TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Recreation Department

MINUTES OF THE SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MARCH 25, 1992

I. CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of the Seaview Park Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Broberg at 1:20 PM on March 25, 1992, in the Recreation Center. Commission members in attendance were; Mr. Broberg, Mr. Ochstein, Mrs. McIntyre, and Mrs. Royal. Staff members in attendance were; Mr. Bitzer, Mr. Hay, and Mrs. Walkowich. Mr. Lubow arrived later in the meeting. Absent from the meeting were; Mrs. Leidy and Mr. Myers.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. Broberg said that he would like to add under any other matters, the issue of the plaque and second whether the captain's committee was keeping to its schedule. Mr. Broberg asked, if all were in favor of approving the agenda. Agenda was approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 26, 1992 MINUTES: Mr. Broberg asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes, there were none. Motion was made by Mrs. McIntyre to approve the minutes, motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tennis Shop Fundraising Status Report - Mr. Broberg

Mr. Broberg stated that there were no changes in the Tennis Shop Fundraising.

2. Status Report - FY-92 Capital Projects - Proposed Lighting of Tennis Courts No. 3 & 4, Tennis and Basketball Court Resurfacing - Mr. Bitzer

Mr. Bitzer explained that at present the department was in the process of working on the preliminary bid specifications for this work to be completed during the summer months. Once preliminary plans were completed he would bring them before the Commission at their April meeting for their review prior to finalizing any bid specifications. Mr. Broberg asked how long the courts would be down for resurfacing. Mr. Bitzer stated that the basketball courts would be down approximately 3 days, hard tennis courts would be down approximately 1 week and the clay courts, which also included the installation of a new sprinkler system on courts 1 through 4 would be down approximately 4 to 5 weeks.

Mr. Bitzer stated, as per the Commission's recommendation, he had requested authorization for the Town Engineer to proceed with the engineering plans for the lighting of tennis courts 3 and 4 via a memorandum to the Town Manager and requested that this item be placed on the April 14th Town Council meeting agenda.

Mr. Ochstein asked if the new lights were operational yet. Mr. Bitzer explained that they anticipated the project being completed by the end of this month. Mr. Ochstein stated that it was his understanding that the lights needed to be operating to see the impact of them to be able to proceed with lighting additional courts. Mr. Broberg explained that he had seen the draft memo that Mr. Bitzer was submitting to the Town Manager and that it basically stated that we needed to go ahead with the engineering plans, so if we do get approval to go ahead with the project, we would be able to complete the lighting on a timely basis during the summer months and simultaneously with the tennis court resurfacing project so as not to disrupt the courts on two separate occasions.

Mr. Broberg suggested that when the lights become operational that we have a ribbon cutting ceremony with possibly an evening tennis exhibition. Mrs. Royal made the motion that the Department coordinate a ribbon cutting ceremony, some time in early April prior to the April 14th Town Council meeting, when the lights are completed and operational. Seconded by Mr. Broberg, motion carried.

3. Review of Proposed Revision to Women's Team Tennis Tryout Procedures - Mr. Bitzer.

Mr. Bitzer explained briefly what had occurred up to this point and that the Women's Team Tennis Committee and the Staff had completed revisions to the existing tryout procedures and that they were now ready for their review. After recommendations are made by the Commission, these procedures would be finalized prior to April 10th and the Spring tryouts. The staff is planning to complete all other program policies and procedures prior to the June 17th WTTC meeting. It is anticipated that these policies and procedures will be brought to the June 24th Seaview Park Commission meeting for review and then finalized on or before July 20th.

Mr. Hay asked the Commission if they had any questions regarding the tryout procedures. Mr. Bitzer stated that one area which they may wish to discuss would be a change in the status of player eligibility.

Mrs. Royal questioned the fact that a qualified non resident permit holder was equal to a qualified resident. Mr. Bitzer explained that the WTTC suggested a priority system be established where by qualified residents and permit holders shall have a first priority in filling team vacancies and open positions through the approved tryout procedure and qualified non residents who do not hold a permit would be a second priority and may be added to a team roster through the approved tryout procedure if positions are available after first priority players have been added to the team rosters.

Mrs. McIntyre was concerned regarding the fact that the procedures stated nothing about players purchasing a yearly permit and felt the verbiage should be changed to read qualified resident permit holders. Mr. Bitzer explained that all residents, with or without permits are a top priority. Mr. Bitzer further stated that the staff would closely monitor resident demand in the community for participation in this program, and if the status of this demand changes, then we would want to revisit this eligibility procedure and would bring it back to the Commission for their review and recommendations.

Mrs. Royal questioned Mr. Hay regarding the Spring tryouts. Mr. Hay explained that he had scheduled sequential tryouts starting with the A-1 team in the beginning of April, then the A-3 team around April 6th and the B-1 team around the 13th or 14th. The C team has not been scheduled because of different circumstances this year. They are applying to the County to play in the County league and sometime in May they would be holding tryouts, if necessary, and adding names to this roster. He further stated that he did not think a tryout would be necessary for the A-1 or B-1 team because there were more vacant spots than people interested in playing. However, he did expect to have a round robin for the A-3 team because at present they had more people than positions available.

Mrs. Royal felt that a public service notice should be put in the paper announcing these tryouts to make sure that every one interested in playing would be aware of them and have an opportunity to tryout. Mr. Hay stated that a press release had been sent to the Palm Beach Daily News early last week announcing tryouts and he hoped that it would appear in this weekend's paper.

Mr. Ochstein said he was concerned with the resident/non resident permit holder priority. He felt that residents should come first over any non-resident. Mr. Bitzer explained that this was the WTTC recommendation. He thought that the reasoning behind it was that these permit holders paid a significant fee to join the facility and that several of the better players on the teams were non-resident permit holders who had been playing for years. He further stated that there was a minimal number of non residents on each team. Mr. Hay concurred with Mr. Bitzer that the vast majority of players here at Seaview were residents. Mr. Hay further stated that at other facilities in the area, non residents who join a facility are treated equally to residents.

Mrs. McIntyre asked if in any other program do we differentiate between residents and non residents. Mr. Bitzer said yes and explained that we have a pre registration for residents in our other programs. Mr. Hay said that the Town Championship Tennis Tournament is open to residents and annual permit holders.

Mr. Bitzer reminded the Commission of the statement he had made earlier in regards to the staff monitoring the demand of residents wanting to be on a team, and if needed, we would revisit this eligibility procedure. However, as far as he was concerned, residents were our first priority, with their interests being served first. He further stated that at this time, there was not a large demand from additional residents to be on any of the teams.

Mrs. Royal stated that we could prioritize the list as resident permit holders, residents, non resident permit holders and non residents. Mrs. McIntyre questioned her as to how this priority was going to work since all participants had to tryout. Mr. Hay stated that as long as a resident is qualified to play, it wouldn't matter if the non resident was better, the resident would be added to the roster first.

Mr. Lubow asked Mr. Bitzer if the department ever checks the resident status of players, particularly those who list a post office box as an address. He felt Mr. Bitzer had made a mistake as to the number of non residents that were on the teams. Mr. Bitzer explained that he had gone through the list and said that on the average, there were only 2 or 3 players on each team that were non residents and that at this time, there were only a couple of players that had questionable addresses and that they were being looked into. Mr. Bitzer further explained that in obtaining an annual permit, identification is checked and post office boxes are not acceptable proof of residency. Also, daily fee players have to show proof or residency to qualify for the resident rate.

Mr. Broberg stated that at one time the Commission had discussed the idea of making all members of the ladies teams permit holders. Mr. Ochstein explained that the idea had been dropped for the ladies teams when a daily fee schedule had been devised. Mr. Bitzer explained that the teams had been given the choice of paying a daily fee for two hours of time or purchasing a permit.

Mr. Lubow made the suggestion that we table this matter and allow the department time to determine how may people on the teams are residents living in Palm Beach. Mr. Broberg felt that this was a good idea, but regardless of what was going to happen this year, he felt everyone who wanted to play would have the opportunity, residents and non-residents alike. He felt that we needed to legislate what was going to happen in the future. Mr. Lubow stated that offering the public an opportunity to tryout for these teams is a recent development and in time, once word got around, he felt that there would be a lot more residents interested in getting on these teams. Mr. Bitzer reminded the commission that tryouts were going to start next week and that this needed to be resolved today.

Mr. Ochstein made the motion that we have three priorities, first resident, second non-resident permit holders and third non resident non permit holders. Mrs. McIntyre seconded. Mr. Broberg stated for discussion that he did not have a problem with Mr. Ochstein's motion but that he did not see how this was going to work with the present teams. Do you take the women on the teams who are non residents and say you are no longer eligible to play unless we have open spots. Mr. Ochstein stated that he thought this was just for the spots that were open and being tried out for. Mr. Hay stated that this would effect the whole team and that last year an exception had been made for existing non resident players on the teams and that they had been grandfathered in, but that no new non residents were to be added to the team. Mr. Bitzer stated that the grandfathering in was just for last year as recommended by the Commission. Mr. Hay stated that he felt that the type of prioritizing as recommended by Mr. Ochstein could create problems.

Mrs. McIntyre asked Mr. Bitzer what the percentage of resident to non residents was in all of our programs including tennis. Mr. Bitzer stated that there were approximately 75% residents and 25% non residents.

Mr. Broberg stated that he felt that residents should have first opportunity to play on a team, but he did not know how this could be implemented, at least to those existing players on teams who may or may not be non residents, because of this 50% returning player rule. Furthermore, is it fair to them if they are permit holders and have played in the past?

Mr. Hay asked the Commission if they were talking about prioritizing all tennis programs or just the ladies teams. Mr. Ochstein stated that the motion only concerned the ladies team.

Mr. Lubow told Mr. Ochstein that he could possibly alter his motion in such a way that the Town and ladies teams could utilize what they have now because there was not enough time to restructure this program. So perhaps he could change his motion that sometime in the future we would revisit this procedure. Mr. Hay stated that he concurred with Mr. Lubow and stated that he would like to see a smooth transition this year into the new procedures, especially since they did not have a large number of new residents who were interested in joining the team. He further suggested that a date in the Fall be set to review this procedure. Mr. Lubow told Mr. Hay that he would have to let the ladies teams know that this was going to be the policy for this year, but that it would be reviewed next year and possibly be changed. This advance notice might help to avoid confusion or problems between the Commission, staff and ladies teams next year.

Mr. Lubow made the motion to table to Mr. Ochstein's previous motion regarding prioritizing player eligibility until after the mid year tryouts when the Commission will review it again. Seconded by Mrs. Royal motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. McIntyre made the motion that the Women's Team Tennis Tryout Procedures as submitted, with the exception of the addition of the word qualified before permit holders, will be used for the upcoming Spring tryouts until they are revisited in February of 1993. Seconded by Mrs. Royal motion carried unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. FY-93 Proposed 5 Year Capital Improvement Program - Mr. Bitzer

Mr. Bitzer suggested that the discussion on this item be rescheduled for the April Commission meeting, when he could have more information for them. Mr. Bitzer then reviewed the approved budget calendar and suggested that in April they discuss the Capital Improvement Program and that the Commission schedule a special budget meeting, possibly on May 6th, to review the proposed expenditure and revenue budgets.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Broberg stated that at the last meeting an exterior donors plaque for the tennis pro shop was discussed and that the money needed for this plaque was not allocated in the budget and that additional money would be needed to purchase this type of plaque. He asked the Commission if they would indeed want this type of plaque, and if so, would they go out and get the additional funds needed for it. Mr. Lubow asked Mr. Broberg how much money were they short. Mr. Broberg explained that they were about $5,000 short on the $42,000 loan and the cost of an exterior plaque would be approximately an additional $700 - $900. Mr. Lubow stated that he had additional commitments of about $2,500. Mr. Bitzer stated that in accordance with the Commission's request at their last meeting, a sign had been posted in the tennis shop explaining about the donor's plaque.

Mr. Ochstein made a motion that we add the cost of the plaque to the amount of what we need to raise for the pro shop, not to exceed $1,000. Seconded by Mr. Lubow, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bitzer stated that at the last Commission meeting they had requested that he look into to possibility of holding a raffle. He explained that holding a raffle would violate Town code and could not be held.

VII. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Lisa Walkowich

SEAVIEW TENNIS PRO-SHOP
March 25, 1992

Total Loan to the Seaview Park Commission	(Due - August 8, 1992)		$42,531.00
Less:			
Palm Beach Tennis Association Pledge			$15,000.00
Individual Donations Received			$ 8,739.83
Group Pledge, Ralph Lubow: $8,500			
	partial pledge received:	$ 6,100.00	
	balance due:	$ 2,400.00	
			$ 8,500.00
Individual Pledges: $6,000			
	partial pledges received	$ 3,833.00	
	balance due	$ 1,167.00	
			$ 5,000.00

Daniel Hanley (1,000 - 1,000.00 = .00)
M/M Pressly (1,000 - 333.00 = 667.00)
Stanley Rumbough (1,000 - 1,000.00 = .00)
M/M Lewis (1,000 - 1,000.00 = .00)
M/M Broberg (1,000 - 500.00 = 500.00)

Amount Due $ 5,291.17

SUMMARY

Total Loan to the Seaview Park Commission (Due - August 8, 1992)			$42,531.00
Less:	Total Monies Received from Individual Pledges and Individual Donations		$18,672.83
	Palm Beach Tennis Assoc. Pledge	$15,000.00	
	Uncollected Pledges from Individuals	$ 3,567.00	
	Total Uncollected Pledges		$18,567.00
	Amount Due		$ 5,291.17