

Clearwater, Florida, November 6, 2003

The Pinellas Assembly Recreation, Structures and Financing Task Force met in the Pinellas County Park Department Conference Room, 631 Chestnut Street, Clearwater, Florida, at 3:00 P.M. on this date with the following members present: Jerry Provenzano, Chairman; Carlen Petersen, Co-Chairman; Elizabeth Darnell; Chris Eaton; Lynn Rives; and Elizabeth Warren.

Absent: Jim Appelt, John Day, Steve Heller and Ralph Marlow.

Also in attendance: Kathy Swain, Park Department; Susan P. Ajoc, City of St. Petersburg; and Barbara Harb, Board Reporter.

AGENDA

- I. Overview/General Discussion
 - a. Where are we?
 - b. Where are we going?
 - c. How do we get there?
 - d. Who else do we need to talk to?
- II. Public Input
- III. Task Force Member Input
- IV. Adjournment

Chairman Provenzano called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

OVERVIEW/GENERAL DISCUSSION

Chairman Provenzano referred to a list of recommended objectives, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, which included the following:

1. Foster continued and increased cooperation among the County, municipalities and the School Board regarding access to facilities for recreation purposes.
2. Encourage reasonable access for citizens in all recreation programs with respect to locale and availability.
3. Encourage the reduction of unincorporated resident fees paid to the municipality via finance incentives from County grants.

4. Provide reimbursement of the unincorporated resident fee to be paid directly to the municipality or to the citizen.

He indicated that Items Nos. 3 and 4 are alternatives for achieving an equitable program funding/reimbursement plan; whereupon, discussion ensued with input by Ms. Warren, Mr. Rives and Ms. Swain with regard to the following topics:

- Method of reimbursing unincorporated resident fees
- Increasing Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) percentage for recreation
- Providing more detail for the recommended objectives
- Staff research and report on therapeutic recreation
- Access to athletic organized recreation
- Capacity issues
- County's authority/ability to provide active recreation
- Core mission of the County and the cities
- Recreation/open space component consideration during redevelopment discussions by cities or the County
- Partnership with YMCA for summer camp
- Demographic changes in the County
- Decline in team sports and increase in extreme sports
- Needs-based scholarships
- Reimbursement cap of one per person

Ms. Warren referred to a draft report, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and indicated that December 12 is the deadline for submission of task force reports; and that a presentation of findings of the task forces to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and the Council of Mayors is scheduled for January 9, 2004; whereupon, she outlined the meeting format and stated that, following review by the respective city council members and the BCC, a vote on the recommendations will take

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place in April 2004. During discussion, Ms. Warren stated that BCC Chairman Karen Williams Seel would like to know the position of individual task force members on each recommendation. Further discussion ensued with regard to therapeutic recreation, during which, Ms. Petersen suggested that staff be directed to research the issue and provide a report of recommended solutions by January 2005; and no objections were noted.

Thereupon, Ms. Warren referred to the adopted interlocal agreement between the County, the School Board and certain municipalities, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and noted that the agreement provides for the parties to work together in coordinating land use and public school facilities planning.

Following further discussion, Chairman Provenzano directed that more detailed drafts of the recommended objectives be prepared for refinement by the full task force as follows:

- Mr. Eaton - Toytown
- Ms. Petersen - School Board
- Ms. Darnell - Therapeutic recreation
- Chairman Provenzano - Sponsorships and recreation/open space

Responding to Chairman Provenzano's inquiry as to the need for an additional meeting following the November 20 meeting, Ms. Darnell suggested the task force meet on December 4; and no objections were noted. Mr. Rives indicated that he will survey the cities with regard to needs-based scholarship programs, and provide a report.

Chairman Provenzano adjourned the meeting at 4:30 P.M.