



THE VILLAGE OF

# North Palm Beach

501 U.S. HIGHWAY 1 • NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33408 • 561-841-3355

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## Meeting Minutes

On Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 5:30 PM, a meeting was held in the Council Chambers in North Palm Beach Village Hall for the purpose of obtaining resident input and opinions regarding a new Clubhouse and amenities at the North Palm Beach Country Club. Architect, Brian Idle, from Peacock + Lewis Architects and Planners, along with Rick Norton from Norton Consulting, moderated the meeting. Village Manager Jim Kelly was also present. Nine residents were in attendance, encompassing many facets of Village Residents. (See attached sign-in sheet). Mr. Kelly stated that North Palm Beach was a very unique community and was interested in their input. He provided the village website to obtain accurate information and announced the Charrette process would take place January 30<sup>th</sup> through February 5<sup>th</sup> 2016. After that, the Council will decide on the next steps.

First, the group introduced themselves and responded if they had used the amenities at the current Country Club:

- Fran Mantyh is a Realtor and 15 year resident and parent. She is looking forward to a new clubhouse.
- Fran's Daughter, Kate is 16 years old and a student at Dreyfoss School of the Arts for Dance.
- Sean Saunders bought new construction on Inlet, his grandmother was the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, his family has four homes in North Palm Beach, he has two small children ages 9 and 5 that attend the new elementary school.
- Kelly Doyle – recently got married and knows Brian Idle's son, Clayton. She was raised on Atlantic and currently is on the 17<sup>th</sup> green of Country Club. She and her husband are new members to the Club and she is part of the Friday Flamingos Golf. Their company is in the 840 US 1 building.
- Jason Doyle- Kelly's brother- lives seven doors down at 529<sup>th</sup> Green way, grew up in North Palm Beach on Atlantic Road. He was a junior golf member and jokingly stated the rules were changed to exclude him and his friends from playing with the seniors. He also owns some rental properties in the Village.
- Christian Searcy has lived his entire life in North Palm Beach, is on the Audit Committee, has two brothers who live on Shore Road.
- Liz Dalton has been a resident for about one year, She owns a design firm in the Village and previously lived at IBIS and recently built her home in North Palm Beach.
- Chris Hurley stated he and his wife, Meghan, moved here last December from Washington, D.C., he had attended the Benjamin School with Christian, and was on the Tennis Team that played at the Club. His wife Meghan attends the pool parties ad golf. They have a son Jack who is one and a daughter Charlotte who is three.

- Charlotte Chickering has been a Florida Resident since 1960 but lived in North Palm Beach since 1980 She has a degree in sociology and helped with the historical facts for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She retired from a West Palm Beach Trauma Hospital.

Next, the group discussed the strengths of the country club:

- Location/convenience (The majority of the group lived within walking distance to the Country Club)
- Beacon for families/activities
- Various amenities it offers
- Great Swim Team
- Not an equity club
- Walkable/bike to club- close proximity.
- Wonderful events such as Food Truck Frenzy, 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the boat parade
- A Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course
- NPB as a whole- private dock storage/new elementary school
- Community Feel without HOA's or gated communities
- Good Junior Golf Program
- Friday Night Pool Parties
- Tennis facilities are nice/staff is nice

Mr. Idle showed the Membership Brochure of all the various events held at the club throughout the year, and it was well received.

The group also discussed the weaknesses/detriments of the country club:

- Bar closes too early – needs to be open until at least 10 pm
- Clubhouse is an embarrassment due to its age/datedness
- Poor Food Service – some is due to functionality of kitchen
- Too few snack bar hours
- No co-mingling of members of tennis/swim/golf

The “wish list” of items for a successful Country Club was discussed:

- Splash Park for the younger children similar to Palm Beach Gardens; large water slide
- Have singles night with activities for the older residents
- Have various levels of membership like PGA- they offer discounts for younger members under age 45
- Have later hours and have pool open in the evenings, especially in the summer.
- Good restaurant with Good food.- examples were the Cooper, Frigates, I-Bar at PGA
- Support local business by having local restaurant in the club
- Take advantage of the views available- add a second story
- Bar with happy hour, half priced appetizers, bar bites etc. – Restaurateur Jim Taubby was mentioned as a possible source for successful restaurant insight- owns Jetty's, U-Tiki, and is very selective about what projects he takes on

- Gym – overwhelming support and all agreed they would be willing to pay more (\$40-70/month) to have gym on site and would cancel their outside gym memberships. “ A gym would be a dream”
- Boat Dockage on intracoastal
- Banquet Rooms
- Elaborate locker room – won’t be embarrassed to bring guests (Bear’s Club)
- Needs name recognition of members and courteous staff –feel like you belong to a club-tiered membership levels
- Game room with ping pong, pool, air hockey, especially for the teens Place for kids to play. (Eastpointe was cited as an example)
- Re-do the pool deck and add shade areas
- Have a higher end restaurant with outstanding service.
- Facilitate a social environment; make the Country Club the centralized gathering spot. Have “Think and Drink” Trivia Nights like the Brewhouse Gallery, Younger Nine and Dines,
- Have a club similar to the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club – make it a “Throw Back” Country Club with NPB charm.
- Television to watch a grand slam tournament at tennis center and socialize

Information was provided to the group as to where to find accurate information regarding the new clubhouse and the Master Plan on the Village Website. Residents were told where they could sign up to be notified when any new information was added. Village Manager Kelly described the purpose of Phase I and what the timeline and process involved. Jack Nicklaus would also be consulted regarding any decisions or changes to the golf course. Mr. Kelly also discussed the Master Plan involving US 1 and Northlake Blvd.

The group adjourned at 6:57 PM

jc

