

**CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

May 9, 2007

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held an Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Petry presided over the meeting.

Present: President Joe Petry, Vice President Barb Kuhl, Commissioners Newton Dodds, Alvin Griggs and Jane Solon, and Treasurer Gary Wackerlin

Absent: Attorney Guy Hall

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Mike Seibold, Director of Finance, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, Mary McGrew, Human Resources Manager and Laura Auteberry, Marketing Manager.

Other staff were present as well as members of the public.

Call to Order

President Petry called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER

Ms. Herakovich administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Park Board Commissioner Newton H. Dodds.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of President

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dodds to nominate Barb Kuhl for the office of president. There were no other nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Vice-President

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dodds to nominate Jane Solon for the office of Vice President. There were no other nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Solon that Bobbie Herakovich be appointed as Secretary and Gary Wackerlin be appointed as Treasurer for the Champaign Park District. There were no other nominations. The motion passed unanimously. Secretary Herakovich administered the Oath of Office to Treasurer Wackerlin and President Kuhl administered the Oath of Office to Secretary Herakovich.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on a motion duly made by Commissioner Dodds, seconded by Commissioner Solon and unanimously approved, the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Approved:

Barbara J. Kuhl, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

May 9, 2007

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Kuhl presided over the meeting.

Present: President Barbara J. Kuhl, Vice President Jane Solon, Commissioners Newton H. Dodds, Alvin S. Griggs and Joseph A. Petry, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin and Attorney Guy Hall

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Mike Seibold, Director of Finance, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, Mary McGrew, Human Resources Manager, and Laura Auteberry, Marketing Manager

Other staff were present as well as members of the public.

Call to Order

President Kuhl called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Comments from the Public

Sue Kitzon, 1004 Broadmoor Drive, Champaign, spoke in favor of a dog park. She stated that she was a dog owner and hopes that the Board will approve the dog park. Ms. Kitzon stated the Board would be doing a great service for the residents.

Rick Shurtz, 2111 Bristol Road, Champaign, spoke in favor of a dog park. He stated that this project has been in the works for three years. Mr. Shurtz complimented Park District staff, Bobbie Herakovich, Terri Gible and Laura Auteberry, and commented that they have been great to work with. He stated that a dog park will be a great addition to the Park District and lots of people would use it.

Communications

President Kuhl circulated the correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Wackerlin reported that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order. He recommended acceptance of the Treasurer's report for April 2007.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2007 as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Executive Director's Report

Scott Park

Ms. Herakovich presented three preliminary plan concepts for Scott Park. She reported that the Park District has hired Hitchcock Design for this project to represent the Park District. Ms. Herakovich reported that the Park District will apply for a renovation grant. She asked the Board feedback on the design with the next couple of days.

Volunteer of the Month for March

Fred and Alice Haegele were chosen as the Volunteers of the Month for March. Mr. & Mrs. Haegele were chosen for their assistance with potlucks and sing alongs at the Hays Center. Abby Schoolman, Teen Coordinator, presented Mr. & Mrs. Haegele with a certificate of achievement, a gift certificate and other Park District items.

President Kuhl thanked the volunteers for all that they do for the Park District.

Presentation by PROS Consulting, Inc.

B. G. Clark, PROS Consulting, Inc. presented a preview of the Park and Open Space Comprehensive Plan that the PROS team is working on for the Park District. He discussed the philosophy and approach being used by the team. The final plan will include a priority for improvements with a financial plan and implementation strategies. Mr. Clark reported that he will be making a presentation at the May 23, 2007 Board Study Session meeting.

In response to a question posed by President Kuhl, Mr. Clark stated that the Board will receive a copy of the presentation before the May 23rd meeting.

Report of Officers

Attorney's Report

Attorney Hall presented for Board approval Ordinance No. 514: An Ordinance Annexing Territory Pursuant to Petition (2301 and 2111 Clearlake Boulevard) into the Park District.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to adopt Ordinance No. 511, annexing territory into the Park District. The motion passed 4-1, with Commissioner Petry abstaining.

President's Report

President Kuhl thanked Commissioner Petry for doing a great job as president, and stated that she looked forward to his continued strong involvement.

Park District Updates

Ms. Herakovich reported that Ebertfest was a great success with an approximate net income of \$27,000 to \$30,000.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Park District received an unsolicited gift of \$5,000 from the University of Illinois Chancellor's office for Boy's and Girl's Club and Douglass programs.

Ms. Herakovich presented the Board a miniature billboard advertising the childhood obesity drive which the Park District participated in from Illinois Association of Park Districts.

