

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

June 27, 2007

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, June 27, 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, and Attorney Guy Hall

Absent: Treasurer Gary Wackerlin

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, 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 5:00 p.m.

Comments from the Public

None

Communications

President Kuhl circulated the correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for the month of May will be presented for approval at the July 11, 2007 Regular Board meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Interns

The following interns were introduced: Jodi Zielke, University of Illinois, interning in Sports and Facilities, and Chrysa Gumbs, University of North Carolina-Willimington, interning in Youth Sports at the Leonhard Center.

Park Tour

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Park Tour will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Finance Director Position

Ms. Herakovich reported that 18 applications have been received and that that the closing date was June 29, 2007. She stated that a meeting was held with staff to get their input on desirable traits the Park District is looking for. Ms. Herakovich reported that Treasurer Wackerlin and the business manager from Unit IV School District will sit on the interview panel. She reported that it will probably be September before a new finance director is hired. She stated that Tom Gilbert, Office Manager, is doing an excellent job of filling in and that former Finance Director Mike Seibold works approximately two hours per week assisting Ms. Herakovich. Ms. Herakovich reported that a receptionist will be held for the finalists where Board members will be invited to meet the finalist.

Sholem Aquatic Center

Ms. Herakovich reported that revenue from Sholem Aquatic Center to date was \$256,000 and expenses \$120,850 minus the June bills.

In response to a question by President Kuhl, Mr. DeLuce responded that approximately 1,000 people have used Spalding Pool since it opened for the summer.

Report of Officers

Attorney's Report

None

President's Report

Champaign Parks Foundation

President Kuhl reported that she attended a Champaign Parks Foundation meeting. She stated that it was a great meeting and that the Foundation Board was made up of a great group. President Kuhl reported that she feels that the Board is moving forward in the right direction and her hope is to have the Virginia Theatre remodeled in the near future.

Presentation

President Kuhl presented Commissioner Petry with a plaque on behalf of the Board in appreciation for his dedication as president of the Board from May 2005 through May 2007.

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 Annual Meeting Minutes, May 9, 2007
2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, May 9, 2007
3. Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting, May 9, 2007
4. Minutes of the Study Session Meeting, May 23, 2007
5. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, June 6, 2007

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve Consent Agenda. The motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

Consideration of Approval of the FY 07-08 Capital Improvements Budget

Ms. Herakovich stated that staff recommends that the Board set the FY07-08 capital budget in the amount of \$4.7 million. She presented the Board with documents including a Dodds Park summary of expenses to date as well as possible remaining projects; a revised FY07-08 Capital Improvements Budget; and survey data from the Community Needs Assessment results of three different questions and results. Ms. Herakovich reported that the top 10 priorities from the Needs Assessment include, nature centers/natural areas, walking and bike trails, small neighborhood parks and large community parks, Virginia Theatre, pools/water parks, dog parks and playgrounds. She reported that several changes have been made to the capital improvements list since it was discussed last including adding the Parkland perimeter road connection to the Greenbelt Trail; removing the Bresnan parking lot; reducing unspecified maintenance projects; and adding additional funding for Morrissey and Johnston Park paths based on new design estimates.

Ms. Herakovich reviewed the projects including the proposed FY07-08 capital improvements projects and discussed possible future projects. She reported that the proposed budget reflects residents desires based on the Community Assessment Survey of the top 10.

Ms. Herakovich stated that the report on trails from Bob Zolomij of Pros Consulting will be presented at the joint Park District/City of Champaign on July 25, 2007. She reported that the proposed projects for this fiscal year in the Capital Budget may need to be adjusted or included in next year's budget depending on the outcome of the trails study and the facilities and financial report from PROS Consulting. Ms. Herakovich stated that staff is trying to be responsive to public desires. She reported that the Capital Budget was put together with input from Mr. DeLuce and Mr. Spencer and comments from Mike Seibold.

In response to a question posed by President Kuhl regarding proposed changes as a result of the trails study, Ms. Herakovich suggested putting a hold on larger projects instead of trails. She commented that it may be possible to complete Porter Park Phase I, II and III for less than the \$2 million by using volunteers.

Ms. Herakovich requested that the Board approve setting the FY07-08 capital budget in an amount up to \$4.7 million and identify the projects they would like to put on hold and let staff know.

President Kuhl suggested putting a question mark by items that are questionable until the study is received in July.

Vice President Solon questioned how staff budgets for maintenance once projects have been completed. She stated that the newly installed trail at Hessel Park already has a crack. Ms. Herakovich responded that it is staffs intent in the future to provide the Board with an operating budget for completed projects.

President Kuhl commented on the need for publicity on the Douglass path, but suggested perhaps waiting until the basketball court has been redone.

In response to a question by Commissioner Dodds, Ms. Herakovich responded that PDRMA will not have a problem with insuring a deep well. He suggested that staff follow up with PDRMA to see what length of a term they will give the Park District and request that they respond in writing.

President Kuhl questioned the timeframe to get the deep well completed. Mr. Spencer responded that it would be impossible to get the design and bidding completed for next year. Ms. Herakovich suggested that funds be invested for a year but use some funds for architectural fees.

Commissioner Petry suggested focusing on one project and getting it completed. For example, as an alternative, he stated that funds to complete Porter Park could come from the allocated \$700,000, the \$125,000 set aside for new land/acquisition, the \$200,000 for new projects at the Virginia Theatre, \$325,000 by postponing parking lots, and postponing the deep well. He commented by doing this it would possibly generate enough funds to complete Porter Park.

President Kuhl commented that instead of completing the three trails around parks as planned may be complete two instead.

Ms. Herakovich commented that the bandshell in West Side Park will be well-received.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to set the FY07-08 capital budget in the amount of \$4.7 million. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Construction Management Services for a Bandshell in West Side Park

Mr. Spencer reported that Architectural Spectrum has been hired to complete the design for the bandshell in West Side Park. He stated that it will be reminiscent of the old bandshell. Mr. Spencer reported that Stu Broeren of Broeren Russo Construction contacted the Park District looking for a public project to complete to celebrate 30 years of his business. He stated that Mr. Russo offered by provide construction management services and construction labor to the Park District at no cost. Mr. Spencer reported that the Park District would be responsible for funding projects that would be bid out and materials for the project. He stated that staff was completing design development and cost projections for the project and that Attorney Hall was reviewing the no-cost contract language. Mr. Spencer stated that Architectural Spectrum has offered to donate their services for this project. He stated that staff is requesting Board approval to proceed accepting voluntary construction management services from Broeren Russo Construction contingent upon approval of the contract language by Attorney Hall and cost projections including donations that are within budget.

President Kuhl encouraged staff to make sure that no underlying naming opportunities were being requested. Mr. Spencer stated that Mr. Broeren has not requested any naming opportunities, however a plaque stating the bandshell was built with donations by the firms would be appropriate.

Mr. Spencer stated that drawings of the proposed bandshell were included in the Board packet.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve staff recommendation as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

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

Ms. Herakovich reported that the proposed lease of a park area for a dog park was the same lease presented at an earlier Board meeting.

Mr. Spencer reported that the budget presented for the dog park area design is cost efficient especially the fencing. He stated that staff will continue to look at the design amount to ensure that it is the most cost efficient and that staff request Board approval of the lease based on the not to exceed budget amount approved for the design.

Commissioner Petry asked if it would be possible to use the Urbana and Champaign Sanitary District's fence. Ms. Herakovich stated that staff will follow up.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve a lease of a park area for a dog park between the Urbana and Champaign Sanitary District and the Park District. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

Consideration of Approval of a Change Order for Virginia Theatre East Storefront Project

Mr. Spencer reported that staff was requesting Board approval of a Change Order in the amount of \$18,721 for the Virginia Theatre east storefront project.

Attorney Hall presented a Resolution for Board approval approving the change order for the Virginia Theatre.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Resolution Appointing Staff to Champaign Visitor's Bureau

Ms. Herakovich reported that in accordance with the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau by-laws, each year government agencies are asked to appoint a staff person and proxy to the Bureau. She stated that staff recommends approval of a Resolution appointing Joe DeLuce to the CVB Board and Bobbie Herakovich as proxy.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the Resolution appointing Joe DeLuce to the CVB and Bobbie Herakovich as proxy.

Consideration of Approval of the Preliminary Design and a Resolution of Authorization for Scott Park

Ms. Herakovich presented background information on the Boneyard Creek 2nd Street Reach project. She reported that stormwater improvements that will be made as part of the first phase of the 2nd Reach Project, provides an opportunity for redevelopment of Scott Park. Ms. Herakovich stated that the preliminary design is still a conceptual plan and that there are issues that still need to be resolved. Ms. Herakovich stated that staff is requesting Board approval of a Resolution of Authorization to submit a grant application for the development of Scott Park.

Commissioner Petry stated that he does not feel that the turnaround is necessary and that he believes that it will make the slope area steep adding to the expense. Ms. Herakovich responded that this is a conceptual design only and is required to apply for the grant. She stated that the final design will be brought back to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve a Resolution of Authorization to submit a grant application for the development of Scott Park. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Request for an Easement in Dodds Park

Mr. Spencer reported that Vasconcelles Engineering Corporation on behalf of ARIC/Prairieland III, LLC, is requesting approval of a permanent easement that runs along the eastern border of Dodds Park. He stated that staff recommends Board approval of the easement request. Attorney Hall stated that the cost will include the easement fee as well as attorney's fees.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the request for a permanent easement in Dodds Park as revised by Attorney Hall in compliance with the Park District's ordinance. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval Awarding a Bid to Purchase a Deep Tine Aerifier and a De-Thatcher/Vacuum

At the suggestion of President Kuhl, the awarding of bids to purchase a deep tine aerifier and a de-thatcher/vacuum were considered as one item. Staff recommended Board approval of the bid for both items from Birkey's, Urbana, Illinois, to purchase one deep tine aerifier in the amount of \$18,767.50 and one De-Thatcher/Vacuum in the amount of \$22,000.00 to be paid for out of the FY07-08 capital budget for equipment.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the purchase of the equipment as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Comments from Commissioners

None

Closed Session

Commissioner Griggs made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry 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. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Petry – yes; Vice President Solon – yes; President Kuhl – yes; Commissioner Dodds – 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 Griggs made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve a \$3,250 merit increase for the Executive Director retroactive to May 1, 2007. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Solon to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved:

Barbara J. Kuhl, President

Secretary Pro Tem