

Save Deer Run Newsletter

February 12, 2021 - Volume 3, Issue 1



SEMINOLE COUNTY SCHEDULES PUBLIC INPUT MEETING FOR FEB. 9TH, 2021

Seminole County Government held the first of its kind public input meeting/workshop about the proposed acquisition of the former Country Club at Deer Run and its conversion to a public park on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. The hybrid meeting included a maximum number of 200 people to attend in-person at MetroLife Church in Casselberry, Florida and a Zoom webinar allowed a maximum number of 500 people to attend virtually. Approximately 145 people attended in-person and 386 individuals participated online for a total participant count of 531 people. The meeting was moderated by Deputy County Manager Joe Abel (at MetroLife) and Director of Leisure Services Rick Derr (online). Also in attendance at the in-person meeting were Seminole County Commissioners Bob Dallari (District One) and Jay Zembower (District 2). Upon welcoming everyone, Abel summed up the meeting's purpose when he stated "our intent tonight is to talk about what could be."

Over the next 45 minutes, county staff proceeded to explain some of the history surrounding land development in the entire Deer Run community but on the former golf course particularly. Some very preliminary figures and concept plans were shared about how the county might turn the former golf course into a public community park if it was bought and how that acquisition process would work. They also explained the role the community would have to play in the process via a special financial assessment called a Multi Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) and how that might affect residents in Deer Run.

County staff said they will report back to the Seminole County Board of Commissioners at the February 23rd meeting with an update on Deer Run. At that meeting, staff will ask for direction on if and how the commissioners wish them to proceed



with the four-month assessment and appraisal process that would come next if there is enough support for the idea. The process to assess and appraise the course would cost approximately \$90,000 and would be completed by June 2021 if approved by the BCC. The last half-hour of the meeting was taken up with questions from the audience.

To view a copy of the Powerpoint Presentation that the county used during the meeting, please visit:

<https://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/leisure-services/projects/deer-run.stml>

COUNTY ASKS RESIDENTS TO COMPLETE ONLINE SURVEY BY FEBRUARY 22ND

At the Deer Run Public Input Meeting/Workshop held by Seminole County on February 9, 2021, county staff said they will report back to the Seminole County Board of Commissioners at the February 23rd meeting with an update on Deer Run. At that BCC meeting, staff will ask for direction on if and how the commissioners wish them to proceed with the four-month assessment and appraisal process that would come next if there is enough support for the idea. County staff have asked all residents to complete a short survey ASAP to give staff further evidence they can present to commissioners that Deer Run supports the idea of the county purchasing the course for use as a public park no later than February 22, 2021.

Residents also have the ability to let county staff about the type of possible amenities they would like to see if the closed golf course became a park. The county has provided a preliminary list, but there is also a box marked 'Other' that allows you to type your own ideas/comments if what you want to see there isn't listed. Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/THCLHPV> to complete this survey as soon as possible.

We are also asking all residents to send emails to the commissioners as outlined in the new SDR Email Campaign flyer included at the back of this newsletter their feedback about the meeting, their ideas for what they would like to see happen to the former golf course if the county buys it, and what type of amenities they think should be included at a possible Deer Run Community Park.

GOLF COURSE OWNER PUTS DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION ON-HOLD

The current owner of the former Country Club at Deer Run has formally put his development application with Seminole County on-hold. In December 2020, Seminole County signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Robert Dello Russo regarding the development application he submitted to the county in August 2020. The MOU states that the county will have until no later than June 2021 to complete its due diligence investigation into the possible purchase of the closed golf course by the county. At the end of this time period, the county will either enter into formal negotiations to purchase the golf course and the development application will not be resubmitted or the owner will resubmit the

development plans after the expiration of the MOU agreement in June 2021.

On Hold!



