

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

**July 9, 2008**

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. 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 Jane Solon, Commissioner Joseph Petry, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin and Attorney Guy Hall

Absent: Commissioners Newton Dodds and Alvin Griggs

Staff: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Jan Plotner, Director of Finance, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, Terri Gobble, Park Planner, Andrew Weiss, Park Planner, Katie Flint, Special Events Manager, Jameel Jones, Virginia Theatre Manager, Jessie Zimmerman, Cultural Arts Manager

**Call to Order**

President Kuhl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Treasurer's Report**

Consideration of Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the Month of June

Treasurer Wackerlin presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2008. He stated that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2008. The motion passed 3-0.

**Executive Director's Report**

Introduction of Interns

Ms. Herakovich introduced two interns: David Genty, a student at Illinois State University, and Rose Smith, a student at Western Illinois University.

Updates

Ms. Herakovich reported that work on the Phinney Branch Bridge will begin sometime within the next few weeks and that part of Roby Trail will be closed during the construction.

Ms. Herakovich updated the Board on the change in the audit schedule to August with the expectation that the audit will be accepted in October.

Ms. Herakovich updated the Board on a recent issue regarding a police officer forwarding flyers regarding a sex offender. She discussed the rules regarding distributing this information and the rights of both parties. She noted that Attorney Hall suggested that an intergovernmental task force be developed to set up protocols regarding this type of issue.

Ms. Herakovich stated that during the approval of the list of bills, she will request that the payment to Land Design Collaborative, Inc. be held until all of the services have been received. If all services or not received, Ms. Herakovich stated that the check on the list of disbursements will be voided and a check for half the amount will be issued.

Intern Rose Smith updated the Board on projects that she has been working on since starting her internship with the Park District.

#### Volunteer of the Month

Sarah Gleisner was chosen as volunteer of the month for July. Ms. Flint reported that Ms. Gleisner has volunteered over the last two years for many of the Park District's special events, including Ebertfest, the Gus Macker event as well as the Taste of C-U. She was presented a certificate of appreciation, gift certificate and bag of goodies from the Park District.

#### **President's Report**

President Kuhl reported that Ms. Herakovich and she met with City Manager Steve Carter and Mayor Schweighart to discuss various matters including Parkland Way and Scott Park. She stated that there is a desire to have a joint meeting possibly at the end of August and have John Compton attend to make a presentation. President Kuhl stated that the Park District, along with other entities, may fund Mr. Compton's trip as he would address talk about land dedication issues.

#### Consideration of Approval of Members to the Larkin's Place Task Force

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to appoint President Kuhl and Vice President Solon to the Larkin's Place Task Force. The motion passed 3-0.

#### **Attorney's Report**

Attorney Hall presented for Board approval Ordinance No. 530: An Ordinance Annexing Territory Territory (4703 West Kirby, 3310 North Mattis Avenue, 1708 and 1710 West Anthony Drive, and 1708 North Ducan) into the Champaign Park District.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to adopt Ordinance No. 530, annexing territory into the Park District. The motion passed 3-0.

#### **Consent Agenda**

President Kuhl stated that 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, June 11, 2008
2. Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting, June 11, 2008

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 3-0.

#### **Action Items**

None

#### **New Business**

##### Consideration of Approval of List of Bills for June 2008

Ms. Herakovich presented the List of Bills for June 2008 for Board approval.

Commissioner Petry questioned why the Park District would pay Land Design Collaborative, Inc.. Ms. Herakovich stated that bills for payment are for work completed by Land Design Collaborative, Inc. for Porter Park.

President Kuhl questioned bills from Duce Construction for equipment rentals for work at Toalson Park. Mr. Spencer updated the Board on the bills and the status of the work at Toalson Park.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve the list of bills for June 2008 with the exception for Land Design Collaborative, Inc. The motion passed 3-0.

#### Consideration of Approval Authorizing the Execution of AT&T Contracts

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff was requesting Board approval authorizing the Executive Director to execute contracts for phone lines with AT&T/Telogix Systems Inc. for a term of up to 36-months.

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to approve authorizing the Executive Director execute contracts with AT&T/Telogix Systems Inc. The motion passed 3-0.

#### Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with Mike Fredricks

Ms. Herakovich explained the contractual relation that the Park District has with Mike Fredricks. She stated that staff is recommending approval of the agreement with a 3% increase based on the services that Mr. Fredricks provides at the Virginia Theatre.

Vice President Solon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Petry to approve the agreement with Mike Fredricks. The motion passed 3-0.

### **Old Business**

#### Consideration of Approval Prioritizing Park District Goals

Ms. Herakovich presented a review from the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Goal Setting meeting. She stated the following items were discussed: the trail system; feasibility study for a recreation center and fieldhouse; neighborhood park development; the need to enhance Spalding Park; modernizing the Park District brand and facilities. Ms. Herakovich commented that there was not much discussion on natural areas. She stated that there was discussion about getting land donated for neighborhood parks so the Park District would not have to pay for these types of parks and not accepting donations of mini parks in the future.

Ms. Herakovich discussed program budgets, improving cost recovery, and the Virginia Theatre.

President Kuhl commented that the staff needs to work on relationships, including that with the school district; look at existing buildings; and concentrate on four (4) to five (5) categories to work on. She stated that the Commissioners should not be focusing on day to day issues, but rather visionary items. President Kuhl also stated that discussion needs to occur on the philosophy regarding Park District programs.

Commissioner Petry stated that "Best Practices" should be taken as a given. He stated that the Board should develop a list of priorities for the Executive Director.

President Kuhl stated that she would like to develop a list in writing of total priorities that have and will be discussed, and then have the Board determine the priorities with a timeline incorporated for completion of the goals. Vice President Solon commented on addressing the policy distinction between trails and park paths.

Ms. Herakovich updated the Board on what staff has been working on with regard to the priorities. President Kuhl stated that the Board needs to formalize the list and make sure it is communicated to staff.

Commissioner Petry discussed his interpretation of how the Board feels about trails. He commented that he thought that at a Board meeting that some of the Board Members felt that much of the trail installation work has been completed. Commissioner Petry stated that was not accurate and that trails and/or paths will be installed on a case by case basis.

President Kuhl concurred and indicated it is a priority that needs to be reassessed with a new planning schedule.

President Kuhl stated that the Park District's hands are tied with the Virginia Theatre especially with the current economy. She stated that maybe a capital campaign is not in the best interest of the foundation. She noted that while there are projects that may be occurring this year at the Virginia Theatre, the end result is evolving.

President Kuhl commented that task forces are great ideas and she wants to get the Board Members involved.

Ms. Herakovich commented that the Park District needs to be more assertive with regard to the needs it serves. However, it is hard with tax caps. Ms. Herakovich stated that she and Mr. DeLuce have been working on a comprehensive score card with goals that the Board may be interested in reviewing.

President Kuhl stated that the Board will work on prioritizing goals for either the July Study Session or one of the meetings in August. Ms. Herakovich reviewed items that will be on upcoming agendas.

President Kuhl asked Ms. Herakovich to review the status of the Pipeline Trail. Ms. Herakovich stated that many residents claim that they were led to believe that there would not be anything built behind their homes and that staff has been working with the residents to help with their understanding.

Mr. Spencer reported that there has been discussion of possible plant materials being installed near the Pipeline Trail to help mitigate some of the complaints regarding the currently stark look of the trail and privacy issues.

Ms. Gibble reported that there are only four or five homeowners that feel that the Pipeline Trail has a negative effect on their property. She stated that it was ironic that after the trail was installed there was a torrential rain which effected some of those on the trail. Ms. Gibble stated that it will take some time for people to get use to the trail. She commented that part of the new trail was previously a drainage way.

#### **Discussion Items**

None

#### **Comments from Commissioners**

None

#### **Closed Session**

The Board did not convene into Closed Session.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Solon to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 3-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved:

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Barbara J. Kuhl, President

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Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary