

VF SC Rec Centers Fairway

Daily

# NEWS-SUN

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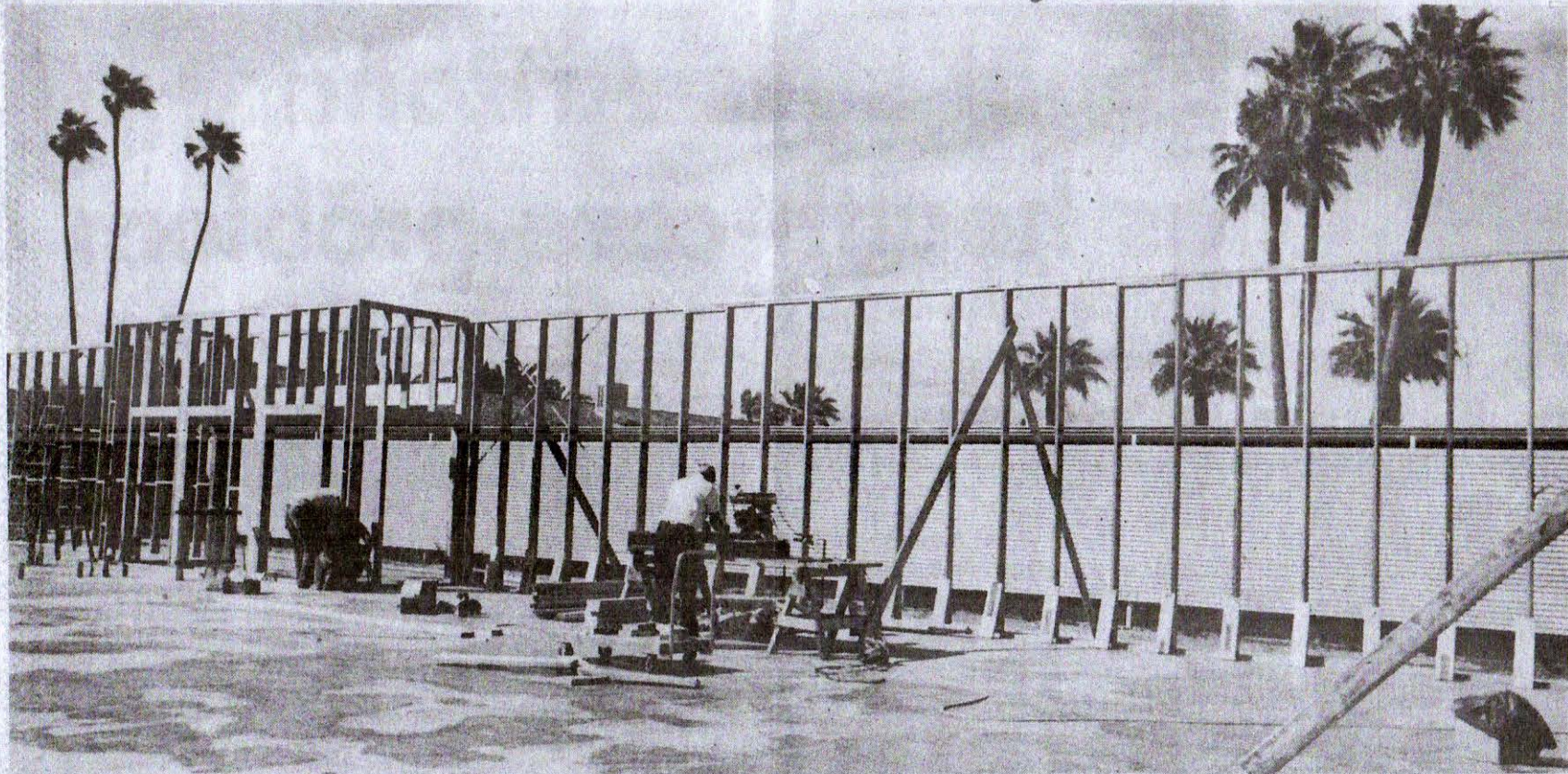
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## Moving along

Workmen late last week were putting finishing touches on the frame of an addition for Fairway Center. Centers manager Fred Clymer said the trusses will be put up sometime this week and it is

hoped the building will be finished in about two months. The structure will be divided, with pool tables in one part and a meeting room and restrooms in the other.

(News-Sun Photo)

## Members view Fairway plan

Most happy  
with planned  
improvements

By Matt Loeschman  
Independent Newspapers

Sun Citians living south of Grand Avenue came away pleased with their first look at planned improvements to the Fairway Recreation Center.

Approximately 250 residents were on hand April 10 for a meeting at the center detailing the major facelift the facility will undergo over the next three years.

"Today, Arizona comprises the zone with the greatest migration of people from all over the United States," Recreation Centers of Sun City Presi-

dent Don Schordje explained. "This is one of the reasons we have placed such a high priority on the rebuilding of Fairway. We intend to attract new pioneers to Sun City.

"So we must showcase Fairway as a state-of-the-art facility, luring new retirees to want to live near it," the board president added. "Also, this is a show of support for our residents south of Grand Avenue. Here is where it all began and we are here to stay — the new Fairway will give an economic boost to Phase I and will be something all Sun Citians can be proud of."

Fairway Recreation Center, opened in 1961, was named as a "top priority" for receiving improvements back in 2003, according to RCSC board member Norm Dickson. The center is located at the intersection of

107th and Peoria avenues.

"We did not arrive at this decision overnight," Mr. Dickson said. "This has been in the works for quite some time. Each RCSC board since then agreed Fairway should be the next priority for an upgrade."

Fairway averages 142,000 member visits per year, he added. It is home to about 30 clubs.

RCSC Senior Operations Manager Jim Wellman provided a detailed overview of the improvement project.

The 45-year-old facility will be torn down and an 84,000-square-foot building will be built in its place. The new facility will be two stories and set back further from Peoria

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Sun Cities Independent/Matt Loeschman  
RCSC Senior Manager Jim Wellman, left, explains plans for Fairway Recreation Center improvements to interested residents last week.

# Fairway

Continued From Page 1

Avenue than the existing main building.

"The pool will be just a bit smaller than the one at the renovated Bell Center," Mr. Wellman explained.

According to the plans, the swimming pool will have an indoor/outdoor design with glass walls on two sides that can open and close. The pool area will be covered by a second-floor ceiling with skylights.

Also included is a second floor walking track, several club rooms, an expanded fitness area, a new multi-purpose Arizona room, a larger library and other additions. Elevators are part of the plan.

Officials said they are discussing the possibility of using an area adjacent to the lobby as a "village store," where club mem-

bers would be able to sell their creations.

The improvements will take place in two phases, Mr. Wellman said.

Phase I, expected to cost between \$8-\$10 million, will begin in 2007 and be complete by about June 2008. Phase II, with cost estimates to be determined, should be complete by late 2009, officials said.

Phase I improvements include the lobby and all the club rooms. The pool addition is part of Phase II.

Funding for the Fairway improvements will come from the RCSC capital preservation fund. This fee is paid for by new homeowners when they come into the community — it recently rose from \$1,600 to \$2,100 at the beginning of April.

RCSC officials are basing income from the fees on "conservative" home sale figures for the next three years. Based on their

figures, Mr. Dickson said the fund will grow by more than \$10 million from now until mid-2008.

Residents on hand had questions and comments regarding planned improvements.

Some asked structural questions about the pool setup.

Another resident wished for separate men's and women's fitness areas.

Fairway club members asked where they can go during construction.

A number of clubs will be relocated during the construction process, Mr. Dickson said.

"We will find an appropriate place for you," he added.

Mr. Wellman took notes during the question-and-answer session.

"We will take all the suggestions under advisement," he explained.

Nothing is set in stone, Mr. Dickson said.

"There is still time for the plans to change," he explained. "The

key word here is preliminary."

Most residents seemed happy with what they saw. Besides the presentation, detailed maps of the proposed changes stood on two easels. Many resident huddled around the maps both before and after the meeting.

Mel Wemsman said it is time Fairway received a makeover.

"I think the plan looks great," he said. "This place is so spread out now. The new center will be more consolidated and will offer so much more."

He said the second-story walking track appealed to him, along with the indoor/outdoor pool area.

Mr. Wemsman is not concerned with the project's price tag.

"It essentially isn't costing us anything because the capital preservation fee is paying for it," Mr. Wemsman said. "Most of us paid into that fund long, long ago. This will also improve the value of

our homes — you can't forget about that."

Bob Shoup said the new Fairway will benefit the entire community.

"I come down here some but once this is finished, I will come to Fairway much more often," Mr. Shoup said. "The time is right for

this project — the center has long outlived its usefulness as it is now. There need to be improvements made."

*Post your comments on this issue at [www.newszapforums.com/forum29](http://www.newszapforums.com/forum29). Reach News Editor Matt Loeschman at 972-6101 or [mloeschman@newszap.com](mailto:mloeschman@newszap.com).*

Daily News-Sun •

SUN CITY

2-19-95

# Directors seek Jaslow's return

## Recreation board rejects resignation

By JEANNIE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

SUN CITY — Carol Jaslow's resignation from the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors was unanimously rejected by the board in a special meeting Monday.

In a show of support for Jaslow, the board also unanimously voted to revoke the Fairway Art Club's charter and meet with officers from Sun City's lapidary clubs to discuss consolidating the groups.

Jaslow, in her role as chairwoman of the clubs committee, proposed revoking the charter of the Fairway lapidary and art clubs last week.

At their Dec. 11 study session, board members agreed with Jaslow that declining activity and membership at the two clubs warranted de-chartering. But after opposition to the proposal from club members, the board voted 6-3 at its Thursday meeting to postpone Jaslow's motion, and she tendered her resignation.

"I met with Carol on Saturday," said board President Ed Anderson. "She would come back, I think, if what the clubs committee had worked for progressed. She feels very strongly we have to do something."

Jaslow didn't attend Monday special meeting of the board but said she is taking a wait-and-see attitude before deciding whether to return.

"It's flattering to know they want me back" she said. "We would have to talk about terms, but I have nothing definite to say. I am considering it at this time, pending their decision about the lapidary clubs. If they don't do anything about the situation, I don't see where I would be any better off."

Sundial, Fairway and Oakmont lapidary clubs have shown declining membership participation in recent years, and Anderson said he would like to address that issue at meetings with the five lapidary clubs.

► See Board closes, A3

over

■ From A1

"I think we need to get all these people in one room and say, 'Look people, we've got too many clubs that aren't active. You're going to decide who's going to close, and if you can't, we will.' I think we need to put some of the monkey on their back," he said. "That way, they can't say we didn't bring them in on it."

Anderson said he will call all the lapidary officers into a meeting at 9 a.m. Jan. 2.

Hindsight has proven to be 20/20 in this case: Anderson said he and Jaslowski, along with members of the clubs committee had thoroughly discussed the possible closing with the art club and had met briefly with the lapidary club. What they didn't do was talk to the board about the extent of these conversations.

"Carol and I didn't sit down with the board and tell you what we had done," Anderson said.

Director Doris Gregory said the board needs to put last week to rest

and move forward. To do that, the board must take a stand, she said.

"I think if we start making decisions based on how many people show up and make a circus of our meetings, we are a very weak board," she said.

She also said in the future the board must resist pitting one club against another. While the two clubs were targeted for closure in the future, losing their charters didn't become a reality until the computer club, which is sandwiched between the two clubs at Fairway, outgrew its space.

"I was in the computer club one day working on the scanner, and this guy came in and started yelling at our monitor saying, 'You guys are closing down our art club.' I felt sorry for that poor monitor," she said. "It's just not good pitting one club against another."

Consolidation of some clubs and the multiplication of others will be a matter of course during the next

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**'I think if we start making decisions based on how many people show up and make a circus of our meetings, we are a very weak board.'**

Director Doris Gregory

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year. Chuck Westerveld said there was no reason the computer club couldn't be broken down into those favoring IBM computers and its compatibles to those who prefer the Macintosh.

The handweaving club has been forced to meet in two locations — Sundial and Bell. The group has asked to be provided with one large space rather than two small ones.

Anderson said if the Sundial lapidary club — which has the smallest percentage of membership use at 5 percent — were closed, the weaving

club could use that additional space. The Bell location of the handweavers club could be used for computer club space. This would allow the computer club more space and permit the Fairway lapidary club to stay in place.

There are many options which can be considered, but the board must visit each of the clubs to determine how much space there is and how well it is being utilized, said Phyllis Roach, a member of the clubs committee.

"You can't understand what's available until you see the space," she said. "And the buildings south of Grand Avenue are old. Some of these rooms are antiquated and in dire need of renovations. Some of them actually have a lot of room, but it's all chopped up into funny dimensions."

Don Pritchett promised his fellow directors on the board that the engineering committee would take a close look at all the club facilities.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

MAY 29-JUNE 4, 2002

# RCSC committee ponders growth issue

## One idea: Demolish Fairway and build new rec center

By Bret McKeand  
Independent Newspapers

The Sun City Rec Centers' Long-Range Planning Committee is looking into ways to accommodate the growing number of clubs at Fairway Recreation Center and one idea on the table is to totally demolish the 41-year-old facility and start from scratch.

The committee held a meeting last week at Fairway Recreation Center to present the

idea and gain feedback from officers of chartered clubs who use the facility.

Built in 1961, Fairway Recreation Center is home to a number of the community's oldest clubs. Located at 107th and Peoria avenues, the facility was the second recreation center built in Sun City.

"We're exploring possibilities — and that's only what this is at this point, a possibility," said Norm Dixon, chairman of the Long-Range Planning

Committee.

The committee's responsibility is to explore all possibilities and ideas on serving the future needs of Sun City residents and clubs. Mr. Dixon said last week's meeting with club officers was the very first time the idea was presented.

"Where we go from here depends entirely on the reaction of the clubs," he stressed.

"The club officers will now take it back to their members to discuss and gain their reaction

— and that's really where it belongs," he added.

Whether or not anything ever comes of the idea will depend on response by the clubs who use the facility. But the committee feels it is important to discuss any and all ideas.

"We're in the very exploratory stage. How can we improve things over time, that's what we're trying to answer here," he added.

The meeting, held May 22, was open only to presidents and

vice presidents of clubs located at Fairway Recreation Center. About two dozen residents attended the discussion.

Jerry Swintek, president of the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors, said the board has never discussed the proposal.

"It's the (Long-Range Planning) committee's job to look at ideas that are three to five years out," he said.

"I like to call them the 'pie-in-the-sky folks' because they look at various options on what

OVER

the Rec Centers should be doing down the road.”

Originally called the Town Hall Recreation Center, the 26,000-square-foot facility was turned over to residents by the Del Webb Corporation in 1965. The Long-Range Planning Committee's recommendation is to build a 43,000-square-foot facility at the same site.

Don Tabachi, a member of the So-Grand Exercise Club, attended the meeting. He realizes the proposal is only an idea at this point but is hopeful it fails to get off the drawing board.

“There's nothing wrong with Fairway,” he said. “They seem to think it

will only cost a couple thousand dollars to tear it down and rebuild, but we're talking several million dollars.”

Mr. Tabachi is fearful the plan will lead to further centralization of various activities. There are already plans to eliminate the lawn bowling facilities and relocate them to Bell Center — Mr. Tabachi thinks relocating other activities to recreation centers located north of Grand

Avenue will inconvenience residents living south of Grand.

“We have a lot of people who ride their bikes to our exercise class,” said Mr. Tabachi. “If they cut down the facility and cut out certain activities, do they think someone is going to ride their bike from 111th and Olive

all the way up to Bell Center?”

John Sybenga, president of the Sun City Photo Club, said he plans to take the idea back to his members for further discussion.

“It's too early to have a reaction. It's a new idea and I haven't really had a chance to think about it,” he said.

A number of the clubs cancel their meetings during the summer so he doesn't expect many of them to respond to the committee until next fall.

“Someone at the meeting thought the timing was poor since a lot of folks won't be around for the summer. But I got the impression that it was just an idea and that the committee just wants us to talk it over with our members and then get back to them.”



*I like to call them the 'pie-in-the-sky folks' because they look at various options on what the Rec Centers should be doing down the road”*

**RCSC Board President  
Jerry Swintek**

On the group looking at future options for the Rec Centers of Sun City, Inc.



Photo courtesy of Del Webb Development Company

*TOWN HALL RECREATION CENTER, the community's second recreation center, was opened Jan. 28, 1961. The name was later changed to Pioneer Center and finally Fairway Center in 1972. Note the wide open spaces yet to be developed in the distance.*



DAILY NEWS-SUN FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 2003

## Electrical problems prompt study of Fairway needs

**SUN CITY:** Retired engineer says rec center wiring should be replaced

**ERIN REEP**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Citing "serious" electrical problems at Fairway Recreation Center, the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors decided Thursday to study the need for renovations of the building at 107th and Peoria avenues.

Ray Danford, a former RCSC president and director, said Maricopa County will condemn the building if appropriate changes are not made. Danford is on the engineering committee and is a retired electrical engineer.

"We have a serious electrical problem down there," he said.

Danford estimated the wiring replacement would cost \$100,000, including a new master control plus elimination of most of the cross-wiring between buildings.

The board unanimously approved a resolution calling for a feasibility study that would "include space requirements, the estimated costs and the preliminary design of a proposed new Fairway Center."

Not everyone agreed.

Sun Citian Bruce MacDonald said he uses Fairway and thinks the library, pool and other facilities are fine.

"I feel that any plan to tear down Fairway Recreation Center or to substantially remodel

### From A1

it ... is wasteful," he said.

Community activist Anne Stewart said the board should have centers' members vote on improvements.

But resident Ruth McHugh, who belongs to the knitters and pottery clubs, said something needs to be done. "We can't run our kilns the same day as the china club," she said. "We blow the fuses."

Norm Dickson, board vice president and long-range planning committee chairman, challenged Stewart's assertion that a remodeling project at Sundial exceeded cost projections.

"The Sundial project is not

over budget," he said. Initially, the remodeling project sought to fix a deck problem that posed a "tripping hazard," he said. Fixing that revealed other problems such as a leak in the spa and pool and humidity problems in the building. "And so, yes, it grew — but that doesn't put it over budget," he said.

Dickson said the board would work closely with Fairway users in conducting the feasibility study, so the building "will come out in a design that is functional and will suit the needs of the users," he said.

Long-range planning is one of the board's priorities for 2003, according to Dickson. He read the top five

goals for the year, which include improving Sun City's recreation centers and amenities, developing a long range plan for financing needed maintenance on aging facilities, and developing a member-friendly Web site.

"We are now in a phase in Sun City that is new, and it's going to be expensive," Dickson said, who added he will not watch the recreation centers deteriorate without doing something about it. "I do not choose to turn these problems over to the next generation of residents," he said.

*Erin Reep can be reached at 876-2532 or at ereep@aztrib.com*

## Architect unveils California mission design theme for Fairway

STAFF REPORT

The new Fairway Recreation Center will be designed in the California mission-Santa Barbara style and house a fitness center, indoor running track and encompass 85,000 square feet.

Designed by CCBG Architects, Fairway will be completed in two phases. The first phase is estimated to cost the Recreation Centers of Sun City \$8 million to \$10 million and could be completed in mid- to late- 2008, said Jim Wellman, RCSC senior manager of centers operations. The cost for the second phase has not been determined, but could be completed by late 2009 or early 2010, Wellman said.

The center will replace an existing building at 107th and Peoria avenues in Sun City. Construction is slated to

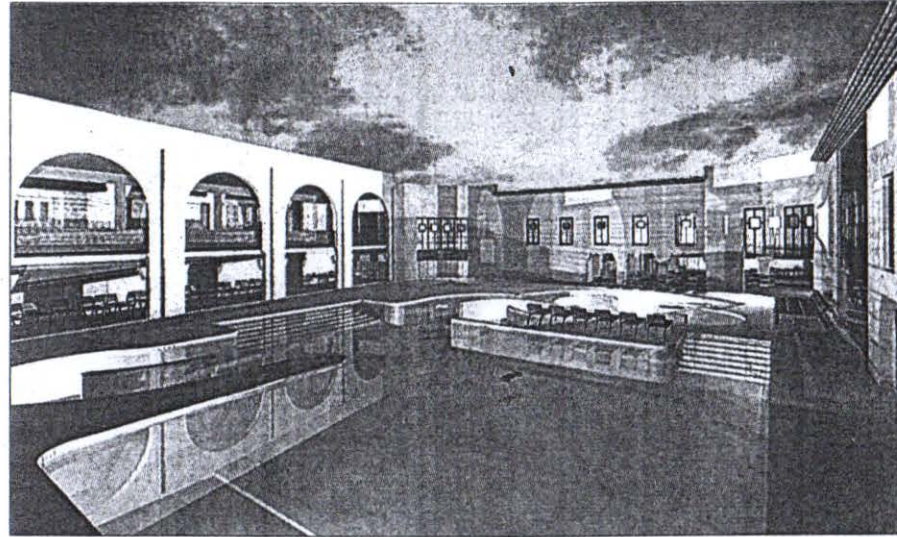
begin in mid-2007.

Wellman said the RCSC is now balancing plans for Fairway with the ongoing investigation into the June 19 roof collapse at Sundial Recreation Center.

"Right now, we're still moving toward doing Fairway. It's still on the board to being done," Wellman said. "At the same time we're working with Fairway plans, we're also evaluating what we're going to be facing at Sundial with insurance."

Scott Walker, project architect for CCBG Architects, said the center will include a "California mission-Santa Barbara design theme and include a wide variety of amenities for Sun City residents."

One of Sun City's original recreation facilities, the new Fairway Recreation Center



Architect's rendering of the pool and spa planned for the new Fairway Recreation Center at 107th and Peoria avenues.

will house a complete fitness center, including indoor running track, outdoor pool and Jacuzzis, and men's and women's locker rooms. The new facility will also include a large multipurpose room with a full-service kitchen, a library, and several club

rooms, including lapidary, ceramics, model railroad, computer technology, wood-working and more.

Over the last decade, CCBG has designed a variety of projects, ranging from custom homes in the Pacific Northwest and desert

Southwest to traditional and non-traditional churches in Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Washington and Texas, and large-scale entertainment, recreational and commercial spaces for a host of owner-occupied businesses.

Daily News-Sun • Saturday, Aug. 19, and Sunday, Aug. 20, 2000

# SC Rec Centers ask for electric evaluation

**BRUCE ELLISON**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The Recreation Centers of Sun City will hire an engineer to evaluate the electrical power needs at Fairway Recreation Center, and estimate the costs of needed upgrades, board members decided Monday.

At a workshop session, members discussed the lapidary area recently vacated for use by a burgeoning computer club.

That expansion is on hold while the power problems are resolved, the board was told.

Because building permits and electrical permits are needed to update the rooms for computer use, it's likely that much of the rest of the complex may need to be brought up to code.

One estimate of the cost connected with that work was \$90,000, and that was two years ago, treasurer Harold

Boudrie said.

"We ought to take the steps that are necessary for the electrical improvements, use the blueprints we have for the computer club rearrangements and get the work under way before the snowbirds return," said board member Dick Ohnstad.

But that timetable may be too optimistic, since the electrical work may be major and it may take longer to find a contractor than the board anticipates.

Ohnstad is drafting a memo to General Manager Jim Warfield, authorizing the hiring of the engineer, and asking that the work be done in 15 to 30 days.

"Right," said board president Bob Briscoe. "Let's get this thing started and do it."

The computer club expansion, like the catering operation, has been in the talking stage for a year or more, and has run into seemingly continuing obstacles.

Daily News-Sun •

# Fairway clubs gain reprieve from closure

By JEANNIE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

12-13-95

SUN CITY — More than 200 protesters carrying placards descended on Sundial Recreation Center Thursday to protest a plan to close the Fairway lapidary and art clubs.

And their collective voices were heard. The Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors voted at its monthly meeting to postpone the decision by a 6-3 vote rather than support Carol Jaslow's motion to close the clubs.

"It would have been difficult to make a decision with this mob here," board member Nat Jampel said.

The proposal to close the Fairway lapidary and art clubs came out of a membership and activity audit sponsored by the clubs committee.

Jaslow, who led the clubs committee, said committee members asked her to address the problem of declining membership and activity. Many clubs weren't making the most of the space given to them while other clubs were crowded, she said.

► See Indecision irritates, A3

## ■ From A1

Based on the membership and activity audit, several clubs — including the Fairway lapidary and art clubs — were earmarked for closure, Jaslow said. However, the board didn't act on the recommendations until the computer club asked for additional space to accommodate its nearly 800 members. The computer club's room is sandwiched between the lapidary and art clubs at Fairway.

Jaslow said in an interview after the meeting that she had been prepared to make a presentation of the information collected in the audit and wasn't given the opportunity to present it at Thursday's meeting. According to information provided by the clubs, the Fairway Lapidary Club has 196 members and an average of 12 members use the club each day. The Fairway Art Club has 201 members, with an average of eight members using the club per day.

Members of the lapidary and art clubs dispute these low numbers. Bob Meyer, a member of the lapidary club, said it averages 17 members a day.

Pat Luckett, president of the art club, admits participation at her club has been low in the past few years, but it is experiencing tremendous growth again. The art club will celebrate its 35th anniversary in April.

"I wish I could tell you how many people walk into our club every week and say they want art lessons," she said. "We are a walk-in center with easy access for the many of our residents who live in Phase I. We have an open-door policy at the club which the computer club doesn't. They close all their doors and windows."

"If you turn that big strip into a blank building, with no open windows and no open doors, it will be the ruination of the Fairway Center."

Noal Smedley, a retired construction supervisor, said he would recommend making better use of the space available. One option is to create a two-story building with parking available on the lower level.

Board member Don Pritchett, chairman of the engineering committee and member of the facilities committee, said the board has looked at constructing a new building. However, he said it would be cost prohibitive at this time.

"We have drawings for a building to accommodate the computer club," he said. "It would cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000. We have the space to do it. That's not the problem. The problem is money."

"I don't want to ruffle any feathers," Smedley replied, "but my rent fees have been \$100 since I moved here eight years ago. If you raise each person's dues by \$10, you'll have your building."

Board President Ed Anderson said the board will discuss the closure proposal at its January study session.

