

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

December 12, 2007

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at the Virginia Theatre, 203 W. Park, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Kuhl presided over the hearing.

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

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Jan Plotner, Director of Finance, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, Laura Auteberry, Development & Marketing Manager, Terri Gibble, Park Planner, and Mary McGrew, Human Resources Manager

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

CALL TO ORDER

President Kuhl called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance at the meeting. The following past commissioners were recognized who were in the audience: Morgan Powell and Midge Wallace.

PRESENTATIONS

Honorary Commissioner

President Kuhl reported that Lou Liay was chosen by the Board of Commissioners as the Honorary Commissioner. She stated that Mr. Liay services as the chair of the Champaign Parks Foundation and has done an outstanding job, especially putting together projects to support the Virginia Theatre. President Kuhl recognized Mr. Liay's wife, Mary, who was in the audience. Mr. Liay was presented with a plaque. The Board thanked him for his continued support and dedication to the Park District.

Building Champaign Parks Awards

Scott Wolf reported that Illini Summer Opportunity recognized the need for summer camp scholarships and held a rock, scissors, paper contest with over 400 individuals participating. He stated that an anonymous University of Illinois Alumnus agreed to match the amount raised by the organization which totaled \$22,000 to be split between the Champaign and Urbana Park Districts. Mr. Wolf presented the Mr. Liay, chair of the Champaign Parks Foundation, with a check in the amount of \$10,000.

President Kuhl reported that Illini Summer Opportunity was chosen to receive a Program Excellence Award. Mr. Wolf was presented a plaque on behalf of Illini Summer Opportunity. She stated that the Park District was looking forward to working with the organization in the future.

President Kuhl reported that Michael Carragher was chosen to receive a Building Champaign Parks Award for his support of the Park District in many ways over the years. She stated that Mr. Carragher is responsible for the Tootsie sculpture in West Side Park and continues to contribute to an endowment fund for the maintenance and plantings. President Kuhl reported that Mr. Carragher was integral in the design process for the new catering area in the Virginia Theatre East Lobby. President Kuhl presented Mr. Carragher with a plaque and thanked him for his continued support.

President Kuhl reported that Architectural Spectrum was chosen to receive a Building Champaign Parks Award for donating services for the bank shell in West Side Park. She presented Neil Strack and Christine Chalifoux with a plaque and thanked them for their service. Mr. Strack accepted the plaque for Ms. Chalifoux who was not able to attend the meeting.

President Kuhl reported that Broeren Russo Construction was chosen to receive a Building Champaign Parks Award for donating services for the bandshell in West Side Park. She stated that Stu and Anita Broeren and Jon Russo, owners of Broeren Russo Construction, were looking for a project to celebrate 30 years of being in business in Champaign. President Kuhl reported that they took the lead on donating construction services for the development of the bandshell. She stated that as a result of their lead many other have donated or discounted time and materials making the bandshell a true community project. President Kuhl presented the Boerens and Mr. Russo on a plaque and thanked them for their service.

Terri Lin Bilbrey, daughter of Terry Bilbrey, and spouse, Mike Thompson, presented the Champaign Park District with a check in the amount of \$100,000 for the construction of the bandshell in West Side Park. Mr. Bilbrey and former commissioner, Morgan Powell, were neighbors and lived across from West Side Park. She stated that her father enjoyed West Side Park and the downtown Champaign area. Ms. Bilbrey reported that her dad felt that the bandshell should still exist in West Side Park and that he researched bandshells and discussed the idea with the Executive Director. Upon his death, he bequeathed the funds to build a bandshell to the Park District.

President Kuhl reported that the Bilbrey Family was chosen to receive a Building Champaign Parks Award. She presented Terri Lin Bilbrey with a plaque on behalf of the Bilbrey Family.

President Kuhl stated that the bandshell project is a great example of what a group of people can make happen.

Program Excellence Award

Mr. DeLuce presented a plaque to John Stuff, Jeff Chandler and Kathy Murphy on behalf of The Champaign-Urbana Theatre Company (CUTC). He stated that CUTC put on performances at the Virginia Theatre and deserves to receive this outstanding program excellence award. President Kuhl thanked the representatives of CUTC for their contributions.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

COMMUNICATIONS

President Kuhl circulated the correspondence.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Wackerlin presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2007. He stated that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2007 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Hall presented for Board approval Ordinance No. 521: An Ordinance Annexing Territory (2901 South Staley Road, 3201 North Mattis Avenue and 1202 South Rising Road) to the Park District.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dodds to adopt Ordinance No. 521. The motion passed unanimously.

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 Regular Board Meeting, November 14, 2007
2. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, November 28, 2007

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Approval of List of Bills for November 2007

Mr. Wackerlin presented the list of bills for November 2007 for consideration. Commissioner Dodds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to approve the list of bills for November 2007 for payment. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Volunteer Hours Report

Katie Flint, Special Events Manager, reported that the Park District used numerous volunteers every year. She stated that in 2007, 2,400 volunteers donated over 22,000 hours resulting in a \$417,000 savings to the district. She reported that it would not be possible to offer programs and events without volunteers.

Volunteer of the Year

Katie Flint, Special Events and Volunteers Manager, announced that Carol Hays was chosen as the Volunteer of the Year. She reported that Ms. Hays has dedicated over eight years to the Park District volunteering with the Sholem Sharks Swim Team. Mr. Hays was presented with a plaque, Park District goodie bag, and spa packet.

The Board thanked Ms. Hays for her continued support of the Park District.

Employee of the Year

Ms. Herakovich announced that employees selected John Olden, Technology Manager, as Employee of the Year. She reported that Mr. Olden started in 1989 as a part-time seasonal employee with the Park District. Ms. Herakovich stated that that Mr. Olden is responsible for every telephone and computer at the Park District and is a very dedicated employee. He was presented with a plaque and clock.

President Kuhl thanked Mr. Olden for his hard work on behalf of the Board.

Discover the Fun Presentation

A PowerPoint presentation of the Park District's 2007 accomplishments was viewed by those in attendance.

2007 Donations Report

Lou Liay, chair of the Champaign Parks Foundation, presented the report of donations for 2007. He reported that donations received to date totaled \$259,023.

OLD BUSINESS

None

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Petry stated that it has been a great year and thanked Mr. Herakovich and staff for making their job easy. Commissioner Solon echoed Commissioner Petry's comments.

Commissioner Dodds thanked former commissioners Morgan Powell and Midge Wallace for their participation.

Commissioner Griggs thanked the Commissioners and staff for everything that they do.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Griggs to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Approved:

Jane L. Solon, Vice President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary