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RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

March 10, 2004

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** - A meeting of the Town of Palm Beach Recreation Advisory Commission was held on March 10, 2004, at the Recreation Center. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Coniglio, Chairwoman, at 9:00 a.m. Commission members in attendance were Mrs. Agnello, Mrs. Coniglio, Mr. Gross and Mr. Gavigan. Alternate member in attendance was Mr. Andrews. Commission members absent from the meeting were Mr. Bone, Mr. Gross, Mr. Spaziani and Mrs. Morris. Alternate members absent from the meeting were Dr. Coffield and Mr. Turchan. Staff members in attendance were Mr. Bitzer, Mr. Brown and Mrs. Walkowich.

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** - Mrs. Coniglio asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Agnello made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Andrews, all were in favor.

III. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 14, 2004, MINUTES** - Mrs. Coniglio made the motion to approve the January 14, 2004, minutes. Mrs. Agnello seconded the motion, all were in favor.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Update on Palm Beach Public School Renovation** - Mr. Bitzer said that on February 27, 2004, he and Mr. Brown attended a meeting with the architect and contractor of the project. Also in attendance at this meeting was the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, a Planning Zoning and Building Official and the Town Engineer. Mr. Bitzer stated that at this meeting he voiced the concerns of the Commission regarding the renovation, particularly the close proximity of the school building to the basketball court, the lack of space for the 3rd baseline dugout on the baseball field and the lack of any landscaping on the east side of the school building adjacent to the tennis courts and main entrance to the Recreation Center on Seaview Avenue.

Mr. Andrews asked how they were going to fence in the property. Mr. Brown said that they were not going to put a fence on the perimeter of the property but instead they would use the building as the barrier and fence only certain key areas. Mr. Andrews asked if they

removed the doors from the east side of the building that faces the baseball field. Mr. Brown said that there are no doors along the third baseline and the entire ballfield should be able to be shifted slightly to allow for a dugout and fencing for player safety. Mr. Brown said that the project will begin June of this year and construction is estimated to be completed in one year. He said that in order to do the construction project they are going to have to put a temporary fence along the property line and up to the trees in the front of the tennis shop.

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Mr. Bitzer said that the School Board would move the basketball court slightly to the south and have agreed to meet with us so that we will be able to set out the exact location. He said that staff would be meeting with the Town Engineer to review the plans that were just received. Mr. Gavigan suggested that if the court was going to be moved, would it be possible to add another basket. Mr. Bitzer said that although the court may be too small, we would look into Mr. Gavigan's suggestion if space permitted.

Mrs. Agnello asked how the Recreation Department was going to run all its programs with the loss of all this space because of the construction. Mr. Brown said that he would be in contact with the Day School to schedule the use of their facilities.

Mr. Gavigan asked how long the lease was with the four arts library for the west campus. Mr. Bitzer said that he thought the school board was planning on leasing the property to the four arts library for 25 years and that the library may lease the building to the Hebrew school for 3 years with a possible one year extension.

The commissioners reviewed the elevations of the proposed buildings. Mr. Bitzer said that the school board agreed that landscaping was needed along the building on Seaview Avenue adjacent to the tennis shop. Mrs. Coniglio said, "The mass of this building is going to freak people out and nobody has any idea what it's really going to look like. The residents are not going to like what they see." Mrs. Agnello asked if we knew what color the buildings were going to be painted. Mr. Brown said that they had colored plans at the meeting and it seemed to be a stucco tan color.

Mr. Gavigan made the motion that the commission recommends staff go forward with the necessary relocation of the basketball court and the shifting of the baseball field to include two dugouts with the understanding that the school board is accepting the financial responsibility. Seconded by Mrs. Agnello.

Mrs. Coniglio said that her only reservation was that once again what was on our property was getting smaller while what was on the school's property got bigger. Mr. Gavigan said, "Now complicate that with the loss of use of our property for a year." Mr. Gavigan said that the other problem he had was the fact that the west property has now been taken. He said that the school board has increased their holdings while we have lost greenspace. Mr.

