

BOARD APPROVED AS CORRECTED NOVEMBER 16, 2009
TE PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2009
9:30 a.m.
SMALL HALL
1903 69TH AVENUE WEST
BRADENTON, FL 34281

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by John Vander Molen.

The invocation was given by Margo followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Present--Pam Cole, Margo Cushman, Harry Fitzpatrick, Fred Hoch, Gail Opper, Joe Salerno, and John Vander Molen. Absent--Martha Brauer and Janet Jones.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 19, 2009: Motion was made by John and seconded by Pam to approve the minutes. Changes: Page 2—Change Wii to Wii. Make same change on page 3. The minutes were approved as corrected, 7-0.

October 26, 2009: Motion was made by John and seconded by Margo to approve the minutes. Changes: #1, sentence 2—add the word “announcement” after the word “meeting.” #2, line 13—should read, Joe said that WM “may” rather than will. #4, line 4: Should say “park” instead of “par;”. #6, line 12—remove the word “not”. Bottom of the page, should say “\$250” rather than \$2,500. The minutes were approved as corrected, 7-0.

REPORT OF TREASURER:

As of Oct. 31, the balance in the checking account is \$9,671.33; money market balance is \$236,026.27 and a deposit will be made today of a little over \$9,000. In October, we spent \$79,140.14 more than we took in. We received only \$24.75 in interest because we no longer have interest coming in from the CD's.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: None

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Harry: None.

Fred: Due to the way PP2 is written, he felt the Workshop of Oct. 26 was not handled properly. John read aloud PP2, which states that residents' comments are to be made at the end of the Workshop and may only be three minutes in length. Everyone liked the way the Workshop was

run so either PP2 has to be changed or we have to run the Workshop the way it has been run in the past.

Gail: Discussed the April 1993 Tribune that a resident asked her to read. Gail explained that it is about disputes that arose when a change was taking place making Trailer Estates a 55+ park instead of a subdivision for all. Gail explained that much turmoil took place during that transition; by reading the Tribune, she was able to appreciate how well the trustees “hung in there” through a very difficult situation. She then stated that a familiar name was in the Tribune. He had been a trustee through the 1993 turmoil and is with us now in the 2009 turmoil, and Gail is very appreciative of that. John Vander Molen was then applauded. Gail also shared that a resident had given her a packet of information to read. In that packet, it was very clear that Bingo as it is run at TE is legal. Gail felt that should end the controversy.

Margo for Janet Jones: 17 cards were sent and there were 6 deaths.

Margo: Nov. 21 is coffee break. She hopes to get a speaker from the tax office explaining to residents how to fill out their taxes. She also announced that Nov. 18 is potluck. In regards to Bingo, there were 535 players; \$2,484 was taken in and \$2,484 was given out; the average players were 89 and the total jackpot was \$1,862.

Joe: Connie Zack, president of Share Craft stated that the club, which has decorated the Large Hall for Christmas for many years, is not interested in doing this job anymore. The club is willing to buy decorations but wants someone else to do the decorating. Is anyone interested?

Joe checked into whether or not clubs and organizations can use TE’s tax exempt status for purchases. They cannot.

In regards to Waste Management, Joe reported that he hasn’t heard from them yet, but he called both Bayshore Gardens and Tri Par to see what their situation is. Bayshore has 1,456 homes; they pay \$153 a year for garbage pickup. They have two pickups and no dumpsters. Tri Par pays \$140 a year and has one pickup. They have two small dumpsters but only the maintenance people can use them. Trailer Estates pays \$130 per year. We have two roll offs and two pickups. Joe called Manatee County Elections Board to determine if we can do a survey for trash pickup during the elections. They said if people stay 100’ from the voting doors, a survey is fine. Voting is from 12-8 p.m. Dec. 8, and Connie Zack has volunteered to conduct the survey. Joe will write the survey.

Showtime is Thursday, Nov. 12, and the first winter dance is Nov. 7. The Wii game meeting is Thursday, Nov. 19, at 5:30 p.m. in the computer room. Pickleball begins Tuesday, Nov. 3, at 1 p.m. in the Large Hall. Bocci begins today at 1 p.m.

Joe asked what happens if someone gets hurt playing Wii. Pam said she believes it must be proven that the injury is the park’s fault in order for us to be liable, but she will check with the insurance company about this.

Joe received a note from Bev Lew wanting a copy of the TE kitchen inspection. John stated that all plumbing in the kitchen was put in by a licensed person and meets the code.

Pam: Martha is working with Bank of America on a line of credit. We have a credit card we use for maintenance and TJ uses it at Staples. It has been determined that we should change the credit card to allow the Chair as well as the office manager and the treasurer “to make inquiries, changes, etc., to the account.” TJ will have a card of her own. Mark, Bud, and Darren will have a card. Pam has the authority to change the situation but felt she should bring it to the Board. The card has a \$7,500 limit. TJ has a \$2,000 limit; Mark has a \$2,000 limit; and Bud and Darren each have a \$1,500 limit. Joe wondered if we should change to a bank with a rewards program. Pam felt we could look into it but should change this card first. John suggested Pam write a motion and bring it forward at the end of the meeting.

John: All 54 clocks in TE have been reset. Pam previously raised a question about Turf Master, wondering if we could save money by having our Maintenance Department do the job. Turf charges \$1,746 a year. If we had our maintenance guys do the job, the cost would be \$1,000 for chemicals and \$336 for labor. There would be a savings but along the way we may need more chemicals, which Turf automatically supplies. Joe asked why John included labor in the cost saying, “Won’t they do it on their regular job time?” Both Pam and Joe commented that this should be done only if our workers can incorporate the job into their regular schedules—no overtime. John will look into this.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ARC’s next meeting will be Friday, Nov. 13.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS:

Mary Huston, 1714 MN: Do we know who our moderator will be for Candidates Night? If we put our questions on a 3 x 5 card, are those cards public records? How is mediation going for the lawsuit? Can clubs do their own setup? Has a resident ever sued the park?

Jean Cotter, 2207 IL: We may need insurance for our guys because they will be using chemicals.

Nan Bradshaw, 1611 WI: She has a Health Department certificate and has had it for years. She has cooked in the park for 25 years and gets only a donation for cooking.

Mary Holland, 2004 FL: Older people should not have to set up tables, etc.

Flo Mallory, 6919 W. Bayou: Residents need to know exactly what the state of TE is. Trustees should “level with us.” What should we do about the mounting costs? She believes we should have a “State of TE” report asking the Board when the new members are sworn in what they think we should do. Are you (as the Board) bound not to speak on your own?

Answers to residents from John Vander Molen: We owe Share Craft our thanks for the many years they have decorated the hall. The moderators for Candidates Night are Ron and Lucille Donovan. PP59 lists the procedures for that night. Candidates Night will be held Monday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. in the Large Hall. Questions will be public records. There is nothing official in regards to mediation—only rumors. We may be liable if we have clubs set up. Yes, we have been sued by a resident but not for injuries. We have had claims filed against our insurance. We would have to send workers out for training in regards to chemicals. John recognized the years of service Nan Bradshaw has given to TE and the many things she has cooked for the park. She received applause. Joe stated that volunteers do set up for Pickleball on Saturdays so maintenance men are not called in on the weekend. Gail stated that a resident had said TE homes will be put up for collateral in regards to the loan the board is attempting to get for the lawsuit. Gail reminded residents that their homes cannot be put up as collateral by anyone but themselves. John added that only district-owned property can be used as collateral.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. TE election will be held Dec. 8 from 12-8 p.m. in the Small Hall. Manatee County handles our elections now. We must furnish a canvassing board. The jobs of that board are: 1) They must meet at the elections office on Wednesday, Dec. 2, to do a logic and accuracy testing. 2) They must look at absentee ballots Dec. 8. 3) They must verify election results. 4) They must do a ballot review, if challenged. A motion was made by John and seconded by Joe to appoint Ed Neally and Terry Neally as members of the Canvassing Board for the 2009 Trailer Estates election. Motion passed, 7-0.

2. A motion was made by Joe and seconded by Pam to purchase Wii equipment. The money—about \$2,000, which is tax exempt—will be taken from the 50/50 account. Motion passed, 7-0.

3. A motion was made by Gail and seconded by Joe that all new policies/procedures or changes to existing ones originating from any source—attorneys, auditors, trustees, staff, residents, etc.—must come before the board for investigation, discussion, composition and/or approval before such policies can be instituted as rules/regulations at Trailer Estates. Much discussion followed. Gail explained that it is the Board that is the legislative body at Trailer Estates, elected by the people to run the park. Over the last week or 10 days, she noticed instances in which changes have been implemented at the park that did not come first through the board. She felt that was wrong. John Vander Molen believed the problem stemmed from two memos and had nothing to do with policies and procedures because we have a whole book of those that the board has approved. He felt the problem was communication and suggested Gail withdraw her motion. Gail said she would not withdraw the motion because she believed wholeheartedly in the motion. Gail went on to say that the problem was four memos not two. Two involved new regulations that had never come before the board; one added—without board notification or approval—two new stipulations to an office discipline policy the board had already written and approved; and one discussed how the office would be run based on the fact that Martha believes she is the supervisor of the office. Gail pointed out that PP40, item #6 indicates that Martha supervises through TJ; she does not supervise TJ. Gail went on to say that only makes sense because the

chairman could change every year and TJ would have new rules to follow at the whim of each chairman, which doesn't make sense. Since Martha is not the supervisor of the office, she cannot decide policy for the office without first coming to the Board. Gail feels there are too many things being done without Board notification or approval.

Though Gail would not immediately withdraw her motion, she did agree to see if a new one could be written that would meet the needs of all sides. With that, Joe withdrew the second on the motion and Gail withdrew the motion. Pam wrote the following motion that Gail then presented: All communications that would change the way the Board conducts the daily operations should be brought to the Board for discussion and/or action. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1, with John voting against.

4. Pam made a motion and Joe seconded to add the chair, along with the treasurer and the office manager, as the contact persons on the Bank of America credit card and will divide the cards as follows: TJ and Mark will get \$2,000 to use and Bud and Darren will get \$1,500 each. The motion passed, 7-0.

(As an aside, John recognized and welcomed Pat Wilcox back to TE. He once lived in TE and was chairman of the Board).

REPORTS OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Margot: No license is necessary for Bingo. She read that from a stack of papers Bev Lew had distributed to the trustees.

The first meeting of the Video Club will be held Friday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Craft Room.

Harry noted that we should consider people's feelings when we speak or we may lose our volunteers.

A motion was made by Margot and seconded by Joe to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Opper, Secretary