



Town of Palm Beach Recreation

MINUTES

Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025, AT 9:00 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Recreation Advisory Commission (RAC) meeting was called to order on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Upon roll call, all Commissioners were present except Commissioner Jamison.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Pressly led the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Watts, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 24, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Watts, to approve the January 24, 2025, Recreation Advisory Commission meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

V. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE AND STAFF REPORT

Chair Pressly stated that Commissioner Rouse requested that a letter from a resident be made part of the record of the meeting.

Mr. Bresnahan recognized Chair Pressly for his service on the Commission and to the community. He spoke regarding his influence and involvement in the success of the Recreation Department over the last several years, including the final design and construction of the Mandel Recreation Center, the growth of programs in the Department, the renovation of the Seaview Tennis Center and overall improvements in the Recreation Department.

Mr. Bresnahan provided an update on capital projects, including spalling work being done on the new Clubhouse at Par 3, remodeling old Clubhouse bathrooms, activity court resurfacing at Seaview Park, and the Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Center renovation. He spoke regarding Camp Palm Beach registration. He stated that there will be two vacancies on the Commission. He commended members of his Departmental staff on their exceptional work. He spoke regarding the upcoming Spring Celebration and the extra work that goes into the event.

Assistant Director Rance Gaede provided an update on Tennis Operations. He announced that the Open Division Ladies won their division, and the Senior Mens Division team won their division. He spoke regarding the large turnout for tryouts for the Scholastic Team from Palm Beach Day

Academy. He spoke regarding the construction project at Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Center and provided details on the timeline and project. He provided an update on the hitting wall on the side of the activity court, including the associated costs. He spoke regarding an alternative option that had been submitted by a resident. He stated that it could be a viable option, but they would like to have tennis players test it. Discussion ensued on the option. Mr. Rance and Mr. Bresnahan answered questions and provided clarification. Chair Pressly spoke in support of pursuing the alternative option. Mr. Bresnahan stated that they will move forward with relocating the two palm trees and making that area the hitting wall.

Tony Chateauvert provided an update on the operations at Par 3 Golf Course. He provided historical information on how they have grown and improved. Mr. Bresnahan provided additional background on the Par 3 Course's revenues and spoke regarding the capital projects that are being planned for the facility. Mr. Chateauvert provided additional information on the plans for a roller for the greens.

VI. COMMENTS OF RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSIONERS

Chair Pressley expressed appreciation for the work of the Commission and the Director of Recreation and the Department.

Commissioner Dayton expressed appreciation to Chair Pressley for his work on the Commission.

Vice Chair Harris expressed appreciation to Chair Pressley. He commended the staff at the Par 3 Pro Shop. He expressed concern over the valet service and suggested they hire more staff during busy times. He inquired about the status of the Phipps Ocean Park project, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded. He also responded regarding the comments on the valet company. Vice Chair Harris commended the staff and the cleanliness of the Mandel Recreation Center.

Commissioner Missner spoke regarding improvement in all of the programs. He inquired regarding about the impact on Par 3 during the time when traffic is congested when President Trump is in town, to which Mr. Chateauvert responded. Commissioner Missner wished Chair Pressley the best.

Commissioner Roush spoke regarding the lawn in front of the Recreation Center not being large enough for larger events. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the utilization of that space and the special event approval process. He spoke regarding improving the drainage. He answered additional questions about the rental of that space.

Commissioner Watts expressed appreciation to Chair Pressley and to Director Bresnahan and the department staff. She expressed concern over use of the front lawn as an event venue and emphasized the importance of keeping control of the use of that space. Mr. Bresnahan addressed the concerns and spoke regarding staff not allowing it to be used when the lawn is mucky. He spoke regarding trying to encourage rentals on the sports field rather than that lawn.

VII. COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

John David Corey, 426 Australian Avenue, expressed appreciation to Chair Pressley. He spoke regarding the resident-serving feel of the Recreation Center. He spoke regarding the following: proposal for the tennis hitting wall; keeping a maximum of attendees at events on the grassy area in front of the Recreation Center; concern over the stacking of cars of valets at the Par 3; appreciation for the detail of the cleaning for the fitness center; and calling the Recreation Center the Mandel rather than the Rec Center.

