

**MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida
September 19, 2017**

Present were:

Betsy Benac, Chairman
Robin DiSabatino, First Vice-Chairman
Charles B. Smith, Second Vice-Chairman
Stephen R. Jonsson, Third Vice-Chairman
Vanessa Baugh
Carol Whitmore

Absent was:

Priscilla Whisenant Trace

Also present were:

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator
Mitchell O. Palmer, County Attorney
Quantana Acevedo, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Chairman Benac called the work session to order at 9:04 a.m.

AGENDA

BC20170919DOC001

HURRICANE SHELTERS



Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator, made introductory remarks.



John Osborne, Infrastructure Strategic Planning Official, utilized a slide presentation to discuss purpose, shelters in Manatee, hurricane shelter planning, 2016 Statewide Emergency Shelter Plan, growth and population at-risk, shelter regulations, shelter costs, shelter funding, process of building shelters, a summary of issues (concerns, and recommendations).

Mr. Hunzeker stated the data is inconsistent with Florida Statutes and the new study may be available in January 2018.



Discussion proceeded regarding seeking funding to harden new schools, need discussion with legislators so they understand the study and inaccurate numbers, evacuees will seek shelters in the future versus traveling out of state, Lakewood Ranch High School is no longer on the hurricane shelter list, working with School District on which residents should go to which shelters, pet friendly facilities, cost of hardening facilities (\$2.9 million versus \$10 million plus), School District has a role which is providing education to students, Manatee County is in the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council list of counties, and cannot require the School District to harden schools.



Mitchell O. Palmer, County Attorney, explained as long as the State says there is a surplus, the School District does not have to pay for the hardening of the schools.



Nicole Knapp, Planning Section Manager, reported staff met with the School District and they are adamant that the proposed middle school will not be hardened.

Mr. Osborne stated the next three schools proposed to be built will not be hardened, which includes the North County High School.

Discussion took place about needing to go to the legislators for support, 90-day window for proposed school site plans, if the proposed school site plan was denied within the 90-day window then it would have been a problem for the County, letter to Sherilyn Burris (5/16/17) requesting a shelter exemption, the Board did not receive a copy of the letter to Ms. Burris prior to the hearing on the North County High School Site Plan (9/7/17), and from a land use perspective, the Board has limited approval.

 John Barnott, Building and Development Services Director, explained the Board's review of the proposed school site plans are for infrastructure needs and wants.

 Discussion continued about shelter needs were greater due to residents staying with relatives versus going to shelters, the School District does not budget for hardening of schools, the four schools in North County can serve as shelters, registering residents with special needs, need to pursue additional shelter capacity, the Board and School Board need to work together in order to acquire shelter funding, placing shelters on the County's legislative platform and staff will draft a letter to the School Board.

There being no public comment, Chairman Benac closed public comment. BC20170919DOC002

RECESS/RECONVENE: 9:51 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Trace.

PARKS MASTER PLAN

 Mr. Hunzeker thanked staff for efforts.

 Charlie Hunsicker, Director of Parks and Natural Resources, stated this is an ongoing report and planning process that will eventually lead to substantial investments in Manatee County for recreation and natural resource protection. He introduced the consultants, Kelley Klepper (Kimley-Horn and Associates), Dave Barth (Barth Associates), and James Pankonin (Kimley-Horn and Associates).

Mr. Klepper and Mr. Barth utilized a slide presentation to review what is a parks master plan, why is Manatee County doing one, master planning process, existing conditions and analysis, 2017 resident population, Manatee County by the numbers, needs assessment (key findings), long range vision (mission, activities versus facilities, service delivery models, park classifications recommendation, level of service recommendation, recommendation – differential LOS, and recommendation – strategy board), funding, phase, implementation strategy (seven-year Capital Improvements Plan [CIP]), biggest challenge for the successful execution of this plan, master plan approval, adoption (next steps), additional existing CIP project support at Robinson Preserve through FY18, grant funding, and fundamental CIP project support through FY18.

Discussion took place during and after the presentation regarding tax for environmental lands, seeking additional public comment, infrastructure sales tax funds, master plan has come at a good time, private investments throughout the County, artificial turf at certain parks, multi-cultural activities, and quality of life.

Public Comment

 Laurie Galle, resident, stated she frequents various parks throughout the County. She requested the Pride Park Splash Park be open for a longer period of time and additional swings at Pride Park. She noted County parks offer diversity, which she appreciates.

There being no additional public comment, Chairman Benac closed public comment.

 Mr. Hunsicker stated staff will work on the CIP in order to implement the Parks Master Plan.

Mr. Hunzeker asked the Board to accept the report and endorse the recommendations. Staff will seek public input and come back before the Board at the appropriate time.

 Danny Hopkins, Recreation Division Manager, explained there are a lot of projects that require staff and operational dollars, but there is a lot in the Half-Cent Infrastructure Sales Tax that will not require additional staff.

Brief discussion took place about artificial turf.

BC20170919DOC003

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Benac adjourned the work session at 11:41 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____