

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE PALATINE PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE PALATINE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER, IN SAID DISTRICT, AT 505 S. QUENTIN ROAD, PALATINE, ILLINOIS ON JUNE 27, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M.

These Minutes are not a verbatim record of what was said during the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00P.M.

Commissioners Present

John Cozza, President
Robert Schultz, Vice President
Andrew McPherson, Treasurer
Jennifer Rogers
Susan Gould

Staff Present

Ron Gbur, Executive Director
Pat Moser, Supt. of Parks & Planning
Keith Williams, Supt. of Recreation
Raul Zaldivar, Supt. of Revenue Facilities
Tina Becke, Asst. Supt. of Finance

Ed Tynczuk, Asst. Supt. of Parks
Donelda Danz, Asst. Supt. of Recreation
Bonnie Bennett, Secretary
Debbie Smith, Supt. of Finance & Personnel
(arrived later)

Citizens and Guests

Bob Alexander, PGHA
Kathy Millin, P.O.C.
Karen Kabarec, P.O.C.
Raul Rodriguez, P.O.C.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Schultz seconded, that the Board approve the meeting Agenda. By a voice vote, the agenda for the regular meeting of June 27, 2006 was unanimously approved as submitted.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gould moved, and Commissioner McPherson seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 23, 2006. Commissioner Schultz made a correction on Page 5, second sentence of his comments; should read 'Sealand containers' not sealed containers. Upon a voice vote, the minutes of the prior meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

AYE: Susan Gould, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Jennifer Rogers
ABSENT: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Parks and Planning Department Report. Moser added to his report that staff repaired a water heater at the Family Aquatic Center, Tynczuk received the energy grant for the lighting project, and we went out to bid on the Birchwood Pool Renovation Project last week – just one week later than anticipated. Commissioner Gould said that the pictures of the FAC were great.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Revenue Facilities Report. Zaldivar responded to comments regarding the distressed customer saying that he did not collapse, but fortunately I was able to convince him he needed medical help; there are customers who insist that we not call 911. Responding to Commissioner Rogers regarding the staff issues and the World Cup, Zaldivar said there was no relation; our ‘returning’ seasonal crew are aging, one employee has been diagnosed with arthritis and another’s wife became very ill in Mexico; unfortunately they do not always tell us when they are leaving or when they will be back; staff just focused on daily maintenance tasks.

Gbur said that there were no more Departmental Reports.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

President Cozza recognized Palatine Opportunity Center representatives, Executive Director Kathy Millen, Karen Kabarec and Raul Rodriguez. Millen distributed some materials (attached to official minutes) and addressed the Board. Included with her materials was a picture of POC’s newest program, I Compete – a program, which she said showed her why she became involved with POC three years ago and a program that could not have taken place without the collaborative efforts of the Park District, the Park Foundation, School Districts 15 and 211, and volunteers. Giving some background Millen said that POC people said down with District 15 and selected kids that cannot afford transportation which would enable them to participate in after-school programs such as sports; still cannot reach all kids but provided activities for about 38 boys from 15 and 211; among top volunteers were four ‘graduates’ who came back to help with the program; coaches have power over kids and are positive mentors; will continue this program with the assistance of the Park District, Park Foundation, 15 and 211.

Millen then gave a rundown of the past year: the area has a very transient population; literacy is still #1 thing we work on; important to try and understand what it is like to live in Rand Grove; POC has small staff but collaborative partnerships; have doubled enrollment – numbers never go down; working on summer camp program, 50% of kids will be new, but

can only provide for 100; added new programs especially for high risk kids; this year gave out two scholarships – one to Harper and one to Northern; have increased donor support by 200%; goal is to reach 300 kids. Williams said that the kids got all the equipment

