

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

June 6, 2007

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, June 6, 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 Kuhl, Vice President Solon, Commissioners Newt Dodds and Alvin Griggs, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin

Absent: Commissioner Joseph Petry

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Mike Seibold, Director of Finance, Joe DeLuca, Director of Recreation, Terri Gobble, Park Planner, 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 5:30 p.m.

Comments from the Public

None

Communications

President Kuhl circulated the Board correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Wackerlin stated that the Treasurer's report for the month of May would be available next week.

Executive Director's Report

Presentation – Police and Fire Memorial Committee

Ms. Gobble updated the Board on how the proposed idea of renovating the police and fire memorial came about. She stated that there is a committee that will working on funding through donations.

Connie Finney, wife of the police chief, introduced herself and Pam Iverson, wife of a police officer, of the City of Champaign Police Department to the Board. She stated that Diane Penicook, wife of the fire chief, was out of town and unable to attend the meeting.

Ms. Finney reported that the committee has been working with a company in Minnesota on a possible design for the memorial. She reported that there are approximately 15 members on the committee. Ms. Finney stated that the committee is in the planning stages of the project. She presented the history of the memorial to the Board. Ms. Finney discussed and presented a possible design that the committee is considering for the memorial. She stated that the committee purposes to raise the funds through donations. Ms. Finney reported that the committee plans to kickoff the fundraiser at the National Night Out in West Side Park in August.

Ms. Herakovich stated that this is an informational item.

Commissioner Dodds stated that the memorial is already there and that he did not see a problem with enlarging it.

President Kuhl stated that it is a great project and that she is looking forward to working with the committee on it to continue to honor our service men and women.

Ms. Finney stated that it would be a nice tribute to all the men who work in Champaign.

United Way Grant

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Recreation Department received a United Way grant for \$3,000.00 for at risk programs. She thanked staff for working through the grant with United Way.

Dog Park

Ms. Herakovich reported that \$1,600 had been raised toward the dog park and that a meeting will be held next week.

Trails

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Mattis Park trail had been staked and that the Douglass Park trail should be completed today.

Other

Ms. Herakovich reported that the design of Scott Park will be presented at the next Board meeting. She stated that staff will request Board authorization to apply for a development grant for Scott Park.

Ms. Herakovich reported that Mr. Spencer will be working with Boeren Russo on a possible voluntary labor arrangement for a bandshell in West Side Park.

Ms. Herakovich reported that all staff attended customer service training. She also reported that a secret shoppers program was in place where residents are asked to attend programs and provide feedback.

Sholem Aquatic Center

Mr. Spencer reported that the baby pool had been filled and was scheduled to open tomorrow. He stated that the rest of the Aquatic Center was working.

Dog Park

Ms. Herakovich stated that staff is requesting feedback on how to proceed with the dog park issue and whether it should be added to the next agenda.

President Kuhl reminded the Board that at the May 9, 2007 Board meeting the Board approved allocating funds for a dog park, however did not approve a lease. She asked the Board to consider putting the item on the next Board meeting agenda for consideration. President Kuhl asked if there were any issues that need to be addressed.

Commissioner Dodds stated that he feels that money could be saved and suggest that staff research and review the design for the dog park. He stated that he does not have a problem with the lease but he does with the project as it is currently proposed.

Vice President Solon suggested that staff straighten out the design by cutting expenses in order to proceed with the lease.

President Kuhl directed staff to look at a bare bones project, review the budget and add the lease to the next agenda.

Consent Agenda

All items appearing below are considered routine by the Board and shall be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired, that item shall be removed and discussed separately.

1. Consideration of Approval of an Agreement between the Park District and WDWS/WHMS
2. Consideration of Approval of an Increase in Car Allowance Amounts

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

Action Items

Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with Champaign County Freedom Celebration Inc.

Mr. DeLuce presented the proposed agreement between the Champaign County Freedom Celebration Inc. and the Park District to hold the fireworks in Dodds Park. He reported that 40 City of Champaign police officers will be on site. Mr. DeLuce stated that a detailed plan of all logistics have been outlined in the proposed agreement including safety and insurance requirements. He stated that staff recommends approval of the agreement.

Cathy McArthur, Freedom Celebration Committee, thanked the Board for their consideration in allowing Freedom Celebration Inc. to use Dodds Park.