Consent Agenda

President Kuhl stated Consent Agenda items were items that had been discussed at a Study Session meeting or were considered routine in nature. These items were:

1. Minutes of the Study Session Meeting, March 28, 2007
2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, April 11, 2007
3. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, April 25, 2007
4. Minutes of the Study Session Meeting, April 25, 2007
5. Award a bid to Environmental Solutions and Services, Inc. for Cleaning Services at the Tennis Center in the amount of \$16,261.00 with an option for renewal for an additional 8½ month period
6. Award a bid to Fox River Foods to Purchase Concessions Merchandise in the amount of \$27,278.30 with the option to renew for an additional year
7. Award a bid to Geiser Ford to Purchase one (1) 2008 Ford F250 in the amount of \$22,634.00
8. Award a bid to Key Equipment & Supply to Purchase a Garbage Truck Cab and Chassis Compactor in the amount of \$73,585.00
10. Award a bid to Howard L. White & Associates, Inc. for Centennial Playground Safety Surfacing for a not-to-exceed total of \$18,875.32.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-8 and 10, and to consider Item 9 separately after the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 5-0.

9. Award a bid to Midwest Commercial Coatings for Painting Services (exterior and interior) at various locations and facilities in the bid amount of \$72,051.00

Discussion ensued on the award of bid to Midwest Commercial Coatings for painting services. Commissioner Dodds commented that local preference criteria should be considered when awarding bids when the difference in the bid amount is not substantial.

Attorney Hall stated that there is no statutory requirement to award to a local bidder. He stated that the Park Code states that bids should be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

Commissioners commented that using local preference criteria could affect bids financially. Commissioner Petry stated that he is concerned that it would reduce the pool of applicants for bidding if preference was given to local bidders. Vice President Solon commented that the Park District should try to use local bidders because of their tax dollar support.

Ms. Herakovich suggested that this issue be placed on an agenda for further discussion.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to award the bid for painting services to Midwest Commercial Coatings and that staff make an effort to consider local bidders.

Item of Business

Consideration of Approval of the Annual Merit Pool Increase for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-2008

President Kuhl stated that staff recommended Board approval setting the annual merit pool at \$87,000.00 for FY 07-08.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve setting the annual merit pool for FY 07-8 at \$87,000.00. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Budget Line Transfers

President Kuhl stated that staff recommended Board approval of the line item transfers within funds where lines will exceed their original budget as presented by staff.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the line item transfers as presented by staff. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Dental and Life Insurance

President Kuhl stated that staff recommended Board acceptance and approval of the quote for dental and life insurance for full-time employees from Guardian for a two year locked rate beginning May 1, 2007 and ending April 30, 2009.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve dental and life insurance for full time-employees with Guardian for a two year locked rate beginning May 1, 2007. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with Pepsi-Cola C-U Bottling Company

President Kuhl stated that staff recommended Board approval of the agreement between the Park District and Pepsi-Cola Champaign-Urbana Bottling Company.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the agreement between the Park District and Pepsi-Cola Champaign-Urbana Bottling Company. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

Consideration of Approval of List of Bills for April 2007

Staff recommended Board approval of the list of bills for April 2007 for payment.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the list of bills for payment for April 2007. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Lease of a Park Area for a Dog Park

President Kuhl reported that staff was requesting approval of a lease of a park area for a dog park from the Urbana and Champaign Sanitary District of Champaign County.

Commissioner Dodds stated that the Board should not approve the agreement until it is determined if there are sufficient funds and where the funds are coming from for the improvements. Vice President Solon also stated that the Board should not sign the agreement until the group has raised money for the improvements and delivered it to the Park District.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the agreement with the Urbana and Champaign Sanitary District of Champaign County to lease a park area for a dog park as presented. The motion was not approved.

Discussion ensued. Attorney Hall reported that the lease was changed to give the Park District the flexibility for a start date to be contingent upon receipt of funds. He reported that no final signature was required until after the third party comes forward with the funds.

President Kuhl commented that the Board would be approving the contents of the lease but not executing the lease.

Commissioner Petry commented that the Park District would have one year to enter into the lease. He suggested that the Board go forward with the lease to make the process easy for the residents.

Commissioner Dodds stated that the Park District needs the funds to complete the dog park. He stated that there was the Park District budget to consider. Commissioner Dodds stated that people are concerned about paying taxes as shown by recent articles in the newspaper, and that the Board should be careful about how we go about funding projects.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the lease as presented and to bring the lease back to the Board before it was executed. The motion was 3-2, with Vice President Solon and Commissioner Dodds voting against. The motion failed due the lack of a 2/3 vote.

Consideration of Approval of Dog Park Funding

Ms. Herakovich discussed the proposed site and preliminary cost estimates for the dog park compiled by Park Planner, Terri Gibble.

In response to a question posed by President Kuhl, Ms. Herakovich responded that staff notified neighbors in the area including Ironwood regarding the plans for a dog park.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Park District replaces playgrounds on an annual basis. She reported that typically the Park District funds playgrounds at the basic level of approximately \$75,000 and if the neighborhood wants more, they are asked to contribute with donations. Ms. Herakovich stated that the \$71, 000 cost of the dog park is comparable to a playground and stated that staff recommends Board approval of this amount.

Commissioner Dodds stated that only a fence and a place to park was needed for a dog park.

President Kuhl stated that the need for a dog park showed up in the top 10 priorities of the community assessment survey. She commented that it may not be a high priority to the Board; however it was to some residents.

Vice President Solon suggested that the Board wait on an analysis of areas of need from PROS Consulting before making a decision. Ms. Herakovich commented that based on the preliminary report from PROS Consulting, a dog park moved up on the list of priorities.

Commissioner Petry stated that there is a high need for a dog park in Champaign. He noted that it is an unmet need that has moved up from 9th or 10th on the list of priorities. Commissioner Petry stated that the area chosen is a prime location for a dog park. He stated that the 400 signatures on the petition submitted to the Park Board shows that there is a need. Commissioner Petry stated that there is \$4 million in capital expenditures allocated; it is the community's money; and that it is incumbent upon the Board to properly use the funds. He stated that this would be an inexpensive 7 acres to add to the park system and is important to the residents.

Vice President Solon reminded the Board that the group interested in a 50 meter pool was told to raise funds first or it could not be built. She stated that the group interested in the dog park should be required to raise money first or the Park District should not build the dog park. Vice President Solon commented that the groups should not be treated differently.

Commissioner Dodds stated that he would not have a problem with this item being put on next meeting's agenda for further discussion. He suggested a more cost effective dog park with a fenced area installed by Park District staff.

Commissioner Griggs stated that he was ready to move forward with the dog park.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to support the citizens in providing of a dog park as described in the staff report in the amount of \$71,900 contingent upon the community raising \$5,000 in order to defray Park District costs. The motion passed 3-2 with Vice President Solon and Commissioner Dodds voting against.

Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with the Champaign County Sports Commission

Mr. DeLuce stated that the proposed agreement sets forth the terms and conditions for the Park District and the Sports Commission to jointly produce the GUS MACKER "3 on 3 Basketball Tournament." He stated that staff recommended Board approval of the agreement.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the agreement with the Champaign County Sports Commissioner for the GUS MACKER "3 on 3 Basketball Tournament." The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of the Adoption of Ordinance No. 515: Enterprise Zone

Ms. Herakovich provided the Board with a memorandum that outlines the history of the enterprise zone; the Park District's participation; the Park District's dilemma; the squeeze of tax caps and the pros and cons of the Park District continuing to participate in the enterprise zone. She reported that the City of Champaign and Champaign County do not require the Park District's vote for an enterprise zone. She stated that since 1989 the Park District has abated over \$1.4 million of tax revenue.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Board needs to adopt an ordinance if it wants to continue to participate in the existing enterprise zone. She stated that at a previous meeting Attorney Hall presented an outline and gave the Board options on the enterprise zone. Ms. Herakovich reported that at that time the majority of the Board voted to continue in the enterprise zone.

Attorney Hall stated that since the Board is talking about abating taxes it is appropriate to adopt an ordinance.

Discussion ensued on whether the enterprise zone affected only industrial property and or commercial. Commissioner Dodds suggested that this item be postponed until more accurate information was gathered.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to adopt Ordinance No. 515: Enterprise Zone. The motion failed 2-3, with President Kuhl and Commissioners Griggs and Petry voting against.

President Kuhl stated that staff should notify the City of Champaign of the Park District's decision not to continue participation in the enterprise zone.

Old Business

Consideration of Approval of Amendments to the Champaign Parks Foundation By-Laws

Mr. Herakovich reported that the proposed change to the Champaign Parks Foundation by-laws have been discussed and reviewed by the Foundation Board and the Park Board. She stated that staff recommended approval of the proposed amendments to the by-laws.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the Champaign Parks Foundation by-laws as amended. The motion passed 5-0.

Comments from Commissioners

None

Closed Session

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to convene into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2(c)(1) for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, Par. 120/2(c)(5) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, and Par. 120/2(c)(6) the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body Section of the Illinois Meeting Opens Meeting Act. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Dodds – yes; Commissioner Petry – yes; Vice President Solon – yes; President Kuhl – yes; and Commissioner Griggs – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Return to Regular Meeting

Following the adjournment of the Closed Session, the Board reconvened in open meeting.

Closed Session Item – Action

Consideration of Merit Increase in Salary for Executive Director

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve a \$2,544.00 merit increase for the Executive Director. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Approved:

Barbara J. Kuhl, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary