Town of Palm Beach Recreation

MINUTES

of the Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting held on

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Recreation Advisory Commission (RAC) meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Upon roll call, all Commissioners were present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Pressly led the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Commissioner Watts, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Approval of the January 26, 2024, Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Commissioner Dayton, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2024, Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

V. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE AND STAFF REPORT

Director Bresnahan stated that the pergola has been ordered and that it should be installed during the summer. He provided an update on the Point of Sale (POS) system and website and stated that they have found a system that meets the needs of the department. He provided an update on the Oakley Gage Debbs field drainage project and reported that the field has performed much better than anticipated. He spoke regarding recent events, including Spring Celebration, which included 4,000 filled eggs in the egg hunt.

He spoke regarding the new Tennis Manager, Dan Stover, and provided his extensive background. He spoke regarding the role he will be undertaking. He expressed appreciation to Dan Minic for his work with the Town for over 15 years and stated that he has hopes that a contract can be negotiated with him. He spoke regarding all of the pros being extended contracts.

He spoke regarding the planting of Coco Plums on one side where the security gates had been previously recommended at the Seaview Tennis Pavilion. He also spoke regarding the planting of 50 palms and plants along the A1A and golf course corridor that will be done primarily in-house by Tim Campbell and his staff at Par 3.

Assistant Director Rance Gaede provided an update on the Seaview Tennis Court project and stated that it should be open by the end of July. He stated that the new water fountains have been installed at Seaview. He stated that there will also be awning covers and perhaps additional benches installed. He provided a brief update on the hitting wall and spoke regarding the recommended width and research into potential drainage issues. He announced the winners of the Men's single championship and the Valentine's Social.

Tony Chateauvert provided the update on the Par 3 Golf Course. He spoke regarding the course conditions and commended Tim Campbell and his crew. He spoke regarding the new putting green. He spoke regarding new golf courses that are competing with the Par 3. He spoke regarding new golf carts that had been purchased. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding an incentive for residents that they will be implementing, which is a 10-day advance registration for residents.

VI. <u>COMMENTS OF RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSIONERS</u>

Chair Pressly thanked Friends of Recreation for their contribution to send the children of Town employees to Summer Camp. He thanked the Town staff for their response to suggestions from Commissioners. He inquired about whether there has been an increase in reservations with the expanded hours at Phipps Tennis, to which Mr. Gaede responded. He thanked Dan Minic for his years of service to the Town and welcomed Dan Stover.

Commissioner Dayton expressed appreciation for the new water fountains at Seaview Park. She said players are excited about the new changes and spoke in support of the new landscaping that has been done at Seaview Park. She briefly spoke regarding Dan Minic and expressed concern that he hasn't been offered enough time to make a decision.

Vice Chair Harris spoke regarding the range bucket fees. He expressed concern over safety at the driving range and spoke regarding the plantings, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded. He expressed appreciation for the golf classes. He spoke regarding management of Seaview Tennis and Mr. Bresnahan clarified what Mr. Stover will be doing in his new position and the contract with Mr. Minic and the other tennis pros.

Commissioner Jamison expressed appreciation for the new pergola, water fountains and POS system. He spoke regarding the contribution that Mr. Minic has made on Seaview Tennis and spoke in support of the Town doing everything possible to keep him working at Seaview.

Commissioner Missner spoke regarding Mr. Minic not having a contract with the Town currently and the revenue that he brings into the Town. He expressed concern over the terms of the new agreement with Mr. Minic and how the transition has been handled. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the decision to hire a Tennis Manager and spoke regarding the agreement. He stated that the Golf Program made a similar transition, and it has been successful. Mr. Chateuvert provided additional information on his role with the pros at Par

3 and the transition to the new business model.

Commissioner Roush spoke regarding the history of the Commission expressing concern over the quality of the classes, merchandise and other issues with the Seaview Tennis Center. She stated that Mr. Bresnahan brought forward this new position to address these concerns. She spoke regarding an incident that occurred at Seaview Tennis Center where an individual was having a health emergency and expressed concern that the tennis pro did not know how to do CPR. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding his efforts to ensure more employees and vendors are CPR and AED trained. Ms. Roush expressed concern over potential misinformation that has been mentioned.

Commissioner Watts expressed appreciation for Mr. Bresnahan and his staff for their responsiveness and improvements. She spoke regarding the importance of the Town having an employee working at Seaview Tennis and spoke in support of the new Manager position and new business model. Discussion ensued on Mr. Minic and the transition of the program to being managed by a full-time Town employee.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT PLEASE

Charles Krusen, 173 Sunset Avenue, spoke in support of Mr. Minic and emphasized the importance of treating Mr. Minic fairly and providing ample financial compensation.

