

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
CITY OF BOCA RATON COUNCIL MEMBERS
HELD VIRTUALLY
April 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Participants:

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| City of Boca Raton: | Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District: |
| Mayor Scott Singer | Commissioner Susan Vogelgesang, Chair |
| Deputy Mayor Andrea Levine O'Rourke | Commissioner Craig Ehrnst |
| Council Member Yvette Drucker | Commissioner Steve Engel |
| Council Member Monica Mayotte | Commissioner Robert K. Rollins, Jr. |
| Council Member Andy Thomson | Commissioner Erin Wright |
| City Manager Leif Ahnell | Briann Harms, Executive Director |
| City Attorney Diana Grub Frieser | Samuel Goren, District Counsel |

I. Welcome

Mayor Scott Singer and Chair Susan Vogelgesang

Mayor Scott Singer called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The participants introduced themselves.

II. Discussion

A. Recreation Needs Assessment Presentation

Recreation Services Director Michael Kalvort provided opening comments and introduced the consultants. Neelay Bhatt, accompanied by Brayton McClure from Pros Consulting, Inc., gave the PowerPoint presentation. A review of the strategic plan process was provided, and a number of topics were covered, including, but not limited to, a demographics analysis, a recreation trends analysis, community input summary, survey methodology, and a priority investment rating. Maps of neighborhood parks, ball fields, and tennis courts were also shown. The visioning process was discussed. Mr. Bhatt stated that the next step was to conduct a system-wide comprehensive master plan to implement the Needs Assessment findings. Discussion ensued on the level of service priorities, how COVID had affected activities and the survey projections, and the need for additional marketing of recreation offerings. Mr. Kalvort provided additional information regarding the municipal golf course, the addition of the Boca Raton Country Club golf course, and how the results of the Needs Assessment will help Recreation Services.

B. Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

This item was added to the agenda at the request of the BPD in consideration of recent conversations regarding the piping project. Commissioner Craig Ehrnst began by noting the 1984 agreement with the City and stated that they are committed to Gumbo Limbo, the volunteers, and the City, and recognized their obligations. He expressed concern with the Friends of Gumbo Limbo (Friends) and their lack of participation in helping to fund the project. He felt the District or the City should have some type of agreement with the Friends which would include financial transparency and a contribution to projects at Gumbo Limbo. Discussion ensued. There was consensus among the members of both parties that there should be an agreement to formalize the relationship. City Manager Ahnell advised he would

direct staff to work with the Friends to formalize an agreement and report back in the next few months to both parties.

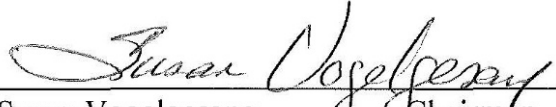
III. Public Comment


Bruce Diller Verstandig commented on the opening of Ocean Strand, FAU, Gumbo Limbo, and Ocean Breeze. Greg Galanis commented on the condition of the golf course at the Boca Country Club and suggested developing Boca Teeca as an executive golf course and practice area. Earl Starkoff remarked on golf operations in Boca, the need for additional pickleball courts and athletic fields, and SABR. Steve Rose stated that there should be more pickleball courts in Boca. Raul Travieso, President of the Boca Raton Pickleball Club, also spoke in support of building a premier indoor/outdoor pickleball complex at either Ocean Breeze or Boca Raton Country Club locations. Cil Ciliberti commented on emails he sent to Council members regarding Ocean Breeze and pickleball courts.

Deputy Mayor O'Rourke commented on whether a pickleball facility could be constructed at the Boca Country Club or Ocean Breeze. Mr. Ahnell provided additional information. She then inquired whether the District could lease property to an outside entity to run a pickleball facility. Mr. Goren, District Council, responded that they would research the option. Discussion ensued on topics including, but not limited to, the District's ability to transfer property, constructing a pickleball complex, some type of golf or walking trails at Ocean Breeze, and the District's RFI for recreational needs at Ocean Breeze. Mr. Ahnell suggesting getting someone on board to look at both the Boca Country Club and Ocean Breeze sites for a pickleball complex and to bring back options by the end of summer. Council members and District commissioners provided their final comments and there was consensus to move forward.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned without objection at approximately 7:10 pm.


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer