

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING
March 13, 2002

I. Call TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Town of Palm Beach Recreation Advisory Commission was held on March 13, 2002, at the Recreation Center. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Gail Coniglio, Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Commission members in attendance were Mrs. Coniglio, Mr. Gross, Mr. Ochstein, Mr. Shore and Mr. Shulman. Alternate members in attendance were Mrs. Agnello, Mr. Spaziani and Mr. Fishman. Absent from the meeting were Mr. Gavigan and Mrs. Morris. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Bitzer and Mrs. Walkowich

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Mrs. Coniglio asked for a motion for the approval of the agenda. Mr. Ochstein made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Shore, all were in favor.

III. APPROVAL OF MARCH 13, 2002, MINUTES - Mrs. Coniglio asked for a motion to approve the March 13, 2002, minutes. Mr. Ochstein made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Shore, all were in favor.

IV. OLD BUSINESS - none

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on Phipps Park Tennis Center

Mrs. Coniglio stated that it was a beautiful facility and the commissioners were happy to have been included at the opening ceremony.

Mr. Bitzer thanked the commissioners for attending the opening of the facility. He said that play has gradually increased since the opening and staff has been offering a few activities to introduce people to the facility. Mr. Bitzer said that staff held two round robins and both sessions were filled. He said that it gave people an opportunity to meet new playing partners. He said that it was surprising how many people are coming in wanting to play but they don't have a partner. He said that staff also started a matchmaker program where people can put their name and skill level on a list and staff tries to match them up with a partner. He said that on the 16th staff will be offering a free beginners clinic and more round robins were planned since they were so popular.

Mr. Bitzer said that phase II of the project was scheduled to be completed by November 1, 2002, but that it might to be completed a little earlier. The project included the covered seating area at the entrance of the facility and the tennis shop. Mr. Fishman said that the courts were beautiful, state of the art and when summer comes several of the morning tennis group at Seaview have discussed playing at Phipps. Mr. Bitzer said that staff had received positive feedback on the courts particularly when the Seaview courts are rained out. Instead of taking all day to dry, the new courts are usually ready within an hour.

Mrs. Coniglio asked if we still needed to construct an equipment shed. Mr. Bitzer said that one of the items he was proposing in the capital improvement program is for a 12x20 maintenance shed for the Phipps Tennis Center. The tennis court roller, battery charger and various equipment would be stored in it and would help extend the life of the equipment. Mrs. Agnello made the motion recommending the equipment shed be built next year. Seconded by Mr. Spaziani, all were in favor.

Mr. Shulman asked how many permits were sold at Phipps. Mrs. Walkowich said that no annual permits had been sold yet because semi annual permits would be going on sale April 1st and most players were waiting until then.

B. FY-2003 Budget Calendar

Mr. Bitzer said that the capital improvement program had to be submitted by April 12th and the operating budget was to be submitted by April 19th. He said that if the commissioners had any recommendations they wanted to suggest, to just let him know.

He said that staff would be presenting the preliminary 2003 proposed budget to the commission at their next meeting.

Mr. Fishman asked if the resurfacing of courts 7 and 8 at Seaview were in the budget. Mr. Bitzer said that as of last year, in the five year capital improvement program, the resurfacing was scheduled for 2003, lighting of courts 5 and 6 were scheduled for 2004 and lighting of courts 7 and 8 were scheduled for 2005. He said that the capital improvement program was reviewed each year by the Town Manager, Director of Public Works and the Town Engineer and based upon their recommendations the Mayor and Town Council makes the decision on what projects will be completed. Mr. Bitzer said that he would not be surprised to see the start dates for these projects pushed back a year considering the current state of the budget and the Town being behind in revenues. Mr. Bitzer said that most likely staff would be asked to maintain the current level of service and facilities for the 2003 budget.

- C. Special Events** - Mr. Bitzer reviewed the dates of the upcoming special events and invited the commission members to attend.

Spring Celebration - March 30, 2002

Mommy and Me Tea - May 11, 2002

Town Singles Tennis Championship - April 17 - April 21, 2002

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Shore said that he felt we needed to do more planting on the front 9 holes of the golf course particularly on the first and second holes. He felt that it was too open. Mr. Bitzer said that he would speak to Mr. Dytrych, Golf Pro-Manager about Mr. Shore's suggestion and get back to him at the next meeting.

Mr. Gross said that he felt a pro was needed at the new tennis facility. He said that the pro would be a working man just like the current facility supervisor, Rose Carnicelli. The pro could maintain the courts, arrange play, teach lessons and supervise the facility. Mr. Fishman said that pro's are there to give lessons. If people want a game they can call Rose and book a lesson. If they just want to play, she is keeping a list of interested people and could set up games.

Mr. Bitzer said that the Town currently employs Jim Hay, Tennis Facility Manager as a full time employee to manage both the Seaview and Phipps Park tennis facilities. Mr. Hay also has a contractual agreement with the Town for lessons. Under this agreement Mr. Hay may hire additional assistant pros in order to fulfill his contractual obligation for lessons. These assistant pros are contractual employees to Mr. Hay and are not compensated by the Town.

He said that the current system seemed to be working fine

and that Ms. Carnicelli was running round robins and matching people up for play. She also took care of booking courts for open play, booked lessons, collected fees, and did the noon court maintenance. Mr. Bitzer said that due to the limited number of courts at the Phipps facility, he and Mr. Hay did not feel that enough lesson revenue could be generated to support a full time pro without additional compensation from the Town. Mr. Bitzer felt that the current organizational arrangement was the most cost effective way to manage the two tennis facilities, however he would pass Mr. Gross' suggestions on to Mr. Hay, Tennis Facility Manager.

VII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

<u>Regular Members</u>	1/9	3/13	5/15	9/11	11/13
Gail Coniglio	P	P			
James Gavigan	E (legal)	E (legal)			
Arthur Gross	P	P			
Eileen Morris	P	U			
Larry Ochstein	E (illness)	P			
Allen E. Shore	E (illness)	P			
Stuart Shulman	P	P			
<u>Alternate Members</u>					
Milissa Agnello	P	P			
Michael Spaziani	E (illness)	P			
Ken Fishman	P	P			

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

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Conflict of Interest Record 2002

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Ken Fishman					

LEGEND: X = Conflict of Interest