

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: February 8, 2022

To: Mayor and Town Council

Via: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

From: Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager

Re: Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Recreational and Educational Use of the
Palm Beach County Leased Area of Peanut Island
Resolution No. 018-2022

Date: January 27, 2022

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Town Council approve Resolution No. 018-2022, authorizing the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Palm Beach County, the City of Riviera Beach, the Town of Palm Beach Shores, and the Town of Palm Beach for the recreational and educational use of the leased area of Peanut Island.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Port of Palm Beach is the owner in fee simple of approximately 42 acres of land located on Peanut Island. In 1994 the Port leased to Palm Beach County approximately 36 acres of land on the Island for the development of a County park. The park was completed in 1999 and includes a campground, boat docks, restrooms, picnic facilities, a snorkeling area, showers, walkways, and native vegetation.

After initial conversations between the Port and the City of Riviera Beach regarding a lease agreement with the City to take over operations and maintenance of facilities on 6.4 acres, the County has entered into a lease agreement for the same. See attached. This conclusion was strongly advocated by the Town to ensure the passive nature of Peanut Island was maintained and protected from commercial activities. Former Mayor, Gail Coniglio, worked closely with staff to encourage a lease with the County instead of the City of Riviera Beach, and Mayor Danielle Moore, completed the advocacy upon taking office. To ensure continued awareness and involvement in County organized activities on Peanut Island the attached MOU was developed to promote cooperation and communication between the County, Town, City of Riviera Beach, and the Town of Palm Beach Shores.

Some of the key highlights of the MOU include the following: (1) the County agrees not to change the current land use and zoning on Peanut Island that would permit commercial activities, notwithstanding those retail services commonly associated with a museum or educational facility

will be permitted. (2) The County will manage, maintain, and operate the historic facilities on Peanut Island in the same manner as the rest of Peanut Island without impairing or restricting maritime uses by the Port.

TOWN ATTORNEY REVIEW

The resolution is in a form that has previously been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney for legal form and sufficiency. The attached Memorandum of Understanding has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney for legal form and sufficiency

Attachments

cc: Carolyn Stone, Assistant Town Manager
Department Directors
John Randolph, Town Attorney