



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Recreation Department

SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 23, 1998

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - A meeting of the Seaview Park Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Gavigan at 1:05 on September 23, 1998, at the Palm Beach Recreation Center. The Commission members in attendance were Mr. Gavigan, Mrs. Coniglio, Mrs. Drake, Mr. Shor and Mr. Silken. Alternate members in attendance were Mr. Spaziani & Mr. Turchan. Absent from the meeting was Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Morris. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Brown, Mrs. Stone, and Mrs. Walkowich. Also in attendance was Mr. Arthur Gross of the Golf Commission.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mr. Gavigan asked for an approval of the agenda. Mr. Shor made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Drake, all were in favor.
- III. APPROVAL OF MAY 27, 1998, MINUTES - Mr. Gavigan asked for an approval of the May 27, 1998, minutes. Mr. Shor made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Spaziani, all were in favor.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. *Proposed Merger of the Seaview Park & Golf Commission*

At the May 27, 1998, Seaview Park Commission meeting the idea of merging the Seaview Park and Golf Commission was brought to the attention of the Seaview Park Commission by Mr. Arthur Gross and Mr. Stuart Shulman, Golf Commissioners. At that time the following reasons were given for the merger: 1. They felt that there wasn't enough for two commissions to do. 2. They felt that one commission would be stronger than two, and 3. Staff time would be reduced.

After a lengthy discussion the following statements and recommendations were made:

- Mr. Spaziani asked Mr. Gross why the golf commission met so frequently. He said, that the Seaview Park Commission met every three months and that they barely had enough to keep them busy. He suggested that if the Golf Commission wanted to reduce staff time that they should meet less frequently.

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- Mr. Gavigan asked if there would be any cost savings to joining the commission. Mr. Brown said that the savings was not a monetary value, but that staff time could be reduced from approximately 150 hours to 50 hours spent on the two commissions, freeing staff to direct their activities to other programs.
- Mr. Shor asked who was going to decide which 10 members would remain if the commissions were merged or would they expand the commission to accommodate 19 members. He said that there would have to be a process of selecting those people to be on the new commission, dedicated people who will enhance and do justice to the commission. Mr. Brown responded that it would be the Town Council's prerogative who would serve. He said that we would ask all members of both commission who were interested in serving to submit a letter of interest to the Town Council.
- Mrs. Drake suggested that the Golf Commission should look to reorganize themselves so that they did not meet so frequently. Mr. Gross said that during the months of September through January the commission is busy with the golf tournament and that was one of the reasons why they met every month.

Mr. Gavigan said that he was concerned that if both commissions were merged and so much time had to be spent on the golf tournament that youth programs would not get recognized. He said that during the months of September through November was the time that youth programming was usually addressed.

Mrs. Walkowich stated that the staff runs the tournament. She said that commissioners help with raising funds and that each commissioner decides how involved they want to be with the tournament. Mrs. Walkowich said that the meetings that are held from September through November are not entirely dedicated to the tournament so the Seaview Park Commissioners need not be concerned that no other subject would be discussed during those meetings. She also stated that if the two commissions were formed that the new commission would decide how frequently they wanted to meet.

- Mr. Silken said that the Seaview Park Commission has the reputation of being very efficient and a lot of people feel that if the golf is part of this commission and all recreation centered in one commission then the golf course would be run more efficient and maybe new ideas brought in by new people and improvements made. He said that he had spoken with several of the Town Council members and it was suggested to him that this is one of the reasons why they would like to see it all combined into one recreation commission. Mr. Spaziani asked why would one commission be more efficient than having two separate commissions? Mr. Silken said, "New ideas, things that could be improved and make a better organization."

- Mrs. Coniglio said that her concern about merging the two commission is that there would not be adequate representation for the recreation programs. Mr. Turchan said that only recently did this commission become something other than a tennis commission. Mrs. Walkowich said that the ordinance states "Members of the commission shall be registered voters in the Town of Palm Beach and whenever possible shall represent the major program divisions within the Town's Recreation Department."

Mr. Turchan said that he thought the two commissions together would be more effective but he felt that there would not be adequate representation for youth programs. Mrs. Coniglio said, "I'm in favor of doing it, I think it would be a stronger representation in Town across the board if there is some way that we could be assured of equal representation of all the divisions of Recreation." Mr. Shor said that he was in favor of merging the two commissions, that it would be more efficient. He said that he understood the fear of the other commissioners, that they wouldn't be back on the commission and agreed that there must be some sort of parameter for selecting the ten key people so that there would be equal representation for all program areas. Mrs. Coniglio said, "My concern is what happens four years from now when we continue to have political appointments that we have nothing but people that are serving their own interests or just golf or just tennis." Mr. Shor said, "Then maybe we need to raise the bar a little higher for the qualifications of becoming a commissioner."

Mrs. Coniglio asked Mr. Brown if there was a natural attrition on the Golf Commission that it was dissolving in any way. Mr. Gross said, "No". Mr. Gavigan said, "I have a list of both commissions and when appointments expire and it's a staggering time frame in the future. For instance Mr. Gross, your appointment expires November of 1998 so you have two more months to serve." Mrs. Walkowich said that Mr. Gross was eligible for reappointment. Mr. Gavigan asked what the limit was for serving on either commission? Mrs. Walkowich said that it was (2) three year terms. Mr. Brown said it would be quite a few years before it could be done through attrition. Mr. Brown suggested that the commission make a recommendation on who they would like to see remain on the commission if the two were merged. Mr. Shor said that we should submit our list and the golf commission should submit their list. Mrs. Coniglio said that anybody could apply, you could literally have all the golf commissioners apply, there was no guarantee of equal representation. She said that she feared for the children's interest.

Mr. Gavigan said that if the two commissions joined you would have one body, less meetings and less staff time and the input would be the same a recommendation from the committee. He said that staff works well with the committees as far as seeking

recommendations and following recommendations. He asked if this was a recommendation from the staff to join the committees. Mrs. Walkowich said, "No this was the Golf Commission's idea."

Mrs. Walkowich said that she understood the concerns of equal representation. She said that the Town Council tries to put people on the commission who want to represent all the different venues of the recreation department but it also depends on who applies to be on the commission. For example, if we have vacancies later on in years and only people with an interest in tennis apply then the Council is going to appoint them and the commission could become a majority of tennis interest minded people, she said there is no guarantee. Mrs. Stone said that some of the golf commissioners might not be interested in serving on a recreation advisory board because it's not going to strictly involve golf.

- Mrs. Drake asked why they were being pushed into making a decision. Mr. Brown said that nobody was pushing them to make a decision but that this item may be discussed at the October Town Council meeting and if the Seaview Park Commission wanted their recommendation to be heard by the Town Council prior to their discussing it they would need to make a recommendation at this meeting one way or the other.
- Mrs. Drake asked if children were welcomed at the golf course. Mrs. Stone said yes, the recreation department has even run golf clinics for children. Mr. Gross said "I would say the children are welcome." Mrs. Drake asked, "If some kids from the town wanted to go down there, not with the recreation department involved, and wanted to play are they welcome there?" Mr. Gross said, "I would say so, as long as they paid for their 18 hole round." Mr. Gavigan said, "Your saying that in a way that sounds somewhat guarded." Mr. Gross said "I've never seen it." Mr. Gavigan said "I have seen it, my kids play there." Mr. Gross said "But you've been with your children, I've never seen 4 children play 18 holes without any adult supervision." Mr. Gavigan said, "Well one problem with golf is you just can't have 4 kids go out there unsupervised who want to play golf." Mrs. Drake said that she has played golf all her life so she didn't want anyone to think she was against golf but she has never seen children playing at the golf course. Mr. Shor said that there was not a special rate for children. Mrs. Drake said, "I know that, so to me the golf has not at all honored the children in this town and it bothers me. It bothers me very much because if this is part of the recreation department we need to make sure that coming out of the Golf Commission is the attitude that we welcome the children in the Town of Palm Beach."