Kabarec then distributed a financial statement and addressed the Board giving an overall financial report. First month that they are in the black, it was along haul and took a lot of work; no longer depend on Park District for payroll checks; have not made any payments but debt has not increased; have received some larger grants, in particular a \$20,000 grant was the first for a Hispanic group, and could possibly get it for three years; Summer Camp going to Harper for one of the three weeks – a new experience for many of the kids - trying to expand horizons. Commissioner McPherson commented that a couple of years ago with their debt situation he never expected to see the money again, had a lot of concerns; POC has come a long way, truly a success story, a good turn-around; why is population so transient? Millen responded that peoples conditions improve and they get their first homes in more affordable areas; the first home is a huge success. Responding to more questions, Millen said the area is now has more mixture of Russian and Black changing the culture of the area; yes, some may be illegal, but many in classes born in this country; many people occupy one apartment with some sleeping on the floor – hard to survive under those circumstances; for summer camp we talk with District 15 and target certain areas. Williams said we go over 100 often because we know some will drop out. Kabarec said we also know that some come from as far away as the apartments on west Palatine Road. Williams said we could serve 200-300 possibly but would have to change the structure of the program; currently three week program – one week at Harper with lunch. Millen said with the names the schools provide we could go up to 600 kids; hope to expand the I Compete program to maybe 70 kids next year; seniors come to the center mainly to talk with others in their own tongue; some seniors in programs at Senior Center but do not mix with the kids. Responding to a question, Williams said that Temporarily Restrict funds are monies provided but restricted to certain uses; have not paid monies to Park District but they are now solvent. Kabarec said that the new Treasurer is a Vice President at Harper and runs a very tight ship – very strict with funds; no funds available to sponsor memberships in various organizations, i.e. Jaycees. Commissioner Gould asked what the Board could do for them, Millen responded ‘volunteer’; Park District has given incredible support and allows programming to expand. Williams said each year seven to fourteen volunteers are Junior Counselors – older kids who normally would go away. Millen said this year campers will see Beloit baseball game; go to the YMCA, to the Barrington team building center and Brookfield Zoo. Commissioner Rogers asked if they plan to attend Cosley Zoo, part of Wheaton Park District. Millen replied no. President Cozza said that he really likes their structure, is impressed with the programs and the numbers are improving. Millen said they are getting a lot of community funding but are having trouble with State and Federal. One highlight of this past year was a four day overnight camping trip to Wisconsin. President Cozza congratulated them on the great job this year, and thanked them for coming.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed a previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to an OSLAD Grant application. Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Gould seconded that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt the Resolution of Authorization, PPD Resolution #06-06, for the Hamilton recreational path. Commissioner McPherson said that he realizes it has been discussed before, but a path that goes nowhere should be a mile. Gbur said that staff came to the Board with this last July, every 1/10th mile will be marked; we have looked at using some of the inclines but kids would be out of parents' sight-lines; basic path for runners. Looking at the drawing provided, discussion ensued with suggestions on how to possibly increase the distance of the path, e.g. starting at the northwest corner (not steep) similar to horse racing tracks, creating a loop or zigzag without crossing the entrance drive, around playground or the southeast corner. Moser said that getting a mile in is hard to do in this area.. Gbur then suggested that Commissioner McPherson or President Cozza, both runners, meet with staff at Hamilton to investigate some options; could always add on later. Gbur said as the path is laid out now, parents can see kids from baseball and soccer fields. Commissioner Gould reminded everyone that wildlife still lives out there, i.e. coyote, fox, etc. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

PASS: Robert Schultz,

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to and intergovernmental agreement. Commissioner Schultz moved, and Commissioner Gould seconded, that the Board adopt Resolution #06-07 authorizing the President of the Board of Park Commissioners to enter into an agreement with the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 15. Staff responded to questions saying that the biggest change was that the Park District would be mowing entire school grounds instead of just fields, we will get three weekday room uses free, additional uses (weekend) at fees \$25.00 less than those charged for public rental; slightly higher than before but still a deal for us. An inconsistency was noted regarding to Marion Jordan School – mowing also to be done by Inverness Park District; Williams will take care of getting it corrected; additionally, District 15 wants us to coordinate their rentals as they have a big problem with public groups using the Park District's name when renting rooms; C.A.R.E. is not a part of this agreement, we have been working on this for about a year, their attorney is now finalizing the agreement. President Cozza called for a voice vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to park property naming policy. Commissioner McPherson moved, for discussion purposes, and Commissioner Gould seconded, that the Board approve a policy stating that park entrance drives not be personalized but continue to be references using the location's name. Commissioner McPherson asked why we need another policy; he would hate to shut the door on a possible donation similar to Mari Rae Sopper. Commissioner Gould asked if this was being presented due to a request to name the street to Celtic Park after Jim Kinsella. Gbur said that this was a Future Agenda Item request, but it is a hard issue; Jimmy Kinsella was an outstanding volunteer but how do you decide when we have had and will have many 'outstanding volunteers; PHGA did Jim Takahashi very proud with a memorial garden. Commissioner Schultz said that the current naming policy covers it all now, yet still allows for re-naming by a 4/5ths vote. Commissioner Gould commented that commemorative names of roads/streets present problems for Fire Departments, they cannot respond as quickly to an emergency when someone gives a street name other than the one assigned it by the Village/City. Commissioner Schultz agreed, stating that our policy is sufficient. Commissioner McPherson said the reality is that any future Board could change it; our current policy addresses it adequately. President Cozza requested a roll call vote on the motion, the result of which follows.

AYE: None

NAY: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

ABSENT: None

Motion failed.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Monthly Financial Report dated May 2006. President Cozza commented that it looked good.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed list of bills. Commissioner McPherson moved that Warrant #12, in the amount of \$665,776.74, be approved and released for payment. Commissioner Gould seconded the motion. There were no questions. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Gbur said there was no more new business.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Executive Director's Report. Gbur updated the Board on the start of Degner Park; tree removal started and seller called regarding damage to the driveway, she is trying to move; the hole was filled in and tree removal temporarily stopped; about 60% of work had already been done. Moser responded to Commissioner McPherson saying that the originally dedicated lot (#10) was about 185 feet long but had a 7½ drop, the replacement parcel is 150 feet long but the drop-off is only about 2½ feet, and it is away from the street. Gbur gave parade locations for commissioners (slot #10) and other Park District participants (between 40 – 60's); commissioners will be tossing mini-beach balls; President Cozza will be attending the Dignitary's Breakfast.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Schultz said that he saw a gang of kids at Birchwood playing Lacrosse and Danz responded that was our camp.

Commissioner Rogers said that she stopped by the PIAC event between 1:30 and 2:00; it started at noon continuing until seven o'clock; there appeared to be about 130-200 people which did not seem like much of an impact. She said that she picked up some materials on the Highland Park Community Center; it looks like it has a small pool but it always nice to see what other park districts are doing.

Commissioner Gould said that the Historical Society House Walk had five-hundred plus attendees; the Patten House was on the walk.

President Cozza said that PAFA told him that equipment had been moved from Ost to Falcon; they were looking for the sleds. Tynczuk said they were at Falcon Park as they wouldn't fit at Ost. Gbur explained that we kept one of the garages – to the right when you enter the area.

President Cozza requested Future Agenda Items; there were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Cozza requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and convene in executive session under Sections 2(c)(5) and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for the benefit of the District, and probable litigation. Commissioner Schultz so moved and Commissioner McPherson seconded the motion. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved at 8:01 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:07 p.m.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

President Cozza stated that the Board had met in Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of the probable litigation and the acquisition of real estate for the benefit of the District. There is no action to be taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board on this date, Commissioner McPherson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by a voice vote at 8:08 p.m.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, Robert Schultz, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Bennett, Secretary

ATTEST:

/s/ Bonnie Bennett
Secretary

APPROVED:

/s/ John Cozza
President

Next scheduled Park Board meetings:

July 11, 2006
July 25, 2006
August 8, 2006