



April 20, 2016

RE: Suncoast Aquatic Nature Center Associates (SANCA) Quarterly Update

Dear County Commissioners and Staff,

Please accept this letter as our quarterly update to the Board of County Commissioners. As In accordance, with the License and Operating Agreement between Sarasota County and Suncoast Aquatic Nature Center Associates, Inc., BC Contract No. 2014-280., attached is the annual schedule of events with estimated attendance as of April 20, 2016, as required in Section 1.12.4

In addition we wanted to give you a general update on the park and SANCA operations.

1. Events and Training

We have just gotten through the heart of our training season with over 50 teams calling our region home this winter and spring. Event season is in high gear with the State FSRA Sculling and Sweeps Championships, U.S. Olympic Rowing Team Trails, Modern Pentathlon World Cup Final, and the USRowing Regionals.

In addition hundreds of athletes and coaches called Nathan Benderson Park (NBP) home this spring as they prepared or qualified for the Olympic Games in Rio this summer. From Canada Canoe and Kayak to Modern Pentathlon and from adaptive athletes to elite rowers the Road to Rio definitely passed through NBP.

2. SANCA's Staff Changes

Nicole Rissler is transitioning to a new position with Sarasota County at the end of the month and SANCA will be reorganizing. The reorganization includes the elimination of the Chief Operating Officer position and the addition of a Director of Business Development. Jessica Shorin has been promoted to this position and will take over some of the duties that Nicole handled. We will also be hiring additional support staff for accounting and administration, maintenance and events and volunteers.

3. New NBP Logo

SANCA staff has been working diligently on the implementation of the new NBP logo and rebranding of the park. A big thank you to Sarasota County Communications and Parks and Recreation staff for their help in getting the



logo developed and providing support and guidance with the replacement of signs and collateral with the old logo.

4. Capital Update

The permanent bathrooms are very close to completion. We expect the bathrooms at the 500m mark to be open in the next week or so with the event garden bathrooms close behind.

The Finish Tower is on track for a fall 2016 opening and you should start seeing vertical construction occurring. Finally the new monument and digital signs are being installed which will be a tremendous asset for the promotion and communication of the park and its many opportunities.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to represent an amazing nature and aquatic center. We are excited about the future of SANCA and NBP and look forward to a busy and productive second half of 2016.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Blackketter  
President, SANCA

cc.  
Bill Robinson, SANCA Chair  
Tom Harmer  
Lee Ann Lowery  
Carolyn Brown  
Sheriff Tom Knight  
Virginia Haley