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She said, "That has been a deep concern for me and that is why I would like to put this off until they've changed their attitude and also why exactly they need as many meetings as they have and if they want to use all of us to help with them then they have got to have some attitudinal changes that I would like to see or hear from them. I do not think that the golf course has been a place where children could just go and play and it should be it, it's part of the Town."

- Mr. Gavigan called for a vote to be taken that would be an expression of interest of joining the two commissions provided that some sort of recommendation be made that can best devise some way of maintaining equal representation for all areas of recreation especially youth.

Mr. Silken recommended that instead of joining the two commissions that the Seaview Park Commission be expanded to accept 4 members of the Golf Commission. He said, "In other words tell them what we want instead of letting them decide." Mr. Turchan said, "I think that's an interesting concept, to disband the Golf Commission and add four more members to this commission."

Mr. Gavigan called for the vote on merging the two commissions. The result of the vote was 3 in favor (Mr. Silken, Mrs. Coniglio and Mr. Shor) and 4 against (Mr. Gavigan, Mrs. Drake, Mr. Turchan and Mr. Spaziani).

Mr. Turchan said, "I think we need to put forth our concerns. I think that there is a case for merging the two but I think the concern as parents is what happens to the children." Mrs. Coniglio said "The bottom line is Lisa's right, it's a risk you take and it's a risk they've taken for the last 15 years and you have to hope for the best and hope the pendulum swings back in your way." Mr. Turchan said "Ultimately even on this commission it isn't necessarily children oriented." Mrs. Drake said "Our concern is about the program and the lack of interest in the children of this town that I've seen at the golf course. I have always questioned why the Golf Commission has not gotten involved in getting children down there to play. I have a real problem with that until their attitude changes." She said, "Maybe they just don't know how to get the children involved. I'm sure Rick would like to have the children down there but if he's having all these meetings with this commission they should be discussing the children, the children need to be discussed."

Mr. Gavigan said "Let me see if I can paraphrase the feeling of this commission. The commission feels there is a legitimate case for merging the two commission but the reasoning behind the vote against it was that the commission wanted to ensure that there was proper youth representation on the board to make sure that the Palm Beach Recreation Department carries on as it is now, in a very valid way for the children." Mr. Turchan said, "Yes, I recommend that language be included in our recommendation."

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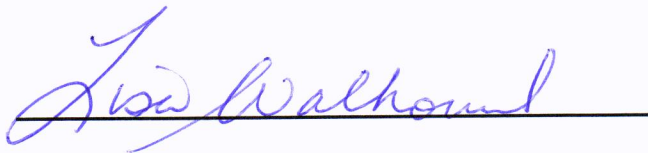
- Mr. Gavigan made the recommendation that two representatives of the Golf Commission and two representatives of the Seaview Park Commission should get together and see if they can design a program to aid youth in the use of the golf course. Mr. Shor said that a few of the Seaview Park Commission members might want to attend a golf commission meeting to see what they are like.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. *Program Report* - This report is attached.

VI ANY OTHER MATTERS - none

VII ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 2:20 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lisa Walhom", is written over a horizontal line.

**Seaview Park Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 23, 1998**

Summer Camp Program

Camp Palm Beach set record numbers for enrollment this summer with over 175 campers registered per week, an increase of 20% from last year's enrollment. The total number of participants per group for the eight week program were as follows:

- Minnows (ages 3 & 4): 137
- Dolphins (ages 5, 6, & 7): 422
- Stingrays (ages 8-11): 416
- Club Teen (ages 12-15): 214

Overall, the summer program was a tremendous success with numerous compliments from parents. As a result, we anticipate capacity enrollment for the 1999 summer program as well.

After School Program

Currently, 47 children are enrolled in the After School Program on a full-time basis. This is a 27% increase from last year's enrollment at this time. Several other children are registered on a drop-in basis.

Three fun days and early release program days are planned for the days children are out of school.

Club Teen

Club Teen has several activities planned for the fall. On Friday, October 30, teens will help staff the Halloween Hauntings party. On November 20 the Talent Competition will be held and on December 4 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. the Tournament Challenge will provide exciting competition. Scheduled field trips include the Ultra Zone, Boomers, and Fun Depot.

Athletics

Fall programs for athletics include Itty Bitty Soccer and Flag Football. Currently, Flag Football has 46 participants registered. Due to the inclement weather, practices have not yet been held.

Winter programs will include Youth Soccer which will begin on October 27, 1998.

Tennis

Program Updates

Junior clinics were very well attended this summer. The clinics were held in 12 - one week sessions with a total registration of 300. This program is 50% sponsored by the Palm Beach Tennis Association.

The Tuesday Night Mixer was well attended this summer, despite several cancellations due to rain.

The Fall Junior Program which runs for 12 weeks has a total of 116 registrations. Classes are held from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Women's team tennis begins in early October and will run through April 1999. Three teams have been created (A2, A3, & B3) with 56 players participating.

Upcoming tournaments this fall include:

- Town Junior Singles Championship - October 16-18
- North County Tennis Association Adult Singles Tournament - November 21 & 22
- Town Senior Singles Championship - December 3-6

Tennis Facility Improvements

- The clay courts were reconditioned in August with new lines and fresh Har tru top dressing.
- The shrubs in the back wall/drinking fountain area have been cleared to improve the seating area.
- The hard courts are scheduled to be resurfaced with top-coating and painting. Cracks and patch work will be included in the resurface.
- The back wall is scheduled to be resurfaced in early fall.

Youth and Adult Programs

Youth Fall session includes a comprehensive schedule with 21 classes. An additional Cooking up a Story class was added due to the number of children on the waiting list.

Aerobics and Water Aerobics were held during the summer months for adults. Water aerobics will continue in the Fall and is held at the Heart of the Palm Hotel. Twenty adult classes are scheduled for the Fall. All adult programs begin the week of November 2, 1998, except for Yoga, Tango, Adult Karate, and Aerobics classes which are now in session. New programs include Basic Astrology, Advanced Investment Planning, Adult Karate, and Personal Training.

Special Events

Three craft parties for children ages 3-8 are scheduled for Fall: Pumpkin Party, Saturday October 24 from 1:00-2:30 p.m., Turkeys and Treats, Saturday, November 21, 1:00-2:30 p.m. and Winter Wonderland on Saturday, December 9 from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Halloween Hauntings will be held on Friday, October 30, 1998 from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Activities will include a haunted house, carnival, and costume contest. Volunteers are needed for the event. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Stone.

The 16th Annual Palm Beach Pro Am Benefit Tournament will be held in late January (date to be determined once the LPGA schedule is confirmed). Volunteers are needed for sponsorship and day of event activities. Please contact Carolyn Stone if you are interested in volunteering.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION

ATTENDANCE RECORD 1998

MEMBERS	1/98	3/98	5/98	9/98	11/98
1. GAIL CONIGLIO	P	P	P	P	
2. ANN DRAKE	P	U	P	P	
3. JAMES GAVIGAN	P	P	P	P	
4. EILEEN MORRIS	P	E (illness)	P	U	
5. RENEE FISHER	P	P	U	U	
6. MORTON SHOR	P	P	P	P	
7. STANLEY SILKEN	-----	P	P	P	
ALTERNATES					
1. MICHAEL SPAZIANI	P	P	P	P	
2. THOMAS TURCHAN	P	U	P	P	
3.	-----	-----	-----	-----	

LEGEND: P = Present
 E = Excused
 U = Unexcused
 A = Absent Pending Classification as "Excused" or "Unexcused"

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RECORD FY-98

MEMBERS:	1/98	3/98	5/98	9/98	11/98
1. GAIL CONIGLIO					
2. ANN DRAKE					
3. JAMES GAVIGAN					
4. EILEEN MORRIS					
5. RENEE FISHER					
6. MORTON SHOR					
7. STANLEY SILKEN					
ALTERNATES:					
1. MICHAEL SPAZIANI					
2. THOMAS TURCHAN					
3.					

LEGEND: X = Conflict of Interest