OSCEOLA COUNTY PARKS
ADHOC COMMITTEE
May 5, 2015

Commissioner Langworthy called the meeting of the Osceola County Parks Adhoc Committee to order at 4:15 p.m. The pledge to the Flag was given followed by prayer.

Present: Commissioners Langworthy, Gregory and Thompson.
Absent: None
Park Personnel: Carl Baumgras, Julie Homan, Rose Lake Park: Mike & Karen Tribley, Crittenden Park: Mike Murray
Others: Rich Trudo and Lauren Trudo

Agenda: Motion by Commission Gregory, supported by Commissioner Thompson to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Rich Trudo addressed the meeting regarding taking a day off work today and expressed how most of the information he reviewed and read regarding the 4th of July, 2014 incident was untrue. He expressed his concern over never being asked to leave the park prior to the letter in October banning him from the parks and why no one discussed these items with him throughout the 2014 season. He would like to see a procedure created and put in place to help resolve this from happening in the future. He spoke of his desire as well as his whole family desire to camp at Rose Lake Park. Rich Trudo came with his father to camp as a kid and now his kids are the main reason for camping at Rose Lake.

New Business: The committee was assembled to discuss the Rich Trudo letter banning him from the parks. Commissioner Langworthy explained the rules as written in the parks rates and rules brochure. He explained how the letter was developed banning Rich Trudo and others from the parks in an October 2014 Parks Commission meeting. It was with the full Parks Commission agreeing to uphold the Park Managers decision to ban Rich Trudo and seven others from the both Parks.

With regards to a policy for discipline, Commissioner Langworthy will stand behind the managers making sound good decisions when asked to consider such requests. The Committee discussed most of the letters received and explanation were given in regards to how, why and when. All present were asked to speak in regards to this matter at hand.

Intimidation, retaliation, manners and respect were discussed throughout the meeting. The rules and goals were reviewed with committee members expressing Rule #25 and #26 as means for future incidents. Discussion followed regarding how to resolve the issues regarding this matter.

Park Manager/Employee Comments: All present were given an opportunity to express their thoughts on this matter.

Rose Lake Park Manager Mike Murray asked that he not be able to return to the parks.

Commissioner Thompson asked that the rules be enforced as written.

Commissioner Gregory spoke of mixed emotions, he said/she said, the kid’s parents not spoken to about incidents, and his concern for the managers making the decisions. He spoke of this unfortunate chain of events and any solution will make someone unhappy.

Commissioner Langworthy spoke of his support for the park employees, but will not follow them blindly if they are not in control of situations. He spoke of his open door policy for all concerned. He expressed a cooling off period of one year regarding the Trudo family. He asked for the Commissioners input regarding banning Rich Trudo for life.

Both Commissioner Gregory and Thompson do not want to ban Rich Trudo for life.

Rich Trudo expressed he has never been in trouble and the retaliation for Zane Jones actions which he was never reprimand for.

Lauren Trudo spoke of coming to camp with Rich’s family since he was a kid and that Rich Trudo has brought a lot of friend and family campers into the parks over the years.

Karen Tribley expressed her concerns for not being allowed to speak at the July 21, 2014 meeting and how she felt that made matters at the park worse.

Rich Trudo asked if he could still use the boat launch this year. Commissioner Langworthy indicated he would get back to him regarding this matter.

Crittenden Park Manager Mike Murray expressed the rules are important and managers need to enforce them. After dark is the worst time for kids. The staff is proactive.

Rose Lake Park Manager Mike Tribley was OK with the one year cooling off period and will welcome Rich Trudo and his family back into the park in the future.

Rich Trudo expressed Mike Tribley being the best manager there and would like to wipe the slate clean and start over next year.

Commissioners expressed the ramifications of what the managers ask for and to document all infractions.

Motion by Commissioner Gregory, supported by Commissioner Thompson to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Homan – Executive Secretary/Bookkeeper
Draft until approved at the next Osceola County Parks Commission meeting