Gavigan said that they have leased the west campus to the library who in turn is going to lease it to another school, thereby actually profiting off the loss of greenspace. He said that they have taken a corner that's too busy and made it more busy, so overall they have complicated an already difficult situation. Mrs. Coniglio said that she was in agreement. Mrs. Coniglio then called for a vote to the motion that the commission recommends staff going forward with the necessary relocation of the basketball court and the shifting of the baseball field.. All were in favor. Mrs. Coniglio thanked Mr. Bitzer and Mr. Brown for all their hard work.

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V. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY-05 Budget Calendar - Mr. Bitzer said that each of the commissioners had received a budget calendar and asked the commissioners if they had any suggestions or improvements that they felt needed to be addressed that they please get their suggestions to staff by April 1st. He said that there would be a budget presentation at the Commission's next meeting in May.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS - Mr. Gavigan said that he was reviewing the minutes from the last meeting regarding Mr. Bone's request that staff try to find additional field space for soccer games. Mr. Bitzer said that he had reviewed Mr. Bone's request and at this time he was not going to pursue the use of Bradley Park as a soccer field . He said that Mr. Bone's request resulted from having several children in different age groups enrolled in the soccer program and like other parents with multiple children enrolled in the program, game days could be quite long. Mr. Bone's suggestion was that if we had more than one field, games could take place simultaneously. Mr. Bitzer said that after conferring with Mr. Brown it was determined that using a field at the opposite end of town would not help alleviate the situation since you could have two or more children from the same family playing games at two different sites at the same time. Mr. Bitzer said that at this time we were not "maxed out" although it is possible, that in the future we may need to look at additional locations. He said that we would probably be looking at Phipps Ocean Park rather than Bradley Park. He said that he felt Bradley Park would not be appropriate since it was one of the gateways into Palm Beach, a fence would have to be erected around the park, the parking is inadequate and it is right next to a condo. He said that, taking into account all of these factors, he was of the opinion that Bradley Park was not a desirable location for an athletic field.

Mr. Gavigan asked who had been appointed to the Commission. Mrs. Walkowich said that Dr.

Coffield was moved up to a regular member, Mr. Stuart Shulman was appointed as a regular member, Mrs. Rita Taca and Mr. Henry Jamison were appointed as alternates. She said that Mr. Turchan was not reappointed. Mr. Gavigan said that since Mr. Turchan had been an alternate member for approximately 1 year it would have made sense to move an alternate member up to a regular member, rather than bringing in someone new and excluding someone like Mr. Turchan from the Commission. Mr. Gavigan said he felt the Town Council may want to reconsider how they appoint people to the commission and hopefully they would view an alternate positions as a training position. The other commissioners in attendance agreed. Mr. Gavigan made the motion that when a regular member position becomes available, current alternate members should be given priority to fill the position and any new individuals being appointed to the commission should be appointed as an alternate. Seconded by Mr. Gross, all were in favor.

Mrs. Coniglio thanked Mr. Gavigan for his fine years of excellent service to the commission and said that he would be missed. Mr. Bitzer said that he also wanted to thank Mr. Gavigan for serving on the Commission and for doing such a great job.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:45

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RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Record of Attendance 2004

<u>Regular Members</u>	1/14	3/10	5/12	9/15	11/10
Milissa Agnello	P	P			
Bill Bone	P	E (illness)			
Gail Coniglio	P	P			
James Gavigan	E	P			
Arthur Gross	E (illness)	P			
Eileen Morris	E	A			
Michael Spaziani	P	E (illness)			

<u>Alternate Members</u>					
Michael Andrews	A	P			
Timothy Coffield	P	E (illness)			
Thomas Turchan	A	A			

LEGEND: P = Present

E = Excused

U = Unexcused

A = Absent Pending Classification as "Excused" or "Unexcused"

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Conflict of Interest Record 2004

<u>Regular Members</u>	1/14	3/10	5/12	9/15	11/10
Milissa Agnello					
Bill Bone					
Gail Coniglio					
James Gavigan					
Arthur Gross					
Eileen Morris					
Michael Spaziani					
<u>Alternate Members</u>					
Michael Andrews					
Timothy Coffield					
Thomas Turchan					

LEGEND: X = Conflict of Interest