

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

**August 8, 2007**

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, and published pursuant to notice duly given. President Kuhl presided over the Hearing.

Present: President Barbara Kuhl, Vice President Solon, Commissioners Newton Dodds and Alvin Griggs, and Attorney Guy Hall

Absent: Commissioner Joseph Petry, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin, and Executive Director/Secretary Bobbie Herakovich

Staff present: Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations 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. She welcomed those in the audience attending the meeting.

**Secretary Pro Tem**

President Kuhl recommended that Cindy Harvey, Administrative Assistant, be appointed as Secretary Pro Tem.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Solon to appoint Cindy Harvey as Secretary Pro Tem. The motion passed 4-0.

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Communications**

President Kuhl circulated the correspondence.

**Treasurer's Report**

Consideration of Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the July 2007

Mr. DeLuce reported that the Park District's finances had been reviewed by Treasurer Wackerlin and found to be in appropriate order, and recommended Board acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for July 2007.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2007. The motion passed 4-0.

**Executive Director's Report**

Combined Charities Report

Mr. DeLuce reported that the Park District received a Certificate from the Combined Charities Campaign. He stated that over \$3,600 had been donated by employees of which \$336 was earmarked for the Virginia Theatre.

### Sholem Aquatic Center and Spalding Pool Update

Mr. DeLuce reported that Sholem Aquatic Center has had over 76,000 visitors. He stated that revenue received total \$386,000 and expenses total \$295,000 making the Center this season receipts ahead of expenses by approximately \$91,000.

Mr. DeLuce reported that the Spalding Pool has had 7,469 visitors this season. He stated that the revenue received totals \$14,000 and expenses were \$94,479 leaving a deficit of \$80,000.

In response to a question by President Kuhl, Mr. DeLuce responded that there have been very few disciplinary problems at the Aquatic Center and Spalding Pool.

### Cartoon Network Event

Mr. DeLuce reported that a cartoon network event sponsored by Insight Media will be held at Dodds Park on Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 7 p.m. He stated that the event is free and is set up to promote a healthy lifestyle for kids.

## **Report of Officers**

### Attorney's Report

Attorney Hall reported that he will provide the staff report for two items later on the agenda.

### President's Report

President Kuhl reported that she and Executive Director Herakovich met with the City of Champaign's Mayor and City Manager. She stated she brought up the issue of Parkland Way as requested by the Board. President Kuhl reported that the City's staff is currently pretty challenged due to many matters to address and a high turn over in staff. She stated that the City will discuss this issue in the future. President Kuhl reported that it was a good meeting with the City.

## **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 Joint CPD/UPD Board Meeting, June 6, 2007
2. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, June 27, 2007
3. Minutes of Closed Session Meeting, June 27, 2007
4. Minutes of Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting, July 11, 2007
5. Minutes of Closed Session Meeting, July 11, 2007

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

## **Action Items**

None

## **New Business**

### Consideration of Approval of List of Bills for July 2007

Mr. DeLuce reported that the list of bills for July 2007 for payment had been reviewed by Treasurer Wackerlin and recommended Board approval.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the list of bills for July 2007 for payment. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval Amending the Compensation of Commissioners and Employees Policy  
President Kuhl reported that this item was being tabled until a later date.

Commissioner Dodds voiced his concern regarding the title of the policy because the Commissioners do not receive any compensation.

Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with Central Illinois Youth Football League (CIYFL)

Mr. DeLuce presented the proposed agreement between the Park District and the CIYFL for Board approval. He reported that the partnership with CIYFL has been very successful and that games are played at Zahnd Park while practices are held at other parks.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the agreement with Central Illinois Youth Football League. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with Broeren Russo Construction

Attorney Hall presented that agreement and an addendum between the Park District and Broeren Russo Construction for the bandshell in West Side Park. He reported that the revisions to the agreement include adjustments in the insurance terms and that the addendum outlines the services that are free and not free.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the agreement and the addendum with Broeren Russo Construction. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of the Transfer of Special Donations Accounts to the Champaign Parks Foundation

Attorney Hall reported that included in the Board packet was a memorandum and a list of recommended accounts to be transferred to the Champaign Parks Foundation. He presented a Resolution with a list of the accounts attached to transfer special donations accounts to the Champaign Parks Foundation.

It was reported that funds donated by Michael Carragher are used for the continued maintenance in West Side Park.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded Commissioner Griggs to approve the resolution as presented. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Residents' Request to Close Mulliken Park at Dusk

Mr. DeLuce reported that residents of Mulliken Park requested Board approval to close Mulliken Park at dusk instead of 11:00 p.m. due to the escalation in frequency and severity of vandalism in this park this summer.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the request to close Mulliken Park at dusk. The motion passed 4-0.

President Kuhl asked the residents to keep the Board apprised of ongoing issues at the park.

Volunteer of the Month

Katie Flint, Community Program Manager, presented the July Volunteer of the Month award to a group of community volunteers who assisted with the Gus Macker 3-on-3 basketball tournament that was held on July 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. She recognized the following individuals, who were in attendance at the meeting, for their contributions: Danelia Rasmussen for her assistance with the marketing and promotion of the tournament; Sarah Hendrix and Christine Hewett for handling the parking responsibilities; Larry Kienzler for assistance with the overall operations of the tournament and

providing resources; and Dave Bagger for being in charge of the operations of the tournament. Ms. Flint presented these individuals with certificates of appreciations and Park District gifts. She also recognized the following individuals who were unable to attend the meeting: Tom Grey for organizing all the Gus Busters who refereed the games and supervising the courts during the game play; Scott Friedlein for doing a great job working with the security of the event and making sure street closures were handled well; and Brad Cook for helping to locate lodging facilities for the Gus Macker staff during the tournament.

Ms. Flint stated that these volunteers committed hours, resources, creativity, and a lot of hard work to make the Gus Macker a great success. The Board thanked the volunteers for their efforts.

### **Old Business**

None

### **Comments from Commissioners**

Sean Williams, 719 Ashton Lane, Champaign, presented a report on his involvement with the basketball tournament during the C-U Days event. He reported that he has been involved with the Park District for the past 14 years including five years of hosting the basketball tournament. Mr. Williams informed the Board that he owned a barber shop in Champaign. He reported that the tournament has attracted players from as far as Peoria and Danville and during the tournaments there have never been any problems nor fighting incidents. Mr. Williams stated that he had brought in various professional players to assist with the tournament. He stated that he wanted to give back to the community and that Commissioner Griggs was one of his mentors. He expressed his dissatisfaction with the letter he received from the Board three weeks prior to the tournament informing him that the Park District was going in a different direction and that the tournament would not be a part of the C-U Days event. Mr. Williams wanted the Board to know that he was not connected with the talent show host, Linda Turnbull. He discussed conversations that he had had with Douglass Park Manager Terry Elmore. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Elmore should have informed him that the Park District was going in a different direction early on and not allow him to continue planning for the tournament. He stated that he did not have a problem with the Park District going in a different direction, but wanted to know why the Park District decided to end the basketball tournament.

Mr. DeLuce responded that staff decided to take the event in a different direction by making it more family oriented and did not think that the basketball tournament fits the family based theme.

President Kuhl stated that the Board was challenged in making the decision and that the timing was unfortunate. She responded that the Park District staff will be willing to work with Mr. Williams to hold the basketball tournament on a different date. President Kuhl stated that she understands Mr. Williams's passion for the tournament and hopes that he will continue to keep an open communication with staff. She informed Mr. Williams that he could make an appointment to meet with Executive Director Herakovich when she returns. Commissioner Dodds informed Mr. Williams that he is always welcome to come back to the Board as well. President Kuhl thanked Mr. Williams for all that he has done in the past.

Commissioner Griggs asked Mr. Williams if he had moved the tournament to a different park. Mr. Williams responded that he has not moved the tournament to a different park.

Commissioner Dodds reported on a story that he viewed on TV entitled the Dog Whisper. He commented that on the show they talked about dog parks not being good for dogs and how the presentation was totally opposed to dog parks.

Commissioner Dodds mentioned the dog park brochure and questioned the amount of funds raised by the resident group for the dog park. Ms. Auteberry commented that the group had raised

approximately \$1,500 to \$2,000 toward the dog park expenses. Commissioners commented that this was not a great deal when the Park District is contributing \$70,000 toward the dog park.

In response to a question posed by Commissioner Dodds, Ms. Auteberry responded that the dog park brochure was completed a week ago and that UpClose Printing donated the printing.

Mr. Spencer reported on the extension of the path in Hessel Park. He stated that repairs of flares that are cracked will be repaired during this time. He also reported that the Mattis Park path is nearing completion and should be finished by the end of the week.

**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 7:20 p.m.

Approved:

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Barbara J. Kuhl, President

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Secretary Pro Tem