SEMINOLE COUNTY DEER RUN STEERING COMMITTEE FORMED

On Thursday, January 14, 2021, the Save Deer Run Board of Directors met with county staff at their invitation. Seminole County staff asked our board to help organize a 30-person volunteer steering committee of individual private citizens who are residents of Deer Run. Save Deer Run called for volunteers and received dozens of offers to participate. Volunteers representing 18 different HOAs/neighborhoods were selected. The only neighborhood located off Eagle Circle that does not have a representative is Fox Hollow as no one from that neighborhood and/or HOA came forward to participate. The Deer Run Steering Committee held its first work session via Zoom on February 5, 2021. The county expects the Steering Committee to help in organizing public meetings, workshops, and events as well as providing input and feedback on the possible acquisition of the

of the former Country Club at Deer Run by Seminole County over the next six to nine months. While there are currently no open slots on the committee, we are still accepting individuals who wished to be placed on the Alternates list in case a current member can no longer serve. Email admin@savedeerrun.com for more information.



E-mail address: admin@savedeerrun.com

Did you know there's a Facebook group where you can discuss matters about the golf course closing? Check us out!

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SaveDeerRun/groups/?ref=page_internal

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.savedeerrun.com/>

DEER RUN PROJECT UPDATE

WEBPAGE NOW AVAILABLE
TO VIEW PROJECT UPDATES,
PRESENTATIONS AND FAQs

TAKE THE SURVEY ONLINE

[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/THCLHPV](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/THCLHPV)



Your Input Opportunities

1. Participate in On-line Survey Until February 22, 2021:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/THCLHPV>

2. Comments and Questions Via Email:

Sherry Williams: swilliams02@seminolecountyfl.gov

Rick Durr: rdurr@seminolecountyfl.gov

Thank You!



You can STILL help SAVE DEER RUN!

On February 9, 2021, Seminole County held a public input meeting/workshop about the county possibly purchasing the former Country Club at Deer Run Golf Course to turn it into a public park. On February 23, 2021, county staff will provide the five Seminole County Commissioners an update on the current feelings of the public about this idea. Even if you have emailed them before, please do so again. Deer Run needs

to be loud and involved in making the commissioners aware of how strongly we STILL feel about saving our community. The county will only purchase the closed golf course if a minimum of THREE of five county commissioners vote to buy it. If you are worried about the future of the golf course, we encourage you to reach out to the Seminole County Commissioners via email. Below is a sample email that can be used in this email campaign. Please feel free to tweak it so it reflects YOUR personal reasons as to why you think the county should buy the former course & what types of amenities you want to see at a new Deer Run Community Park. In an October 2020 Seminole BCC meeting, Commissioners Bob Dallari & Jay Zembower spoke out in strong support of the idea. Commissioner Lee Constantine tentatively supported the idea. Commissioner Amy Lockhart made several negative comments that seemed to indicate she did not support the idea. Commissioner Andria Herr was newly elected to the commission in November 2020 and has made no comments either for or against the idea. Let's change some minds! Please send your email to all the County Commissioners and cc admin@savedeerrun.com on your email so we can keep track of the support for this purchase.

SUBJECT LINE: We Want a Deer Run Community Park!

EMAIL CONTENT: Dear Commissioner _____,

I am a concerned resident who lives in Deer Run. I know the owner of the former Country Club at Deer Run golf course has submitted a development application to the county and wants to build over two hundred single-family homes on that land. Please help protect the residents of Deer Run from irresponsible development. Please help us keep Seminole County as Florida's Natural Choice!

PLEASE PROTECT DEER RUN BY SUPPORTING SEMINOLE COUNTY'S PURCHASE OF THE LAND FOR USE AS A PUBLIC PARK.

We support an MSBU between Seminole County & Deer Run and want to see a new community park with amenities like (YOU LIST CHOICE A, CHOICE B, CHOICE C. EXs. Trails, Playground, Splash Pad, Dog Park, Fishing Pier, etc.).

Thank you, Sign with your full name and full mailing address

Seminole Board of County Commissioners

<u>District</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u> (Emails go to Commissioner's Executive Assistant)
1 (our District)	Bob Dallari	407-665-7215	kyoung@seminolecountyfl.gov
2	Jay Zembower	407-665-7205	dschafer@seminolecountyfl.gov
3	Lee Constantine	407-665-7207	shardy@seminolecountyfl.gov
4	Amy Lockhart	407-665-7201	dsummers@seminolecountyfl.gov and alockhart@seminolecountyfl.gov
5	Andria Herr	407-665-7209	ddethlefs@seminolecountyfl.gov