

**TRAILER ESTATES PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
ROUND TABLE RECREATION DISCUSSION**

JANUARY 13, 2009

7:00 P.M.

**LARGE HALL
1903 69TH AVENUE WEST
BRADENTON, FL 34207**

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Trustee Joe Salerno. 123 residents were in attendance.

Joe gave an overview of the meeting. He stated residents would see a video on miniature golf and the Wii game; and his thoughts involved the exercise room, billiard room, card room and laundry. He said that following the videos, the meeting would be open to anything residents want to discuss. Anything proposed is not in stone. Residents will receive a survey and Joe asked that they please fill it out so the Board can take a look at it and make some decisions for the future.

Joe stated that he got his information for the meeting from previous surveys, visiting senior centers and the YMCA, and trying things like pickle ball and senior volleyball, both of which have no costs involved. At this point, Joe showed the miniature golf video.

Joe filmed the golf video at Kings Gate Mobile Home Park in Nokomis. They have 350 mobiles. It took six weeks to complete the course and no permits were necessary. They used a sod cutter, hired carpet layers but did the rest themselves. They spent \$2,300 on the course. They put new carpet in after three years, and maintenance fixes boards and cleans carpets. They understand that the course is used mainly when grandchildren come down but feel you cannot justify everything in the park in the area of recreation. The gates to the course are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How does miniature golf apply to Trailer Estates? We maintain county property on Bay Drive and American Way. The county has said we can use the property but cannot put a structure on it. Joe estimates the cost of the course at \$2,800 as long as we use volunteers to put it in.

After the golf video, Joe and another gentleman from the park demonstrated bowling and golf from the Wii game. Joe indicated that boxing and golf are

available on the game, also. Games can be played from wheelchairs as well as regular chairs and can be played with 2-man teams or 4-man teams. The games are very aerobic in nature. Joe proposes that we buy three, 32" television sets, remotes and three games for a total cost of approximately \$2,200. Money for Wii could come from the 50/50 drawings at dances.

Question: Where do we put the Wii? It should be in a room, and we don't have a lot of room. The laundry is losing about \$6,000 a year and the laundry is being under utilized. Joe feels we need to downsize the laundry. We have three tables of pool when a 350 home park also has three tables. If we split the exercise room in half and take the wall out of the billiards room, we could put another table in. We can make another card room; and in the empty card room, we could put Wii. The cost to create a new billiard room is about \$3,300 with a table priced at about \$800. Joe is not sure of the cost of moving the exercise room to the laundry, but he feels we could ask the clubs in the park to support the Recreation Department and that should defray a lot of the costs. There should also be some savings on downsizing the laundry. In March of 2007, we put a key requirement in the laundry; revenue dropped from \$4,200 to \$1,700. Though we have a contract until 2013, Joe feels we could approach the vendor to see if we could get out of the contract.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS

Have you considered moving billiards to the laundry? Joe feels there is not enough stick room, and moving other things would be less work. Regarding the exercise room, some equipment is not really used. Joe believes we should have "stations" to accommodate more people (like Curves). Might we get new equipment? Can we look into updating the exercise room?

What about the outside drying area at the laundry? Joe told residents to fill out the survey they will receive. Since few people use the laundry on Sunday, perhaps we could close the laundry that day.

How do we keep the Wii game equipment secure? The YMCA in Bradenton has a box with a lock on it.

What about basketball and volleyball? We need to be attractive to people moving in. Games are for socialization, too.

What is the square feet of the exercise room versus the square feet in the laundry room? There is more room in the laundry plus the clothes line area. Joe suggested we borrow money because it is cheap to do that now.

Did you visit any place that didn't have a lounge? A lounge is important—something with a coffee bar and chairs. We need a “hang around” place.

Will we get to have a laundry and do we own the machines? We can have no laundry or downsize the laundry.

How big of an area does the miniature golf course take? Do we have enough room to put volleyball there? Yes, we do have room. Miniature golf would be on either side of the pipeline. The open area can be for volleyball.

Volleyball in the state of Massachusetts is three hits and over the net. We could put volleyball where the clothes line is. Younger people can play one day and older people with the MA method can play another day.

Could the big parking lot be used? Pickle ball and basketball could go there.

Have you talked to the county about this? At the end of the lease, whatever you put on county property will belong to the county.

What do you do about security on Bay Drive? Joe: I have no idea about security.

We could have three pickle ball courts on the north/south side of the west end parking lot. The size is 44 x 22. Mark has purchased the equipment and paint.

What about the playground area at the end of Tennessee? Can we use that?
Joe: There is no place to park there.

What about property where the horseshoe courts are? How many people put an RV there overnight? Answer: Not many.

What would prevent the public from wanting to come to Bay Drive because it is county property? Joe: Maybe we'll have to lease it.

How many times do we have shuffleboard tournaments? Answer: Five times. Why are we holding that area for such a small number of events? Shuffleboard courts seem to be empty a fair amount of time. Answer: There are about 5-12 courts used three times a week and 12-18 courts used with Tri Par. Another resident: Other activities are not always used either. Trailer Estates has the largest shuffleboard courts in any private park in the United States. Shuffleboard courts bring prestige into the park; they are an emotional issue.

There is a disproportionate use of our facilities. We need to do a survey of use of common ground. The resident stated: I am not willing to provide a community club for all of Bradenton. Another resident: Everything is under utilized, but we have to keep it all for people.

Is there a lot of maintenance involved in shuffleboard? Cost to the park is minimal. Shuffleboard has donated \$15,000 to the park.

We can't cement the RV area because of environmental runoff. The Board won't even allow people to put in another horseshoe court.

When we take the card room out, could we put the ping pong table back in there? Joe: The room could be used a few days for different things, but the ping pong table can't be in there.

What will you do with the computer room? Joe: It won't be touched. There would be more room in the new card room.

Will the water container remain in the laundry? Answer: Yes.

What was learned from the survey received by residents with the budget? It hasn't been tallied yet.

Do we own the land where the storage lot is? Answer: No. If we could get the ground, we could move maintenance over there and put maintenance where the boat storage, recycling now is.

Why are cards played in three different areas? Because everything can't fit in the present card room.

Is the area on Tennessee large enough for a tennis court? No, it is 15' short.

Could we have music from the 60's, 70's and 80's at the dance? I would go if that were the case.

Add a lounge area/sun deck to the pool.

With no further questions from the audience, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Opper". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop on the letter 'O'.

Gail Opper, Secretary