

## RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

MAY 12, 1999

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL - The first meeting of the Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order by Mr. Bitzer, Director of Recreation at 1:10 p.m. on May 12, 1999, at the Palm Beach Recreation Center. The Commission members in attendance were Mrs. Coniglio, Mr. Gavigan, Mr. Gross, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Ochstein and Mr. Shulman. Alternate members in attendance were, Mr. Raffo, Mr. Shor and Mr. Spaziani. Absent from the meeting was Mr. Silken who was out of town. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Bitzer, Mr. Brown, Mr. Dytrych, Mr. Hay, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Walkowich and Ms. Zeiders.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mr. Bitzer asked for an approval of the agenda. Mrs. Coniglio made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Morris, all were in favor.
- III. WELCOME AND ORIENTATION - Mr. Bitzer welcomed the new commission members and thanked them for their continued volunteer service. He said that their work was important to the Recreation Department and to the Town and could really make a difference.

Mr. Bitzer reviewed the department's organizational chart and had his staff members introduce themselves and explained what their jobs entailed.

Mr. Bitzer said that with a few previous commission members there had been some confusion as to what was the function of the commission. Mr. Bitzer stated that he felt that the function of the commission should be:

1. To offer informed suggestions and advise to the Mayor, Town Council and staff.
2. Lend support for recreation programs and facility funding.
3. To help provide factual information to the residents, regarding various recreation department issues and items as they come up.
4. Although strictly optional, to help out with events as time permits. Mr. Bitzer reviewed an organizational chart which outlined how the Recreation Commission and staff work together to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and Town Council.

He stated that he hoped the orientation had been enlightening and would welcome any questions from the commissioners.

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Mr. Shulman asked for the job descriptions of everybody who worked at the Par 3. He said that with the budget coming up and it being an enterprise fund they might be able to give some input in regards to the workers since we need to make a profit. Mr. Bitzer said he would be happy to give him the information he requested.

Mr. Bitzer encouraged all the commissioners to visit the Town's Recreation Facilities so they can meet and get to know at least all of the Recreation Department's full-time employees. He said that each of his division heads will be happy to introduce them to their staff. Mr. Bitzer said that one of the nice things about working in the Town is that being small you have the opportunity to meet everyone. It's like family. He said we have a wonderful group of loyal and dedicated employees.

- IV. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN and VICE-CHAIRMAN - Mr. Bitzer asked the commission if there were any nominations for Chairman. Mrs. Morris nominated Mrs. Coniglio for Chairman of the commission, seconded by Mr. Shulman. There were no other nominations. Mrs. Coniglio was elected chairman of the commission by unanimous vote.

Mrs. Coniglio nominated Mr. Gross for Vice-Chairman of the commission, seconded by Mrs. Morris. There were no other nominations. Mr. Gross was elected vice-chairman of the commission by unanimous vote.

V. NEW BUSINESS

**A. *Approval of 1999 Meeting Schedule*** - After a brief discussion, Mrs. Coniglio asked for approval of the 1999 meeting schedule. Mr. Ochstein made the motion to approve the meeting schedule. Seconded by Mr. Gross, motion passed.

**B. *Recreation Department Program Report*** - This report is attached

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Gavigan said that the Recreation Department does a great job. He said that he would like to see us get more children in the 12 and up age group involved in sports.

Mr. Gross asked if Mr. Bitzer had seen the letter to the editor in the Palm Beach Daily News regarding the condition of the storage area at the golf course. Mr. Bitzer said that he was aware of the letter. Mr. Bitzer stated that a complaint had been made some time ago about the set down area on the west side of our maintenance building. He said at the time of the complaint we were doing heavy maintenance work on the course, cutting palm trees, mulching etc. He said that he did agree that this area could be kept neater and a maintenance

schedule for cleanup in this area was created. However, there will be times during the year that we have large piles of sand, mulch and cuttings. He said that this was a set down area, and it was not going to look like a condominium, but that it would be the best looking set down area of any golf course in the area. Mr. Shulman said that it looked great right now.

Mr. Gross suggested putting up a portable fence that could be moved into place during the time of year when it would look messy. Mr. Bitzer said that it was a good idea and would look into his suggestion.

Mr. Shor made the announcement that he was resigning from the commission because he was moving and would no longer be a resident of the Town. He said that he served on the commission for 6 years and was very proud of the work that he had done, raising over \$60,000 for the golf tournament. He complimented the staff for all their fine work and thanked them for all their help. Mr. Bitzer said that we have never had anyone work harder for the Recreation Department and that he was sorry to see Mr. Shor resign. He encouraged Mr. Shor to stay active with the tournament and welcomed his help as a volunteer in any capacity. Mr. Bitzer thanked Mr. Shor for a job well done.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 2:10p.m.

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