

Town of Palm Beach Recreation
MINUTES
Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting
Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order in the Town Council Chambers.

Members Present: Devon Roush, Peter Harris, Susan Watts, Patricia Garvy, Carolyn Ryan, Millie Dayton **Members Absent:** David Missner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

A motion was made by Ms. Watts and seconded by Ms. Roush to nominate Mr. Harris for Chair.

A motion was made by Ms. Garvy and seconded by Ms. Watts to accept Mr. Harris as Chair. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Dayton and seconded by Ms. Watts to nominate Ms. Roush for Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Garvy to nominate Ms. Watts for Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Ms. Garvy and seconded by Mr. Harris to accept Ms. Watts as Vice Chair. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Garvy to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

MINUTES

1. RAC Meeting Minutes 4-17-2025

A motion was made by Ms. Dayton and seconded by Ms. Garvy to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2025 meeting as presented. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

COMMENTS

2. STAFF

2.1 RAC Staff Report 10-23-2025

Mr. Bresnahan stated that this fiscal year was another record year that included several construction projects. He provided an overview of marketing efforts and emphasized the impact of social media and the RecConnect e-newsletter. He spoke regarding the programs and classes offered at the Recreation Center, Camp Palm Beach, and the After School program. He introduced the new Fitness Supervisor, Chris Deitrick, and spoke regarding programs he's bringing into the facility. He spoke about the return of Miss Sandee, who was always a favorite at the facility. He spoke regarding the monthly Coffee & Conversations event.

Mr. Bresnahan provided an update on the Phipps Ocean Park Renovation project and stated that the expected opening date is November 1. He spoke regarding the Par 3 Clubhouse renovation and issues that had been uncovered during the project. He spoke regarding improvements being made at the Par 3 course, including using robotic mowers, a new product for the cart paths and a new fiber-built range mat at the driving range, new uniforms for maintenance staff at Par 3 and new high-end greens rollers.

Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding highlights at Seaview, including the support of the Friends of Recreation with scholarships for Town employees' kids for Camp Palm Beach, painting of the After School room, change of parking in the lot to Seaview users only. C.R.A.S.E. training completed with TOPB Police, digital signage added, clay added to all of the tennis courts and a new front desk at the Mandel Recreation Center.

He provided an overview of the revenue for the Recreation Department over the fiscal year in the different program areas. He spoke regarding the work being done at Par 3 to keep the playing experience optimal for the residents. He spoke regarding the very large increase in revenue in Tennis due to the changes and improvements that have been made over the year.

He expressed appreciation for the Department's full and part-time staff and their hard work throughout the year. He credited them with the department's success.

Assistant Director Rance Gaede spoke regarding the updated Team Tennis policy. He congratulated the Women's Team who won the Summer Queens Division I. Mr. Gaede spoke regarding cost recovery for each program and stated that tennis is now taking in more revenue than is spent. He explained how the revenue was being generated in the Tennis Division and the increase in clinics being offered and the increase in daily visits and memberships due to the work of the Tennis staff. In response to questions, he spoke regarding the goals for cost recovery.

He provided an overview of capital projects that are being planned for FY2026, including resurfacing the fieldhouse floor at Mandel, Pro Shop renovation, new

fitness center equipment and fitness center floor. Ms Watts asked about the potential of expanding the Pro Shop, to which Mr. Gaede responded.

Tony Chateuvert spoke regarding the improvements to Par 3. He spoke regarding the new Club Car golf cart fleet that has arrived. He spoke regarding the robotic mowers. He spoke regarding the large increase in sales due to improvements that have been made by Sabrina Gordon in the Pro Shop. He announced that the upcoming One Club Tournament was sold out in a short amount of time. He spoke regarding new golf club sets for rentals and an increase in services for the rentals. He spoke regarding Public Works employees who won the Employee Golf Tournament and spoke regarding competitor courses. He responded to a question from Ms. Roush regarding offering children's camps at the Par 3.

3. OFFICIALS

Commissioner Dayton complimented Mr. Bresnahan and Public Works on getting the Phipps Courts completed on time and expressed her appreciation for the Tennis revenue success. She commented on the Play by Point app and stated that it is much easier to reserve the courts. She spoke regarding a complaint she had heard about the old voicemail system, to which Mr. Gaede responded.

Vice Chair Watts spoke regarding the updates to Phipps Ocean Park and asked about adding an item to an upcoming agenda to discuss amenities versus profit and the potential for a large increase in activities that will be occurring at Phipps and if the Town will be overseeing those activities. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding this discussion occurring in January and stated that it has been discussed that the Recreation Department will be overseeing activities at Phipps Ocean Park. Discussion ensued.

Chair Harris stated that he would like to see how the revenue is being generated (more users or higher fees) and the capital project budget. Mr. Bresnahan stated that he would share that information and spoke regarding upcoming projects at Par 3 that are planned for the upcoming year. He spoke regarding the Par 3 now being completely self-supporting and is actually adding to the revenue of the Town. He spoke regarding the philosophy of the department of trying to provide excellent service at a fair fee.

Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the opening of Phipps being a soft opening. He also addressed a question regarding an update on the field lighting project. Commissioner Ryan provided additional information on the status of the project and Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the approval process for the project. Discussion ensued on the Recreation Advisory Commission having input on the final project since there have been changes made to what was approved by the Commission previously.

Commissioner Roush inquired about increasing rates, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded and addressed the differential between residents and non-residents. He spoke regarding the focus on ensuring that residents have priority. Ms. Roush inquired about the short life span of the golf carts, to which Mr. Chateuvert and Mr. Bresnahan responded and explained the turnover and lease schedule of the carts.

Commissioner Ryan commended Mr. Bresnahan and staff on the work being done and the increase in revenue in all of the divisions. She spoke regarding each of the divisions and the effective work being done. She inquired about the timeline for a shade structure for the driving range, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded.

Ms. Watts expressed appreciation for Department's social media presence, specifically RecConnect and she spoke regarding the increased participation during the summer at Par 3. She welcomed Commissioners Garvey and Ryan to the Commission. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the increase in participation.

Chair Harris spoke regarding the capital project list and spoke in support of installing the shade structure sooner than projected. He spoke in support of adding another meeting for the Commission. He inquired about the timing of Communication from Citizens, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded. Mr. Bresnahan responded to the shade structure item and addressed the timing of Commission meetings. Discussion ensued.

4. PUBLIC - 3 MINUTE LIMIT

John David Corey, Australian Avenue, spoke regarding potential options for public comment and stated that most of the other commissions have public comment at the beginning of the meeting. He inquired about parking challenges at Par 3.

Dr. Ellen Howe, South Ocean Boulevard, expressed concern over the crumbling of the columns at Par 3 and spoke regarding the work that had been done on ensuring that the work on that building had been done correctly. She expressed concern over the construction and what the Town can do to hold the contractor responsible. She expressed immense appreciation for Mr. Chateauvert. She spoke regarding the pickleball courts in other facilities not requiring reservations and spoke regarding having the opening of the pickleball courts being publicized on the South end of Town. Mr. Rance spoke regarding the current pickleball list.

Anne Pepper, Seaspray Avenue, spoke in support of moving public comment up earlier during the meeting and holding an additional Commission meeting during the year. She spoke in support of holding fewer events outside of the Mandel Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Tennis Rules

Mr. Bresnahan provided brief background on the new tennis rules. Vice Chair Watts expressed appreciation for the work done on the new rules. Chair Watts spoke in support of increasing the Town resident participation percentage to 75%, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded regarding the goal of increasing resident participation.

A motion was made by Ms. Watts and seconded by Ms. Ryan to accept the new tennis team rules as presented. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

6. FY2026 Proposed Fees

Mr. Bresnahan stated that the fees that were approved by the Commission in April went into effect on October 1.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Phipps Ocean Park Racquet Center

Mr. Bresnahan provided background information on the item. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to formally rename the Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Center to the Phipps Ocean Park Racquet Center. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

8. Par 3 Parking

Mr. Bresnahan explained the issue with individuals parking at Par 3 to go to the beach. He stated that staff would like to make that lot for users only and requested confirmation from the Recreation Advisory Commission for that intention.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Garvy to intend to make the parking at the Par 3 for restaurant-goers and golfers only. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items discussed.

MEETING SCHEDULE

9. Proposed 2026 meeting dates:

- Thursday, January 29
- Thursday, April 23
- Thursday, October 29

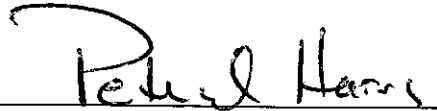
Discussion ensued on adding a March meeting date.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris and seconded by Ms. Watts to add an additional meeting of the Recreation Advisory Commission in March. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Garvy and seconded by Ms. Dayton to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 AM. The motion was carried unanimously, 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,


Peter Harris, Chair