# SC board regroups

## Jaslow's resignation, clubs issue at hand

By JEANNIE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

12-16-95

SUN CITY — The search for a new member for the Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors begins Monday when the board will be called into a special session.

The empty seat comes in the wake of the unexpected resignation of board Secretary Carol Jaslow. She submitted her resignation after Thursday's monthly board meeting where her fellow directors failed to support her motion to close the Fairway lapidary and art clubs.

"Generally, what we do in a case like this, is the board gets together and picks a replacement, or they leave the seat open," said Ed Anderson, the board's president. "We haven't considered that until I have a chance to talk to her. I have asked the board to meet Monday and decide what direction we'll take. In the past, the board has distributed fliers and put out feelers to members who might be interested in serving on the board."



Jaslow

Jaslow made the motion to close the two clubs after an audit showed several of the chartered clubs in Sun City had lagging memberships and decreased activities while others were growing rapidly. The audit was conducted to determine the best use of space at all the centers.

Results of the audit showed fewer people were using the lapidary and art clubs at Fairway, while the computer club — sand-

► See Clubs face, A5

### ■ From A1

wiched between the two — was bursting at the seams. The computer club has nearly 800 members.

A discussion of the proposed closure during Monday's study session gave Jaslow the impression that the board would back her motion. Instead, the board voted to postpone the decision after hearing from a few of the nearly 200 members who showed up to oppose the proposed closure.

"I thought I was doing a good job and doing what the board wanted," Jaslow said in a later interview. "This has been put off by every previous board, and there's no reason it should be put off. I thought they were prepared to make these kinds of tough decisions, but when push came to shove, they couldn't do it. There's no reason not to do it, and the board is being very unfair to these clubs. They'll have to do it sometime because of the

dwindling activity."

Anderson said the board won't shirk this issue much longer. He said he would like to have the presidents of all the clubs gather and talk with the board about consolidation of activities.

"It's not just lapidary, and it's not just art," he said. "I feel we have too many clubs. We have four and five of a lot of clubs. I'd like to see fewer clubs that will be better."

When Sun City was first designed, the recreation centers were established to be neighborhood gathering places, each offering a variety of activities. This idea of the neighborhood center was rethought by the Del Webb Corp.

The designers changed the layout to include one location for each club — one lapidary club, one silvercraft club, one art club. This new plan was put into place in Sun City West and other Del Webb Sun Cities across the nation.

While Anderson isn't advocating such a radical

change, he said by consolidating the clubs, the Recreation Centers of Sun City could utilize its space more effectively. He doesn't think the community would accept the idea of one large club for each activity.

"If we have only 10 or 11 people using 1,000 square feet of space a day, that's not a good use of our facilities," he said. "I would like to see a maximum of three clubs for each activity — one in each geographic area. That way, we can build bigger and better clubs."

Many of those speaking out against the proposed closure said the proximity to Fairway was one of the primary reasons they purchased their home. They support the idea of the neighborhood center.

"You want us to travel north to one of the other clubs, but I'm not brave enough to drive my golf car from Peoria Avenue to Bell Road," said lapidary member Bob Meyer.

Daily News-Sun • Saturday, Sept. 23, and Sunday, Sept. 24, 2000

# Board awaits study of electrical needs at Fairway Center

**HAROLD BOUDRIE, TREASURER**  
RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I would like to respond to the article dated Sept. 9, 2000, in the *Daily News-Sun*, "Clubs Grow Impatient with Rec. Board," and relate what actually happened.

In February 2000, the Recreation Centers Bid Committee met with the president and one member of the Computer Club (of Sun City). This meeting occurred before Fairway Lapidary (Club) had even started to move in with Fairway Silvercraft (Club). The Computer Club president showed us a plan drawn by him. The members of the Bid Committee reviewed it and stated the proposed changes were a possibility but "don't ask for the moon."

After Fairway Lapidary (Club) moved out, the board members advised the Computer Club that the vacated room would be cleaned, painted and the tile floor replaced. The Computer Club president did not respond to the recreation board's recommendation.

On July 6, 2000, a meeting was called by (former) Centers Operations Manager Jim Warfield to discuss architectural plans for the renovation of the Computer Club. Members of the recreation board had not seen these plans before this date. They were a surprise to the board. The architect, hired by management, was at the meeting to explain the plans.

Once again the Computer Club asked for renovations which were completely out of the financial capability of the recreation centers. The architect stated the cost for renovations would be \$60,000. The recreation board advised him that the directors would study the plans and would call another meeting.

The architectural drawings cost the

recreation centers \$4,600 and the county permit was \$1,089. Neither expense had been approved by the recreation center's board.

In reviewing the plans it was discovered that the Computer Club was asking for a new electrical service, including a new power transformer. It was advised that with all the electrical problems at the Fairway (Recreation) Center, it would be necessary to hire an electrical engineer to study the entire electrical system.

It should be pointed out that this study was made in October 1998 and again in August 1999, and a report was sent to management by Red Dog Electric and Lighting. There are four meters on the property and it was proposed that by combining the system into one meter, our kilowatt-hour charge would change from 11 cents to 7 cents — a savings of \$900 per month. In addition, we discovered that APS charges \$12.50 per meter per month to read it. This money-saving recommendation was never followed through.

On August 23, 2000, a memorandum was issued to Warfield to immediately contract with (electrical engineer) Danny Woo of Woo Engineering to conduct a comprehensive study of the electrical needs at Fairway Recreation Center.

In the same memo the board requested the old Lapidary Club room so it could be used by the Computer Club. Completion date was anticipated to be no later than Sept. 1, 2000. However, as of this date, none of the requested work has been started by management.

Decisions regarding the renovation and expansion of the Computer Club will be made after the board of directors has had an opportunity to review the master plan from the electrical engineer.

# Board strips art club of charter

## Fate of lapidary to be decided; Jaslow returns

By CINDY TRACY  
Sun Cities Independent

While members of the soon-to-be former Fairway Art Club reacted last week to the news of its charter being lifted, the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors has reconciled with one of its members who quit over the issue.

Board member Carol Jaslow withdrew the resignation she tendered Dec. 14 after the board had

which will be stripped of its charter Jan. 1 — just months before its 35-year anniversary — met last week at the home of their president, Pat Luckett, to consider options and share reactions.

"I don't think any of us thought they would pull our charter," says Marie Hane. "I didn't, but I can only speak for myself."

Jane King says pulling the charter has a negative connotation. "You have to do something bad to have that happen, break the rules."

Pat Luckett says the club's only evil was that it had a down period in membership. Instead of helping the club, the board shut it down.

Mr. Anderson says there are certain things a club had to do to keep its charter and one of those things is keep up membership and activity.

"As to helping," he says. "I don't know what help they're looking for."

postponed a decision on her motion to "decharter" Fairway's art and lapidary clubs.

An audit showed usage of the two clubs was low and the Rec Centers needed the additional room to expand its large computer club.

Art and lapidary members showed up at the Dec. 14 board meeting with speeches and picket signs protesting the motion. Art club members carried red roses to show their love for their club.

Despite a lengthy discussion, the

He says the club has not given the board any figures to back up what he says is their assertion that membership has increased.

Pat Luckett says she thought Ms. Jaslow's resignation was a convenient ploy to get action on the motion.

Ms. Jaslow disputes the charge, saying her resignation was not a ploy. She says she turned in all her board materials that day. "I had absolutely no intention of going back."

About the decision to decharter the art club and meet with lapidary clubs, Ms. Jaslow says she's satisfied the board is moving in the right direction. She says she has no ax to grind with any club.

Art club members say they don't blame the computer club for the board's action.

"We're not anti-computer," Ms. Luckett says. She says she had planned to invite the computer

board postponed making any decision on the matter. Ms. Jaslow resigned after the meeting, saying she was led to believe she had the full support of the board on the matter.

The board gathered again last week and during a much quieter setting voted once and for all to strip the art club of its charter. The board has scheduled a Jan. 2 meeting to meet with Sun City lapidary clubs.

Last week's action prompted Ms. Jaslow to withdraw her resignation.

club to an art club program on graphic arts next year. That project is scrapped now.

Art club member Frank Mitchum says he believes the computer club was used as a tool to clean everything out of Fairway as a prelude to shutting down the center itself.

"Our way of living is gone with the wind," he says, "and the board don't give a damn."

Members expressed their sadness at what they see as a trend away from neighborhood centers and clubs — a predominant theme in the early days of Sun City.

"When we came here we bought a way of living and we paid for that way of living with our dues," Mr. Mitchum says.

Although art clubs in the other recreation centers have offered to take in Fairway members, some wonder if they want to drive that far.

Recreation Board President Ed Anderson says one reason for delaying action on the lapidary club is that usage of the lapidary at Fairway and Sundial centers is about the same.

Ms. Jaslow says she met with Mr. Anderson and has spoken with other board members who have assured her the matter of space use by clubs will be examined. She says the board has urged her to withdraw her resignation so directors can work together on the best way to accommodate residents.

Members of Fairway Art Club,

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Mr. Mitchum suggests the board build a new room for the club at Fairway or give them another space.

Mr. Anderson says the board had considered this option, but there isn't any space at Fairway for it.

Chesley Sikkema says she's paying \$100 a year dues and the art club is the only activity she participates in. "I don't play golf. I don't swim. I don't do anything but paint, and I can't do that now."

Mr. Anderson points to the leathercraft club at Marinette Center in Phase III as an example of a club whose members drive from other neighborhoods to attend.

"Nobody likes to decharter a club," he says. The thing the board has to consider is utilization of space, and it isn't just the art club, there are other clubs being looked at."



Members of the Fairway Lapidary Club are up in arms over a proposal to strip their club of its charter.



Photo by Tom Barry/Independent Newspapers

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard addresses nearly 100 people at the Fairway Recreation Center in Sun City Oct. 9 during an open house to celebrate the reopening of the Attorney General's satellite office.

## TO PROTECT

### Goddard calls satellite office 'invaluable'

By Tom Barry  
Independent Newspapers

Calling it "an invaluable resource" to seniors throughout the northwest Valley, Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard formally reopened his agency's Sun City satellite office on Oct. 9.

The attorney general was greeted by nearly 100 Sun Citians during an open house to mark the occasion. The ceremonial reopening is held each year in the fall following a summer hiatus, when many Sun Citians are vacationing.

But, with their return in the fall, the numbers of cases of elder abuse and consumer fraud perpetrated against seniors in the Sun Cities rises dramatically, according to law enforcement officials.