Lawrence Kaplan, 2299 Ibis Isle Rd, expressed appreciation to Chair Pressley, the Commissioners and Director Bresnahan for their work. He expressed appreciation for the condition of the Sports Field. He expressed concern over the use of the front lawn at the Recreation Center. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Stover and Mr. Gaede for their work in the Tennis Program and spoke regarding changes at tennis at Phipps Ocean Park. He commended Tony Chateauvert for his work at the Par 3 and for the teaching professionals at the course. He spoke regarding a recent meeting he attended with the Preservation Foundation for the renovation at Phipps Ocean Park and encouraged continued coordination with the Foundation on the project.

John Dotterer, 1470 N Ocean Blvd, spoke regarding the proposal for the tennis hitting wall and spoke regarding the relocation of four trees and the possibility of filling in the block in between the columns in order to maximize the hitting surface and stated that he had received a rough estimate of \$20-25k to add the additional block and cover it in white stucco. He spoke regarding a 40' wide poured concrete hitting wall in Ft. Lauderdale, which is where Chris Everett Lloyd had trained.

Ellen Howe, 2295 S Ocean Blvd., spoke regarding being careful with holding events on the front lawn at the Mandel Center.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Field Lights

Mr. Bresnahan reported that the Town Council approved moving forward with hiring a lighting consultant for the project and stated that the project will be handled by Public Works Department at this point. He stated that the project will most likely be completed in fall of 2026 if it moves forward. He responded to questions on the process and funding for the project.

2. Seaview Parking Lot

Mr. Bresnahan reported that the Mandel Recreation parking lot has been designated a recreation user-only parking lot. Commissioner Watts expressed appreciation for the designation. Mr. Bresnahan expressed appreciation for Commissioner Watts for bringing this to the Commission's attention.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tennis Rules

Mr. Gaede provided background information on the item. He stated that they are requesting input from Commissioners and stated that the goal is to have the project completed by early fall. He responded to questions regarding the review process. Discussion ensued.

Amended Motion: Motion was made by Commissioner Watts, seconded by Commissioner Missner, to support the revision of all Town of Palm Beach Tennis Team Rules by the Recreation Department and endorse the application of those rules to all Town-sponsored teams playing at Seaview and Phipps Ocean Park tennis centers. These rules should reflect the Town's resident-first agenda. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

2. FY2026 Proposed Fees

Mr. Bresnahan presented the proposed fee changes and explained the changes. Discussion ensued, especially on the proposed fees for the rental of the front lawn at Seaview Park and the security deposit required. Mr. Bresnahan spoke to his authority and discretion to approve and administer higher or lower fees for that space depending on the scale of the event.

Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the increase in tennis division fees. Commissioner Watts inquired

about requiring tennis team players to become members of the Town's tennis program. Discussion ensued. Mr. Gaede answered questions regarding tennis instruction fees.

Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the increase in Par 3 Golf fees. Mr. Chateauvert answered questions regarding annual passes. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bresnahan provided additional information on the annual pass fee increase and the usage of annual passes. Further discussion ensued on increasing annual pass fees too substantially. Discussion ensued on the overall Par 3 golf fees.

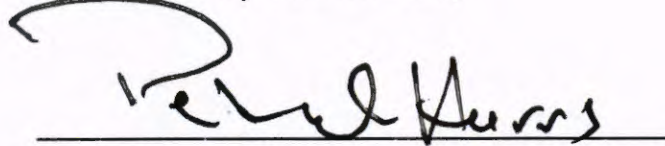
Motion was made by Commissioner Missner, seconded by Commissioner Watts, to approve the FY2026 Proposed Fees. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Discussion ensued on the process for the next Chair. Mr. Bresnahan explained the process. He also expressed appreciation for Mr. Jamison's service on the Commission, as well as Chair Pressly.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Commissioner Dayton to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Harris", is written over a horizontal line.

Chairperson

Meeting audio is located at:

https://townofpalmbeach.granicus.com/player/clip/3143?view_id=5&redirect=true