

**GREATER BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**  
MINUTES OF A JOINT MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS & THE BOCA RATON CITY COUNCIL  
BOCA RATON COMMUNITY CENTER

**July 23, 2018**

**DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS  
& STAFF PRESENT**

Robert K. Rollins, Jr. – Chairman  
Steven M. Engel  
Craig F. Ehrnst  
Susan Vogelgesang  
Erin A. Wright  
*Arthur C. Koski, Executive Director*  
*Samuel Goren – General Legal Counsel*  
*Jacob Horowitz – General Legal Counsel*

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS  
& STAFF PRESENT**

Scott Singer, Mayor  
Andrea Levine O'Rourke  
Monica Mayotte  
Jeremy Rodgers  
*Leif J. Ahnell, City Manager*  
*Diana Grub Frieser, City Attorney*

I. Welcome and Introductions: Mayor Scott Singer and Chairman Robert K. Rollins, Jr. Mayor Scott Singer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. **Discussion Topics:**

**A. Recreation Needs Assessment**

Mr. Kalvort, City Recreation Services Director, gave a brief presentation on the joint City/District Recreation Needs Assessment Survey. Commissioner Rollins advised that the District would fund 50% of the \$100,000 survey cost.

**B. Golf Course Update**

Commissioner Rollins informed that Price/Fazio has been selected as the golf course architect and that the agreement, if satisfactory, will be executed today after the adjournment of the joint meeting.

Mr. Koski advised that Price/Fazio will provide a master plan for the golf course within 60 days from the signing of the agreement. He emphasized that it was important for the public to realize that the golf course project is a joint venture between the District and the City.

The District envisions a second tranche of funding from the City for construction, but will seek outside funding sources for borrowing. Mayor Singer stated that more specific project costs are needed to determine the degree of City participation.

**C. Gumbo Limbo Master Plan**

The budget estimate for design fees is \$200,000. The scope of the master plan will be presented at the District's August 6th meeting. The District amended its 2017/2018 budget to approve an expenditure of \$1.3 million in its current budget to complete the boardwalks and to include the construction of the tower. The District continues to discuss with City staff the funding of \$2.9 million for a pump station. The District is keeping its millage rate the same as last year and will re-evaluate it next year if warranted. The City and District

need to discuss other funding sources for the project. In order to determine its financial participation, the City requested a clarification of costs for both projects.

#### **D. Non-Resident Fees**

Discussion ensued on the non-resident fee of \$65 per individual per sport. Members of both bodies offered comments. Commissioner Rollins suggested consideration be given to capping, not increasing, non-resident fees. He noted the following points: 1) adult sport teams do not pay a non-resident fee; 2) many non-residents contribute to the recreational culture of the community; and 3) he has never seen any data that suggests that having non-residents on a team increases field maintenance costs. He opposes any efforts for non-residents to seek recreation elsewhere.

Commissioner Engel felt that businesses that pay taxes should be entitled to some use of the District/City facilities for corporate sponsored events. He noted that there are programs in the community that could not function without non-resident participation.

Commissioner Vogelgesang inquired about the costs to administer the non-resident fee.

Mayor Singer offered that the City never comes close to recouping the fees that non-residents are charged for the actual cost of services. He disagrees with expanding the definition of non-residents, as residents are subsidizing the costs. When non-residents play on fields and make up teams, they limit field capacity.

Commissioner Rollins responded that non-residents are not driving the need for additional facilities. The demographics of the community are changing; younger families are moving into the area.

Mayor Singer offered that both bodies should try to come to an understanding of what the upcharges for non-residents should be. Resident rates should be offered to corporations who provide corporate sponsored activities; not to employees.

Commissioner Wright advised that District staff was directed to meet with City staff to standardize the user fee schedule. A 25% fee added onto the resident rate for non-residents seems fair; both youth and adult sport teams should pay the fee. Residents should be offered the opportunity to sign up first for teams.

Council Member O'Rourke stated that there is a need for uniformity and a simplification of the fee structure. If you live in the City or District you should pay the resident fee. Businesses that pay taxes in the community should also have an entitlement. She felt a field shortage may exist due to non-resident usage.

Commissioner Ehrnst suggested capping or reducing the non-resident fee. Businesses in the community should be encouraged to have corporate events/activities/leagues at the resident rate; but not the employees.

Council Member Mayotte supports a simplification of the fee structure. There should not be any distinction between a City and District resident - if you live in the City or the District, you are a resident. She supports the 25% additional fee for non-residents.

Mayor Singer recapped the items that City and District staff will work towards: 1) a simplification of standard user fees; 2) reach an understanding on the upcharges for non-residents; and 3) establish a fee for corporate sponsored sport events/activities.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

**Michele Peel**, representing the Friends of Gumbo Limbo, stated that she was pleased to hear that the City is partnering with the District and the Friends to make a master plan a reality for Gumbo Limbo. The Friends is committed and is preparing to be a significant contributor to the construction of the outcome of the plan and on-going operations. **Susan Caruso, Linda Sturdy, Darlene Ward** were pleased to hear the expressions of support from both entities to make a new Gumbo Limbo master plan a reality; **Robert DuKate, Harold Chaffee, Lenore Wachtel** would like funds from the sale of the Municipal Golf Course used for park and recreation facilities (Boca National; Gumbo Limbo); **Julian Louvet** expressed concern about the clearing of vegetation at Canal L48, L49 and L50; **Earl Starkoff** felt that it was time to abolish the “privilege to play” fee for the benefits that come to the community by adults and children that participate in sports. He offered, “Charge both non-resident adults and children the same fee, or charge them all nothing”. **Doug Collar** does not support a hotel at Boca National or the expansion of NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue as it will increase traffic.

*~ End of Public Commentary ~*


City and District staff will work towards setting up a joint meeting in September.

Commissioner Rollins inquired about design fees in the 2020 budget for DeHoernle Park Phase II and the cost figure for development in 2021. Mr. Ahnell advised that the Council has not discussed the item and that he will review the budget with staff.

Commissioner Ehrnst noted the need for an agreement between the City and the Friends of Gumbo Limbo which would provide an opportunity for naming rights and other options.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Singer adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

  
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Robert K. Rollins, Jr. Chairman

  
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Craig F. Ehrnst Secretary-Treasurer