

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Recreation Department

MINUTES OF THE SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MAY 22, 1996

- I. CALL TO ORDER A meeting of the Seaview Park Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Larry Ochstein at 1:05 p.m. at the Palm Beach Recreation Center. The Commission members in attendance were; Mrs. Coniglio, Ms. Drake, Mr. Gavigan, Mr. Ochstein, Mr. Shor and Mr. Turchan. Alternate members in attendance were Mrs. Bernard and Mr. Katzenberg. Absent from the meeting was Mrs. Fisher (due to illness) and Mrs. Morris. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Bitzer, Mrs. Walkowich, Mr. Brown and Ms. Rockwell.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Ochstein asked if there were any changes to the agenda, there were none. Mr. Shor made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Gavigan, motion carried.
- III. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 27, 1996, MINUTES Mr. Ochstein asked if there were any changes to the March 27, 1996, minutes, there were none. Mr. Shor made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Gavigan, motion carried.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS - none
- V. NEW BUSINESS

A. *Fourth of July Celebration*

Mr. Bitzer said that the Town was going to hold an old fashioned picnic for a Fourth of July Celebration at Bradley Park, on July 4th, 1996, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Town will fund \$9,000 of the event and we have received \$3,000 in donations. He said that Leah Rockwell, Recreation Supervisor II, has met with local civic associations as well as local restaurants, specifically E.R. Bradley's and Dempsey's, who are coordinating the barbeque and donating staff to work the barbeque. Mr. Bitzer said that we are expecting 800 to 1000 people at the event. He said that entertainment would include the Billy Duke Orchestra, face painters, clowns, a stilt walker, juggler's and picnic games. The event will culminate with a Mylar steamer display. Barbeque and soda will be sold at a reasonable price and icecream, popcorn and cotton candy will be available for free. Mr. Bitzer invited the Commissioners to the event.

B. *Discussion of Safety Related Issues, Re: Dogs at Seaview Park*

Mr. Bitzer said that as you probably are aware, an increased number of residents have been bringing their dogs to the Recreation Center. He said that in many other communities there are ordinances prohibiting animals from active parks and that the recreation facility was definitely an active park. He said that there was concern for the health and safety of the children utilizing the facility.

Mr. Bitzer said that he asked the Risk Manager about the situation and when she came down to his office to discuss it, a dog nipped at her and chased her into the building. He said that because of the increase in the number of dogs, they were now having a problem with droppings left behind on the athletic field and even the playground. He said that he thought this was a potential health problem for the children playing there.

Mr. Ochstein made the motion that it should be unlawful for any person to take any animal upon the grounds of Seaview Park unless such animal is an assistance animal or part of an approved Recreation Department program or event, whether that be in the form of a department rule or a Town ordinance. Seconded by Mrs. Coniglio, all were in favor.

C. *FY-97 Preliminary Budget*

Mr. Bitzer said that because of delays in the Finance Department, the staff had just started working on the budget. Therefore, the presentation was not ready at this time. However, he said that he didn't see any increases in staffing and that there might be small increases in fees. Mr. Ochstein asked that when the budget was finalized that copies be sent to the commission members.

Mr. Turchan asked if we were going to have a roller hockey program here at the Recreation Center. Mr. Brown said that yes, he was planning on organizing a roller hockey program.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Mrs. Pesch, a Town resident, spoke to the commission. She said that her son and two of his friends, Billy Benjamin and Michael Carpenter, were playing basketball at the Recreation Center last Friday and were involved in an altercation with two older boys. The children were threatened and struck by these boys..

Mr. Bitzer said that we have not had this kind of problem in the past and we will not tolerate that kind of behavior from anyone. Mr. Brown said that he had spoken with Mrs. Benjamin and Mr. Carpenter and the boys did not know who the children were. He said that he has asked Billy and Michael to come to the Recreation Center in the afternoon and go out with a staff member to see if they can identify the youths. He said that he also has spoken with the police and they will increase patrols at the Recreation Center, especially in the late afternoons. Mr. Bitzer said that staff has been instructed to increase grounds supervision and that he will

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be contacting the principal of the public school about the incident, as these children are believed to be Palm Beach Public Middle School students. Mr. Bitzer said that we should not have this kind of problem next year with the middle school closing.

Mrs. Coniglio asked that something be done about the dugout. She said that she would even help pay for a tree to be planted there. Mrs. Coniglio said that it was extremely hot and she was concerned about children getting heat stroke because there was no coverage. Mr. Brown said that staff was looking at several possibilities and planting trees was one of them. There was also the possibility of building covered dugouts. Several commissioner's felt that covered dugouts might be too hot and that trees might be better. Mrs. Coniglio made the motion that money be budgeted for trees to be planted by the dugout, seconded by Mr. Shor, all were in favor.

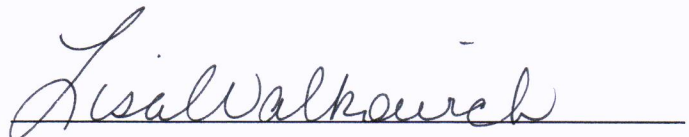
Mr. Turchan said that he wanted to remind staff that the Day School had extended their school day and that classes would end at 3:20. He said that this change would make the 3:30 start of our programs a problem. Ms. Rockwell said that the public school students have always been released at 3:30 and it hasn't been a problem. She said that she didn't see a problem with day school students being able to get here on time for programs.

Mr. Turchan said that he also wanted to suggest that metered parking be stopped at 3:30 p.m. daily and Saturday mornings in the Royal Palm Parking Lot. He said that during that time of day the parking lot was primarily used by parents who had their children enrolled in the recreation center programs and it would be helpful to these people if they didn't also have to pay for parking.

Mr. Bitzer said that this type of request has been made in the past for people utilizing the Recreation Center. However, it was denied. He said that his most recent concern with parking is that there are a lot of Day School parents who circumvent the pick up procedure at the Day School and are coming to the Royal Palm lot to pick up their kids, utilizing spots that would be used by program participants. Mr. Bitzer said that he had spoken to the headmaster of the Day School and that staff would continue trying to find solutions to improve parking. However, he felt that there would never be adequate parking, but that this was a problem throughout the Town, not just the Town's Recreation Center.

Mr. Ochstein asked if there were any other matters to be discussed. There were none.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned by Mr. Ochstein at 2:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lisa Walkowich", written over a horizontal line.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SEAVIEW PARK COMMISSION

ATTENDANCE RECORD FY-96

MEMBERS	11/95	1/96	3/96	5/96	9/96	11/96
1. GAIL CONIGLIO	P	P	P	P		
2. ANN DRAKE	P	P	U	P		
3. JAMES GAVIGAN	P	P	P	P		
4. EILEEN MORRIS	P	P	P	U		
5. LARRY OCHSTEIN	P	P	P	P		
6. MORTON SHOR	P	P	P	P		
7. THOMAS TURCHAN	P	U	U	P		
ALTERNATES						
1. FRANCINE BERNARD	P	P	E (Illness)	P		
2. RENEE FISHER	P	P	P	E (Illness)		
3. MARC KATZENBERG	P	P	U	p		

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

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST RECORD FY-96

MEMBERS:	11/95	1/96	3/96	5/96	9/96	11/96
1. GAIL CONIGLIO						
2. ANN DRAKE						
3. JAMES GAVIGAN						
4. EILEEN MORRIS						
5. LARRY OCHSTEIN						
6. MORTON SHOR						
7. THOMAS TURCHAN						
ALTERNATES:						
1. FRANCINE BERNARD						
2. RENEE FISHER						
3. MARC KATZENBERG						

LEGEND: X = Conflict of Interest