

GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF A REGULAR “VIRTUAL” MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 17, 2020

The “VIRTUAL” MEETING, conducted through the Zoom platform, was called to order by CHAIRMAN Susan Vogelgesang, at 5:15 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Craig F. Ehrnst
Steven M. Engel
Robert K. Rollins, Jr.
Susan Vogelgesang
Erin Wright

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

The following people emailed their public requests that Ms. Harms read into the record:

Ms. Betsy Wenzel and Mr. Bob Gershin expressed their appreciation to the Board for designating funds for lighted pickleball courts at Patch Reef Park.

The following people called into the meeting:

Mr. Steve Rose and Mr. Bob Gershin called to thank the Board for designating lighted courts and expanding the facilities to accommodate the demand for pickleball.

Mr. Harold Chaffee does not support the District moving ahead with the RFP to beautify the three corners at Boca National temporarily. He would prefer that the \$100,000 go towards the development of the golf course.

Mr. Rick Heard expressed his thanks to Commissioners Wright and Engel for all that they have done over the last four years and wished them the best in the upcoming election.

Mr. Robert DuKate asked the Commissioners what the timeline is for the golf course under the phased-in approach and if the Ocean Strand project will have public input, have a masterplan, be ADA compliant, and what the total cost of the project will be.

Mr. Raul Travieso, president of Boca Raton Pickleball Club and USA Pickleball Ambassador for South East Florida, thanked the Board on behalf of hundreds of Boca Raton pickleball players and their families for dedicated lighted pickleball courts at Patch Reef Park. He extended special thanks to Commissioner Ehrnst for his support and recognition of the exploding growth of the sport.

Mr. Bruce Diller Verstandig inquired why golf is considered a priority and believes that the District’s priorities should be beaches and parks.

Commissioner Ehrnst reiterated the District made a commitment to build the golf course and it is a key priority.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes of the Regular “Virtual” Meeting held on August 3, 2020, at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve the minutes of the Special “Virtual” Meeting held on August 11, 2020, at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Golf Course Update

Mr. Wayne Branthwaite of Price Fazio, golf course architect, provided an update on the golf course project which is broken down into three phases:

1. Site Investigation Phase: This phase has been completed.
2. Design and Permitting Phase:
 - Drainage Engineering Design: One-third of this phase has been completed by Schnars Engineering. Mr. Branthwaite suggested completing this phase.
 - Building Design for the New Maintenance Facility: Mr. Branthwaite suggested using the existing maintenance facility during Phase 1 of the project and pushing construction of the new maintenance facility to the following year allowing time to go out for an RFP for a design-build.
 - Permitting: a project site plan has been submitted to the City. Mr. Branthwaite suggested submitting an amendment to the plan to define the phased approach.
3. Construction Phase: To be completed.

The Phased approach for the construction of the course includes:

- Phase 1: The north nine holes; the restroom on the north nine; the temporary clubhouse and cart barn; and irrigation for the north nine holes
- Phase 2: The south nine holes; the maintenance facility; the restroom on the south nine; and irrigation for the south nine.
- Phase 3: The eastside will be completed which includes a driving range, the short course, and the tunnel

Discussion:

It will take approximately two months for the drainage engineering design to be completed by Schnars and Associates.

The \$5 million that is allocated in the FY 20-21 budget is more than sufficient to complete the north nine holes because it originally included the construction of the maintenance building which will now be completed in Phase 2.

Approval for the permitting of the golf course will take 5-6 months and will be done through the Public Works Committee. It will take approximately two years for the 18-holes of golf with the permitting to be completed.

A conversation ensued regarding the cost of the current conceptual design for the maintenance facility; what is included in that design; and the possibility of going out for a design-build if the original maintenance facility is utilized in Phase 1 and a new facility is constructed in Phase 2.

Project Timeline: 18-holes of golf will be completed in years one and two; the eastside will be completed in year three; and the tunnel will be completed in year four.

It was the consensus of the Board to wait for the design approval from the City before moving forward with any additional work on the golf course.

2. Budget Discussion

The City requested two additional CIP items for consideration: \$20,000 for the continued development of Mizner Bark dog park and \$1.3 million towards a maintenance building at Countess DeHoernle Park. Mr. Michael Kalvort, Recreation Services Director, Mr. Zach Bihr, Municipal Services Director, and Mike Dyko, Project Manager, were available to answer questions from the Board.

Discussion:

Commissioner Rollins inquired what the District's obligation is under the DeHoernle Park Interlocal Agreement and asked Mr. Kalvort if the City has any interest in the acquisition of the Boca Golf and Country Club. Mr. Kalvort responded that he was not aware of the City having any interest in or that the City was investigating that property.

Commissioner Wright stated that there was no line item on the City's budget that included the District's participation for the \$4,300,000 maintenance facility. She inquired about the details of the conceptual design; if the Spanish River Park maintenance facility is still being considered and if the District will be asked to participate towards that facility; and noted that she was never informed that Phase 2 of DeHoernle Park was moving forward.

Commissioner Engel would have like to have known that the City was moving ahead with Phase 2 of DeHoernle Park and stated that the lack of communication between the City and the District is a problem.

Commissioner Ehrnst hopes that the District can contribute a “fixed” amount at some point to both the Red Reef Park and Red Reef Beach maintenance facilities. He believes that the City and District need to work together to prioritize what the residents want and need.

Commissioner Vogelgesang stated that she would have reconsidered the rollback rate if she knew that the City was going to request the District’s participation in the cost of the maintenance facility and noted the lack of communication between the City and the District.

Mr. Goren will review the District’s contractual obligation in the DeHoernle Park Interlocal Agreement and advise the Board.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND INVOICES:

MOTION was made by Commissioner Ehrnst and seconded by Commissioner Engel to approve the payroll and invoices totaling \$ 2,261,953.85.

Discussion:

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Executive Director:

Royal Palm Polo Club

This past week a discrepancy in property taxes at the Royal Palm Polo Club was brought to the Executive Director’s attention. The City annexed the property in 2013 exclusive of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District. Ms. Harms will continue to work with the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser’s office to remedy this situation for all affected.

Sugar Sand Park

The installation of the new bleachers has been completed.

Partitions for the Maple Room will be completed on September 10, 2020.

Patch Reef Park

The A/C Repairs have been completed.

Gumbo Limbo

The Roof repairs at Gumbo Limbo were started on August 5th and should be completed in 4-6 weeks.

Golf Course RFP

One submission was received for the RFP to beautify the three corners at Boca National. This item will be added as a future agenda item.

Ocean Strand Phase 1

Maracore Builders is working on the change order proposals to make Ocean Strand Phase 1 ADA compliant.

Counsel:

Virtual Meetings

On August 7, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-193, extending Executive Order 20-69 allowing for virtual meetings through October 1, 2020.

Executive Order No. 20-179 allows millage and budget hearings to be virtual through October 15, 2020.

The District will hold its First Public TRIM Compliance Hearing virtually on September 10, 2020. Instructions to participate can be found on the District's website at www.mybocaparks.org.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Engel reminded everyone to vote on August 18th by 7:00 p.m. and appealed to City staff to try and improve the level of cooperation between the City and the District.

Commissioner Ehrnst clarified the following statement that he heard regarding the purchase of the golf course: "The District swooped in and bought the Boca Teeca golf course for \$24 million from under the City who offered to purchase it for 10 million dollars." He explained: that there was no firm written offer from the City to purchase the golf course; that the Mayor sent a letter to the District stating that the District should purchase the golf course and left the purchase price discussions to the District; the City Council approved the purchase price at a later date; and that there was plenty of opportunity for the community to object. Commissioner Ehrnst stated, "The District's commitment to the golf course was not ill-conceived, nor did it try to outbid the City, it was done with thought."

Commissioner Wright noted some concerns that were brought to her attention regarding City properties: people have been fishing at Red Reef Beach and the Meadows Park pool requires updates. Ms. Wright hopes that the City will investigate these issues.

Commissioner Rollins believes that the District exercised the right decision going to the rollback rate considering the current economic environment and that better planning with the City is needed in the future. He is in favor of Ocean Strand Park being ADA accessible and wished Commissioners Wright and Engel the best of luck with the election.

Commissioner Vogelgesang requested that at least two Board members be notified before a wire transfer is initiated from the District's Florida Prime account.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

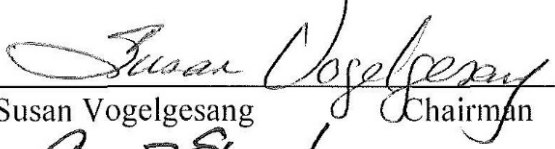
ADJOURNMENT:


MOTION was made by Commissioner Engel and seconded by Commissioner Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ehrnst	Yes
Commissioner Engel	Yes
Commissioner Rollins	Yes
Commissioner Vogelgesang	Yes
Commissioner Wright	Yes

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED


Susan Vogelgesang Chairman


Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer