



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Clerk

GOLF COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 14, 1990

A meeting of the Golf Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Thomas Keresey at 9:00 AM on May 14, 1990 in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Other members of the Commission attending were; Mr. Clark, Mr. Pollock and Mrs. Keiser. Mr. Kaufman did not attend the meeting. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Dytrych, Mr. Bitzer and Ms. Reedy.

The first item on the agenda was acceptance of minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes were accepted without change.

Mr. Keresey asked Mr. Dytrych to bring the Commission up to date on the summer activities.

Mr. Dytrych said they had gotten off to a slow start this year, but in comparing April 1990 to April of 1989 they were gradually catching up to the 1989 figures. Mr. Dytrych said they were down approximately 400 players for the entire year, but everything else was about even with last year.

Mr. Pollock said he thought they were doing better each month during the past season?

Mr. Dytrych said they were doing better but they had a much slower start in November and December. He said he had called the local hotels and they also had reported slow starts for the season.

Mr. Dytrych said that in 1989 they were at \$489,000 thru April, but he said comparing the same period thru April 1990 they were up to \$538,000. Mr. Dytrych said that because of the increase in the summer rates he predicted they would do \$150,000 from May thru September. He said with the interest on investments the total would

come to approximately \$700,000 with expenses totaling \$688,000 and that figure includes \$150,000 for the new Maintenance Facility.

Mrs. Keiser asked how the payment for the Maintenance Facility was being taken care of?

Mr. Dytrych said the Maintenance Facility is in the Capital Improvements Program and is included in the Operating Budget. He said the cost of the Facility is \$260,000 so the balance would be paid from the Unappropriated Fund Balance.

Mrs. Keiser asked if there were any other projects which the Commissioners should be considering?

Mr. Dytrych said they will be putting in a new putting green which will be double the size of the old one. He said they also are going to level out the driving range which will cost approximately \$10,000. Mr. Dytrych said they would be demolishing the old maintenance facility and remove the old gas storage tanks.

Mrs. Keiser asked if the cost of the landscaping had been included in the Planned Summer Projects? Mr. Dytrych said the landscaping was included.

Mr. Clark asked what was being done about the trees? Mr. Dytrych said they had already cut down about 20 dead palms and they were going to plant about 40 sable palms within the next two weeks. Mrs. Keiser asked if the trees would come from the Town nursery. Mr. Dytrych said they would be buying the palms which cost approximately \$125.00 each. Mr. Pollock asked if there were any plans to plant more trees along the roadway? He said he felt that more trees in that area would reduce the chances of an errant golf ball.

Mr. Dytrych said he didn't know if they would be planting more than the 40 sable palms or not. He asked the Commission if they wished to suggest planting more trees along the roadway, and if so, what kind would they recommend? He said they had planted sea grapes at one time, but that wasn't a very popular idea because people kept losing their golf balls. Mr. Keresey asked Mr. Dytrych if some of the sable palms could be planted along the road? Mr. Dytrych answered affirmatively.

Mrs. Keiser asked if it would be possible to plant something which doesn't grow very tall, maybe even some kind of flowers which would be a little more decorative? Mr. Dytrych said they had planted annuals last year, but he would speak to Ms. Bruegman and find out what could be done.

Mr. Dytrych said they were having difficulty hiring an Architect to do the greens and tees at the Town's Golf Course which they plan to redo in 1992. He said not many Architects want to work for Municipalities. Mr. Dytrych said 3 people had bid the job, one of which was Mark McCumber & Associates. He said that Mr. McCumber had redone the golf course at North Palm Beach. Mr. Dytrych said they went to North Palm Beach and looked at that course, but they didn't like the work that Mr. McCumber had done there. Another bid was received from Sanford Ewseychick, but one of the members of that firm is no longer with them and it doesn't look like they will be selected. The third bid was from Carl Litton but he didn't seem very interested in doing the job.

Mr. Keresey asked if there wasn't someone else from Banyan? Mr. Dytrych said that was Rodney Davis, the same one who did the work at the Palm Beach Country Club, but he doesn't qualify to work for Municipalities because he isn't bonded or insured.

Mr. Clark asked Mr. Dytrych if they could do some of the work themselves? Mr. Dytrych said they could act as the Project Supervisor and work from the plans, but they couldn't contour the greens and tees. Mr. Dytrych said it wasn't so much a question of getting an Architect, but they didn't want to start all over again and get involved with spending a lot of time with a different Architect.

Mr. Bitzer joined the meeting.

Mr. Keresey informed Mr. Bitzer that they were discussing how the Town and the Golf Commission can coordinate some sort of a plan for the restoration of the greens and tees at the Town's Golf Course in the summer of 1992. He said they were at the point where the people they have contacted either can't be accepted by the Town or prefer not to deal with a Municipality. He felt they needed to talk with the Town and decide on someone who is capable of doing the work, and would be acceptable to the Town.

Mr. Bitzer asked Mr. Dytrych if it was correct, that he has someone who is interested in doing the greens and tees but doesn't want to work with a Municipality? Mr. Dytrych said that person was Joe Lee. He said Mr. Lee did the greens in 1961 along with Dick Wilson.

