



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
AGENDA ITEM
Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department
Beach Operations

Date: February 11, 2025
To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Thru: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Deputy County Administrator
From: Beth Powell, Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director
Subject: Acceptance of three beach accessible wheelchairs from Surfing's Evolution
& Preservation Foundation "SEPF"

BACKGROUND:

While completing the process of approving the Drown Zero Life Saving Stations at all County owned beaches, Staff was made aware of a program that provided free wheelchairs to agencies to improve beach accessibility. Staff was given the contact for Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation "SEPF", Inc. SEPF is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization which was Founded by Ron and Lynne DiMenna, who hope that through education and public engagement, the programs and activities the Foundation supports will sustain the surfing lifestyle and protect Florida's beaches for generations to come. SEPF generates revenue for their charitable work from the sale of the Endless Summer Specialty License Plates. Mr. Billings contacted Jacquie Youngs from SEPF in November 18, 2024, inquiring about their program and whether or not they indeed provided these items at no cost to agencies throughout Florida. SEPF confirmed they had such a program and could provide such chairs if the County was interested. Staff expressed interest in accepting the chairs if they were donated by SEPF. SEPF also mentioned that through their grant program, the County could apply for a 2026 grant to receive an ATV to improve the County's ability to safeguard the public on County beaches.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

Staff received notice on December 21, 2024, that SEPF awarded three (3) beach wheelchairs to the County for public use. The Donation value, including shipping for each chair is \$2,829 for a total value of \$8,487. The only condition associated with this donation is recognition of their program in any public media release when promoting the wheelchairs.

FUNDING:

No funding is required for the subject task.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully request that the Board of County Commissioners accept three (3) beach wheelchairs from Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation and allow Staff to apply for a grant to receive an ATV to be used for guarding County beaches.

ATTACHMENTS:

Email from SEPF providing information on the award of the wheelchairs and stipulation on promotion of the program

Picture of model of wheelchair.

Grant Form

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR MARCH 11, 2025