Of the nearly 70,000 cases reported to the Attorney General's Office last year, by far the leading



GODDARD

#### If you go

**What:** Arizona Attorney General's Sun Cities Satellite Office, which responds to walk-in consumer complaints regarding senior fraud and offers referral assistance

**Where:** Fairway recreation Center, 107th and Peoria avenues in Sun City

**When:** Open 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Thursdays

**Info.:** (602) 542-2079

complaint stemmed from incidents of identity theft, Mr. Goddard said.

"By bringing the office into the community, we hope that the word about scams and unscrupulous businesses will spread quicker than the con artists can," Mr. Goddard said. "That way not only will we be able to help those victimized, but hopefully prevent others in the community from becoming a victim."

The Attorney General's Elder Affairs Program established the state's first satellite outreach office in Sun City in 1999 under then-Attorney General

Janet Napolitano. Since opening, it has become the largest such office the agency oversees.

Situated in the Fairway Recreation Center, 107th and Peoria avenues, its mission is to serve senior citizens in the Northwest Valley.

"I believe this office has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Sun Cities communities since it was first opened. We are also extremely grateful to the volunteers who staff the office on our behalf," Mr. Goddard said.

The office serves as a repository for information for seniors on consumer rights, telemarketing fraud, and consumer scams. Specially trained volunteers provide complaint forms and offer referral assistance in completing those forms.

The volunteers have all received consumer fraud complaint intake training from the Attorney General's Office and most have a public service background, according to Dana Browning of the Elder Affairs Program.

The office is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon, through next spring.

The Attorney General's popular Life Care Planning documents and the Senior Citizen Protection Manual is also available at the satellite office.

The office is a cooperative venture with the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Property Owners and Residents Association of Sun City West, Sun City Home Owners Association, the Sheriff's Poses of Sun City West and Sun City, and the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce.

"The primary mission of the Elder Affairs Unit is to identify and prevent consumer fraud where seniors are involved," she explained. "It also serves as the eyes and ears of the AG's Office for the Northwest Valley and Sun Citians in particular."

Noting that seniors are more apt to be preyed upon by scam artists, Ms. Browning urged victims to immediately contact local authorities and to seek assistance from the Elder Affairs Unit.

Anyone who believes they may be a victim of consumer fraud may file a complaint in person at the outreach office or call the Attorney General's consumer complaint hotlines (602) 542-5763 or toll free 1-800-352-8431.

For more information about the Sun Cities satellite office, call the Elder Affairs Program at (602) 542-2124 or visit [www.ag.state.az.us](http://www.ag.state.az.us).



SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

March 5, 2003

# RCSC to study redo of Fairway

By **Mike Russo**  
Independent Newspapers

A study will be performed to determine the feasibility of remodeling, renovating or even entirely rebuilding Fairway Recreation Center.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of directors voted unanimously during its Feb. 27 RCSC Board meeting to have a feasibility study done.

"This is the exploratory phase," explained Norm Dickson, RCSC board member. "It will be done internally, so there

will be no (outside consultant) cost."

Fairway is an antiquated facility with overtaxed electrical wiring and no room for expansion, Mr. Dickson said.

"We did not build the recreation facilities; we inherited them from others, and they are aging," he said. "The centers need to be renovated, remodeled or rebuilt."

Resident Ray Danford told the board: "We have serious electrical problems down there (at Fairway). The cross-wiring between buildings must

be eliminated or we are facing possible condemnation from the county."

Another resident, Ruth McCue, told of a small electrical fire that started in the Model Railroad Club room, where a kiln belonging to the Ceramics Club was plugged into an electrical outlet.

Ms. McCue, an active member of the Knitters Club and the Ceramics Club, urged the board to proceed with improvements to Fairway.

"A lot of clubs down there are bulging at the seams," she

said. "I appeal for the knitters and people sharing rooms; they really need it."

Not everyone in attendance at last week's meeting felt as though improvements were needed at Fairway.

"Any plan to tear down or substantially remodel Fairway Rec Center is not necessary," Bruce MacDonald remarked. He said the current facilities are adequate.

"We are in a war economy. ... This is not a prudent time to be robbing Peter to pay Paul," he added.

Anne Randall Stewart, who has been a vocal critic of the RCSC board and is currently organizing a recall of five the board members, said, "In light of the Sundial (renovation) project budget (overruns), we think the membership should be able to vote on Fairway.

"History has shown us Mr. (Earl) Feierabend (RCSC centers operations manager) cannot bring in a project on time or on budget," she continued.

Mrs. Stewart advocates

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## Fairway

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removing Mr. Feierabend.

Prior to the board's vote, Director Jerry Swintek told the members, "This is a long-range project. Nothing will happen this year except this study to see if it is feasible to remodel Fairway.

"It (remodeling) may not

happen next year or the year after," he added.

Once the study is done and recommendations made, the board will consider what direction to take and whether it wants to spend money on Fairway, according to Mr. Dickson.

Rec centers' staff will work with the clubs at Fairway to determine their needs, Mr. Dickson noted.

"We can give them approximate square footage, and they can design what they want inside it," Mr. Dickson said. "The next step is to put all (those) spaces together and see if we can come up with a design."

Mr. Dickson said the presidents of clubs based at Fairway have enthusiastically endorsed the undertaking of the study.

He said he believes the

study can be completed before summer.

"Then we can have the summer to look it over, and maybe in the fall we would have something to present back to the club members, and early next year maybe (know) what the cost would be," Mr. Dickson said. "If we decide to go ahead, then we would have to get an architect and a general contractor."