VI. New Business

14-0727 Water Fountain Installation at Ruscelletto Park - VABI

Greg Vine, Venice Area Beautification Inc (VABI) representative, provided an overview of the project to include policies and procedures, proposal and cost estimates, noted the three parts of the project to include a light timer, electricity to the fountain, and the junction box installation, commented on Florida Power and Light (FPL) bill and maintenance responsibility, and stated the Public Art Advisory Board did not find the fountain to be art but endorsed the project.

Discussion followed on the Wesco proposal, start and completion dates, potential connectivity of Legacy Trail and Ruscelletto Park, visibility of the fountain, aeration of the retention pond, city maintenance, warranty, and the approximate cost for annual electricity.

Mark Pollock, Wesco Fountains, commented on the cost to run the fountain.

Further discussion took place on the surrounding buildings and visibility, hours of operation, alternative lighting, and security of the fountain and control panel.

Bob Daniels, city council member, provided a history of the project, commented on lighting, FPL grant and assistance to project, and noted the project cannot begin without city council approval, commented on the expected timeframe for completion, receipt of bids, cost efficiency of circulating the water, and answered board questions on building occupancy.

A motion was made by Ms. Silk, seconded by Ms. Piper, that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends to City Council that the fountain at Ruscelletto Park be approved. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

Responding to board questions, Mr. Veneziano commented on the replacement of playground equipment at East Gate Park; noting that less expensive items are funded by the operating budget and larger items will have to wait until the next fiscal year.