Mr. Dytrych said the designing of the putting greens is under \$10,000 so whoever did that work would only need to submit a written quote. Mr. Bitzer asked if this was a Design person? Mr. Dytrych said he was a Contour person who was also a Design person but he wasn't submitting any plans because he would be doing the work himself.

Mr. Bitzer said that if the job wasn't over \$10,000 it didn't require a sealed bid, but unless the person was the only one qualified to do the work, they would still be required to submit a written quote.

Mr. Dytrych said that Lake Worth just redid their greens and they used a local man who isn't bad, but is not top notch in designing. Mr. Bitzer said such a person probably would be rejected by the Town on the basis of his past performances.

Mr. Dytrych asked who should they hire? Mr. Bitzer asked how many firms in this area do golf course work? Mr. Dytrych said there were hundreds, from Jack Nicklaus and Pete Dye down to the people who are just getting involved in that type of work.

Mr. Pollock asked if Joe Lee might be able to recommend someone who would be acceptable to the Town and would be willing to do the work at the golf course? Mr. Dytrych said there was a possibility that he and Ms. Bruegman would be able to meet with Mr. Lee to discuss the work to be done on the greens and tees. Mr. Clark asked if Mr. Lee still has the original plans for the golf course? Mr. Dytrych answered affirmatively.

Mr. Keresey suggested that they invite Mr. Lee to a Commission meeting during the winter and ask his advice on what to do concerning the greens and tees at the Town's Golf Course. He said maybe they could find out if he would do the job, and if not, maybe he could recommend someone, and possibly act as a consultant. Mr. Clark said he had found Mr. Lee to be very accommodating and felt he would be willing to help the Commission in any way possible.

Mrs. Keiser said she felt it was a good idea to invite Mr. Lee to a meeting and maybe they could have a meeting for the lone purpose of finding someone to redo the golf course greens and tees. Mr. Keresey suggested they might be able to meet with Mr. Lee informally at the Golf Course.

Mr. Keresey asked Mr. Dytrych if there was anything else on the summer activities program?

Mr. Dytrych said there was the question of moving the irrigation system so it can be operated from Ms. Bruegman's office. He said in 1991 they had budgeted approximately \$16,000 for renovating the entire maintenance facility area. He said this year they would begin work at the maintenance facility and in 1992 they would be redoing the front nine greens and tees at the golf course, and in 1993 they will do the greens and tees on the back nine.

Mr. Keresey said he wished to report to the Commission that three area hospitals had each received a check for \$9,500 which were proceeds from the Par III Pro-Am Golf Tournament held in February. He said that Tom Walker of First National Bank had expressed to him that they strongly supported the continuation of the Tournament in the future. There was a question of raising the entry fees for the Tournament, but Mr. Dytrych said he felt they should explore other avenues for raising money.

Mr. Pollock said he felt they should start planning the next Tournament early in the fall, and hopefully this would allow them to avoid some of the problems which occurred last year. Mrs. Keiser said it might be even better if they started their plans during the summer so they could move quickly in the fall.

Mr. Keresey said they had to get more people involved in the Tournament such as the North end of Town and the Country Club. Mr. Dytrych said there was a problem with getting the large clubs to participate because they all donate funds directly to the hospitals.

Mr. Pollock said he could arrange for Mr. Dytrych to speak to the Sloan's Curve Association. He said they were looking for a speaker for October or November. Mr. Dytrych said they needed to obtain a mailing list and send out letters, and if they did that, he felt they could easily sell another 1000 tickets to the Tournament.

Mr. Clark said they needed to contact the people who donate a lot of money to several organizations. He said they missed out last year because no one had contacted those people about donations. Mr. Keresey said it would be no problem for him to contact many of those people. He said they needed to start on that project right away and there was a lot that could be done in September and October.

Mr. Pollock said the Tournament wasn't discussed at all at Sloan's Curve last year because the notice came out so late. He said he thought they should start at Sloan's Curve, and he said he would schedule Mr. Dytrych to speak at the November meeting of the Association which will be held on Tuesday the 6th of November.

Mr. Clark said he hoped attending the Sloan's Curve Association meeting would help, but he said they had spoken at the Chamber of Commerce and the Worth Avenue Assoc. meetings and that did no good at all.

Mrs. Keiser wondered if possibly they could get a car donated and sell chances on the car. She said that was an easy way to raise money. Mr. Dytrych said that in Palm Beach Gardens they had auctioned off a house, but he did agree that selling chances on a car was a good idea, if they could get the car donated.

Mr. Keresey asked the Commission if it would be alright to schedule the next Golf Commission meeting for October the 29th? The other members agreed. Mrs. Keiser suggested they also meet sometime during the summer.

Mr. Pollock suggested that it might be helpful if Mr. Dytrych prepared a letter prior to the November meeting at Sloan's Curve to be distributed to the delegates of each building.

Mr. Keresey said he had heard that Mr. Kaufman wished to retire from the Commission and Mr. Jacobson wanted to return to the Commission. Mr. Keresey said he would contact Mr. Kaufman and find out what he wanted to do. Mrs. Keiser suggested they might want to consider someone from the north end of Town. She said it might be a good idea to speak with the Pro at the Palm Beach Country Club and maybe he could suggest someone who would be interested in serving on the Golf Commission.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned with the next meeting of the Golf Commission scheduled for October 29th.

Jaquelyn Reedy