Simon Tarsh, 130 Sunrise Avenue, spoke in support of Mr. Minic and expressed concern that the financial compensation being offered to Mr. Minic is not adequate.

John David Corey, 426 Australian Avenue, spoke in support of the Mandel Fitness Center.

Lawrence Kaplan, 2299 Ibis Isle Road, spoke how Mr. Minic did an amazing job with the PBDA tournament and understands the need to elevate the tennis programs. He spoke in support of the Par 3 Golf Course conditions and commended Town employees for their work on the course. He spoke regarding the importance of parking at Phipps Ocean Park for tennis. He spoke in support of a shade structure at the Par 3 driving range.

Ellen Howe, 2295 S. Ocean Blvd., spoke regarding the previous tennis program at Phipps. She spoke regarding a problem with the pickleball court at Mandel and expressed concern that there are still no pickleball courts planned for Phipps. She expressed concern over parking on the grass at Par 3 and spoke regarding potential parking up the street across from her building.

Mr. Bresnahan addressed the issue of parking at Par 3 and spoke regarding upcoming planned projects and discussions to address the issue. He also addressed the issues with Phipps Tennis and explained changes and improvements that have been made at the facility. He spoke regarding the pickleball courts that are being built.

Carolyn Pressly Ryan, 171 El Pueblo Way, expressed appreciation for the Recreation facilities and the new improvements. She spoke regarding Junior programs at Par 3. She requested that the ice machine be accessible to users and that the water filters are replaced regularly. She spoke regarding play time on the field at Seaview and inquired about the possibility of installing lights at the field. She spoke regarding the tennis merchandise and additional programs and uses for the Mandel Center.

Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the ice machine being in the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025. He spoke regarding any recommendations for programming or play on the field should be referred to Dawn Helton, Program Manager. Mr. Chateuvert spoke regarding Junior programs at Par 3.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Old Business

1. Hitting wall at Seaview Park

This item was discussed under the Director's Update.

2. Securing the Seaview Park Tennis Pavilion and adding ice/water

Mr. Bresnahan addressed security concerns on the tennis courts in response to a question from Commissioner Watts.

B. New Business

1. Field Lights at Seaview Park

Mr. Bresnahan provided background information on the item. He stated that this is not staff-driven, but rather resident-driven. He also stated that the field is nearing capacity at this point.

Sara Maggio, 201 La Puerta, spoke in support of installing field lights at Seaview Park due to the use of the fields. She responded to a question from Vice Chair Harris regarding the number of teams this would benefit.

Mr. Bresnahan answered an inquiry regarding the percentage of residents vs. non-residents.

Lawrence Kaplan, 2299 Ibis Isle Road, spoke in support of installing field lights at Seaview Park.

Chair Pressly inquired about how many residents have approached the Town for this request, to which Mr. Bresnahan responded. He also explained the process that this would entail. He stressed the importance of having a resident leader for this project. Discussion ensued on the proposed project and the growth of these teams and the use of the field. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the emphasis on ensuring Town residents are being served.

2. Fitness Center Summer memberships

Mr. Bresnahan provided background information on the item. He spoke regarding a demand from non-residents who work on the Island. He addressed questions from Commissioners.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Commissioner Dayton, to approve a trial period of allowing summer non-resident Fitness Center memberships for non-residents who work in Town. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

3. FY2025 Proposed Fees

Mr. Bresnahan provided background information on the proposed fees and outlined the changes from previous fees. He answered questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Dayton spoke regarding the Happy Hour and spoke in support of increasing the discount.

Vice Chair Harris spoke regarding the differentials and spoke in support of the golf differential move towards 31%. He spoke regarding the fees for the range balls and expressed concern over the moderate increase. Mr. Bresnahan spoke regarding the reasoning for the increase.

Commissioner Missner inquired about the revenue for tennis memberships and stated that none of the revenue goes to the tennis pros.

Commissioner Watts spoke regarding non-residents being able to play on tennis teams without having a membership. Mr. Gaede responded and stated staff is looking into requiring memberships for members of the tennis teams.

Motion was made by Commissioner Watts, seconded by Vice Chair Harris to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 proposed fees. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

IX. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters discussed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Commissioner Dayton to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grier Pressly,
Chairperson