Commissioner Dodds recommended that staff make sure that the Park District received copies of the certificates of insurance naming the Park District as additional insured.

Ms. McArthur reported that law enforcement officers from Parkland, Champaign and the Champaign Fire Department staff and others be on site and serve as back up. She stated that the businesses in the area are being notified of the option to barricade their parking lots.

Ms. Herakovich reported that she is confident in Attorney Guy Hall's abilities with contracts, and that he is good at making sure that the Park District is protected.

Commissioner Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the agreement with Freedom Celebration Inc. to hold fireworks in Dodds Park. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval Authorizing the Treasurer and Executive Director to Execute Bill Payment of the List of Bills for May 2007 on June 14, 2007

Ms. Herakovich stated that since bills are prepared for payment on June 14 and there is not June 13 Board meeting, staff requested Board authorization to allow the Treasurer and Executive Director to sign off on bills and make payment so that the Park District remains in compliance with the requirements of the Prompt Payment Act.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve allowing the Treasurer and Executive Director to sign off on bills and make payments for the month of May. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Transfer to Long-Term Capital Improvement Fund

Staff recommends transferring \$300,000 from the General Fund to the Long Term Capital Improvement Fund to be designated for future aquatic center improvements.

Discussion ensued as to carrying over the funds to capital with the understanding that funds could be used as the Board determines.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve transferring \$300,000 to the Long Term Capital Improvement Funds to be designated for future improvements as determined by the Board. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Ordinance No. 516: Prevailing Wage

President Kuhl stated that that State Statutes require local governments to annually adopt an ordinance listing the prevailing wages for the Park District. Proposed Ordinance No. 516 declares the prevailing wage rates for the ensuing year to be the same as those fixed for Champaign County by the Illinois Department of Labor. She stated that staff recommended that the Board adopt Ordinance No. 516.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to adopt Ordinance No. 516. The motion passed 4-0,

Consideration of Approval of Setting a Public Hearing on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

President Kuhl stated that staff recommended that the Board set a Public Hearing on the proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Wednesday, July 11, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center to receive public comments. Ordinance No. 517, the proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, is available at the Bresnan Meeting Center for public review.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to set a Public Hearing on the proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for July 11, 2007 at 7 p.m. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval Granting Authorization to Apply for Access to Recreation Grant for Kaufman Lake Thorough the Community Foundation

Ms. Gible reported that the Champaign and Urbana Park Districts and Forest Preserve have an opportunity to get funding for improvements which provide recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities through matching funds. She stated that matching funding is required over a three year period at \$40,000/yer to provide an accessible fishing pier, shade and benches at Kaufman Lake.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve granting authorization to apply for an access to recreation grant for Kaufman Lake. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval a Resolution Appointing Member(s) to the Champaign Parks Foundation

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Champaign Parks Foundation Board recommended Board approval of the appointment Penn Nelson and Terry Snyder as Champaign Parks Foundation Board members.

Commissioner Dodds made, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the Resolution inserting the names Penn Nelson and Terry Snyder. The motion passed 4-0.

Old Business

None

Comments from Commissioners

Ms. Herakovich stated that she will e-mail the Finance Director position requirements to the board. She reported that the job description had been updated with input from Mike Seibold. She stated that Mr. Seibold will assist in training the new director.

In response to a question posed by Commissioner Dodds, Ms. Herakovich reported that the notice of vacancy for a finance director has been advertised in IPRA and GFOA, sent to park district representatives as well as several businesses in the community. She reported that the person must have a minimum of five years experience with the beginning salary at \$70,000 plus benefits.

Vice President Solon stated that she appreciated the letter received from Attorney Guy Hall regarding the Enterprise Zone. She stated that she was informed that City of Champaign staff offered to attend a Board meeting to provide additional information and answer any questions regarding the Enterprise Zone. Vice President Solon stated that staff should have allowed City representatives to attend and provide the information. She stated that the more information the Board receives, the better.

Ms. Herakovich reported that President Kuhl and she will be meeting with the Mayor and City Manager to discuss various issues. She also reported that she will be meet with Economic Development Manager Terry Legner to discuss the enterprise zone.

Commissioner Dodds stated that the Park District need to not isolate ourselves and need to work with the City and Chamber of Commerce. He stated that there are lots of benefits for the Park District to gain and that we should keep in mind that we are here for the resident of Champaign.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Approved:

Joseph A. Petry, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary