

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 1999

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - Mrs. Coniglio, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on September 22, 1999, at the Palm Beach Recreation Center. The Commission members in attendance were Mrs. Coniglio, Mr. Gavigan, Mr. Gross, Mr. Ochstein and Mr. Silken. Alternate members in attendance were Mr. Spaziani and Mr. Shore. Absent from the meeting was Mrs. Morris due to illness, Mr. Shulman and Mr. Raffo. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Bitzer, Mr. Brown and Mrs. Walkowich.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mrs. Coniglio asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. Mr. Brown asked to start the meeting with new business first as Mr. Bitzer would be a few minutes late and would be reviewing and answering FY-2000 budget questions under Old Business. Mr. Spaziani made the motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Gavigan, all were in favor.
- III. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2, 1999 MINUTES - Mrs. Coniglio asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 1999. Mr. Spaziani made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Coniglio, all were in favor.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. ***FY-2000 Meeting Schedule*** - Mr. Ochstein made the motion to approve the FY-2000 meeting schedule with the following changes: beginning in January, meetings will be held at 8:30 a.m., seconded by Mrs. Coniglio. After some discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed with 4 votes in favor and 3 against. This schedule is attached.

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B. Summer/Fall Program Report

This report is attached. The following are comments and suggestions made by the commission:

- Mr. Shore felt that we needed a better way to get information on Adult Programs to the resident. He also suggested that we send out a survey to find out what classes people might want to attend. Mr. Brown explained that in addition to the Recreation Updates that are mailed out, the Palm Beach Daily News periodically runs articles in the paper announcing the classes that are being offered. Mr. Silken suggested getting the survey out through the various associations in town. Mr. Bitzer said that the Recreation Department had conducted surveys in past years and the survey was a good idea. He said that the staff would look into the possibility of conducting a survey. Mr. Bitzer said that the Citizen's Association of Palm Beach and the Civic Association had been very helpful in past years helping to promote Town Recreation Programs in their newsletters and at their meetings.
- Mr. Gross said that all the other divisions have a program for children except golf, he asked if the golf course was going to run a program. Mr. Dytrych said that during the summer he holds junior clinics two days a week, during the winter he runs a junior clinic from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays, and the local high schools come in at 4:00 p.m. for practice. Mrs. Coniglio asked if there was a big turn out for the junior clinics. Mr. Dytrych said, "Some time none, some times as many as eight." Mr. Dytrych said that he was also looking into holding a parent/child tournament for Town residents. Mr. Bitzer said that staff had also discussed conducting an annual town golf championship tournament and that staff is looking into the possibility of implementing these programs.

C. 17th Annual Town of Palm Beach Pro-Am Benefit Golf Tournament - February 5, 2000

Mr. Dytrych stated that this year's tournament is scheduled to take place on Saturday, February 5, 2000. He said that the charitable solicitation permit had been filled out and submitted to the Town. Mr. Bitzer said that our intentions are to hold the event around the same time as last year, recommending the same beneficiaries and percentage of proceeds as last year, which was the Recreation Department and the Rehabilitation Center for Children and Adults in a 60% - 40% split. Mr. Gavigan made the motion to recommend approval of the charitable solicitation permit for the

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17th Annual Pro-Am Benefit Golf Tournament with the beneficiaries and distribution of proceeds to remain the same as last year. Seconded by Mrs. Coniglio, all were in favor.

Mrs. Coniglio asked if someone was going to be in touch with Mr. Morton Shor to help us with fund-raising this year. She said that we needed him and his expertise. Mr. Bitzer said that we would be contacting him. He said that in Mrs. Stone's absence, Mr. Brown and Mr. Dytrych would be coordinating this year's tournament.

Mr. Shore said that we needed to start contacting people immediately, to get to all those who could not contribute last year because it was too late to be included in their budgets. Mr. Brown said that he had all of Mrs. Stone's files and that he would be contacting various business and past donors. Mr. Bitzer said that staff will call a meeting inviting everyone who was involved in last year's tournament. He said that anyone who wanted to help should contact Mr. Brown. Mr. Gross said that we need to get someone from the north end of town to get involved selling tickets like they do at the condos in the south end. Mr. Shore suggested selling tickets through the civic association or maybe someone in the association might like to get involved. Mr. Brown said that he would get in touch with Ned Barnes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY-2000 Proposed Budget Presentation

Mr. Bitzer stated that the first budget hearing had taken place and that the Town Council had been very supportive in maintaining adequate funding. He said that the budget would be finalized at the upcoming Town Council Meeting. Mr. Bitzer reviewed the scheduled projects that would take place throughout the year upon approval of the FY-2000 budget.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

- Mr. Silken asked what the Town was planning on doing along the seawall on the intra-coastal regarding the seagrass. Mr. Dytrych said that he was under the impression that the state has granted the Town a certain amount of money to plant mangroves to protect the seawall. Mr. Bitzer said that the Town had approved this project.

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- Mr. Gross said that every time there is a rainstorm there is standing water just south of the entrance on the lake side of the street. Mr. Dytrych said that there was no drainage there. He said that he has spoken with Town engineers and it is felt that we will not be able to pump the water from the 10th fairway to the intra-coastal because the water could possibly have fertilizers and chemicals in it, so for 10 - 20 days a year we are going to have standing water.
- Mr. Shore asked if the Palm Beach Public School was going to close. Mr. Bitzer said that he was not aware of the school closing any time soon. Mr. Shore felt that eventually they were going to close the school and he was concerned about the property. He said that if the school was to pull out, that the Town should approach the school board so that we would have the first option to purchase the land. Mr. Bitzer said that over the years he had spoken with school board officials, the principal, our elected officials and the Town Manager, and they are aware of the importance of the Town obtaining this property should the School Board close this facility in the future. Mr. Shore felt that we should have first choice at it. Mr. Gavigan asked what the zoning would be? Mr. Bitzer said that the town would be discussing the possibility of re-zoning this area as a special district rather than residential. Mr. Shore made the motion recommending that the Town Council start a dialog with the Palm Beach County School Board to see if we can have the first option to buy the property if it is ever vacated. Seconded by Mrs. Coniglio all were in favor.
- Mr. Dytrych said that staff had been approached by the L.P.G.A. to have their Founders Tournament on January 11, 2000. The tournament would be informal and include Hall of Fame members. He said that the Town would receive a rental fee for the use of the golf course, not to mention some great publicity.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 by Mrs. Coniglio.