that one way to provide these services is through the boundless playground, which will be constructed in part with funds received from a Safe Neighborhood Parks grant and an agreement with Miami Children’s Hospital who is donating a portion of their land for construction of this 18,500 square foot playground.

Councilman Breder concurred, adding that there have been discussions with Miami Children’s to also allow joint use access to the Park from Franjo Road.

Ms. Garcia agreed, adding that the facility will result in a seamless relationship between able-bodied children and those with disabilities.

Mayor Flinn further explained the proposed plan that included removing the southern entrance from the plan, keeping 94 Avenue a “half” road. He stated that the plan also includes a community building to include indoor basketball or volleyball and indoor activities for summer camps, a possible skate park element, benches and picnic tables, WIFI, four ball fields on the west, two of which will have 400’ outfields and one with 250’ outfield and the other 175’. He stated that there would be two fields installed on the east, creating a “quad” and sufficient buffer (approximately 240’ feet from the roadway). Mayor Flinn remarked that this plan would leave a play area of over three acres that would border the eastern portion of the park. He stated that this plan also includes three additional tennis courts and another basketball court, 10 feet wide walking paths, and installation of gardens. He asked Ms. Garcia how many parking spaces were planned.

Ms. Garcia replied that the plan includes approximately 180 to 190 parking spots. She reported the Councilman Breder has been negotiating with the adjacent businesses regarding utilizing those business parking lots during the weekends. She provided a drawing of the plan, adding that the plan incorporates a balance of active and passive activities, with tennis remaining, large buffer area, 2 larger ball fields, and a quad of fields with 200’ outfields.

Mayor Flinn noted that the Village has two parks within its boundaries, Deering and Sadowski, that are passive. He proposed unfettered use of the west fields and restricting eastern fields for special events.

Vice Mayor Robinson stated that she is happy with the plan as the two eastern fields would be multi-purpose when not in use.

Councilman Breder stated that he consistently was of the opinion that the best solution was to insure that all interests were met. He remarked that Perrine Park does not belong to the neighbors, but to the entire village; however it is clear to him that the majority of the public is in favor of including only four fields.

Councilman Neidhart expressed his pleasure with the proposed plan, adding that prohibiting lighting of the eastern fields is a good idea. He stated that he was in favor of having four tennis courts to allow the public to play without having to use the vendor. He also remarked that he liked the idea of installing a skate park. He noted that there remains sufficient space for trees and landscaping in the eastern buffered area.

Mayor Flinn stated that the quad would include lights only for special events, which lights would be 90’ from the adjacent roadway.

Vice Mayor Robinson moved that the plan be revised to allow no more than four special events and/or tournaments per year.

Councilman Feller remarked that the master plan is a physical plan that has nothing to do with the rules and lighting of the park.

Councilman Breder stated that the village shouldn't construct fields just to restrict them.

Following discussion, Vice Mayor Robinson moved to approve the number 4 plan (the plan being discussed with the 6 fields) with the proviso that the two eastern fields would be permitted to hold special events and/or tournaments only four times per year.

A ballot vote was taken. The motion carried 4-1, Councilman Breder being the sole opposition.

Councilman Feller moved that the west fields be lit, with the east fields remaining unlit, should the village chose to light any of the fields in the future. Councilman Breder seconded. A ballot vote was taken. The motion carried 4-1, with Mayor Flinn being the sole opposition.

Councilman Feller moved to limit the two eastern fields to children ages 8 and under.

Ms. Garcia noted that little league girls' softball is for ages 12 and under.

Councilman Feller revised his motion – limit the two eastern fields for play by boys 8 and under and girls 12 and under. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. A ballot vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Vice Mayor Robinson moved to limit the eastern fields to four special events/tournaments per year. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. A ballot vote was taken. The motion carried 4-1, Councilman Breder being the sole opposition.

Vice Mayor Robinson moved to adopt the master plan for Perrine Park, as amended. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart. A ballot vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

IX. RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARING: None at this time.

X. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES:
None at this time.

- XI. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING:** None at this time.
- XII. REQUESTS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None at this time.
- XIII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:** None at this time.
- XIV. OTHER BUSINESS:** None at this time.
- XV. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was officially adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Prepared and submitted by:

*Meighan J. Pier
Village Clerk*

*Adopted by the Village Council on
this ___ day of January, 2005.*

Eugene P. Flinn, Jr., Mayor