

**MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION MEETING
CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

October 22, 2008

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Study Session on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 immediately following the Special Board meeting at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. Vice President Solon presided over the meeting.

Present: Vice President Jane Solon, Commissioners Alvin Griggs and Joseph Petry, and Treasurer Gary Wackerlin

Absent: President Barbara Kuhl and Commissioner Newton Dodds

Staff: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, Laura Auteberry, Marketing and Development Director, Terri Gible, Park Planner, and Amy Crump, Aquatics and Tennis Manager

Call to Order

Vice President Solon called the meeting to order immediately following the Special Board meeting.

Ms. Herakovich introduced Nancy Creason, League of Women's Voters, who will be observing the Park District's Board meetings.

Ms. Herakovich reported that a minor change was made to the agenda at the request of legal counsel and that the agendas on the table should be used.

Action Items

Consideration of Approval Inserting Delegates on the IPRA/IAPD Conference Credentials Certificate

Ms. Herakovich requested that the Board appoint a delegate and alternates to vote at the Annual Business Meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts on January 31, 2009.

It was the consensus of the Board that Joe Petry be appointed as delegate, and Jane Solon as 1st Alternate and Bobbie Herakovich as 2nd Alternate and that their names be inserted on the IPRA/IAPD Conference Credentials Certificate.

This item will be placed on the November 12, 2008 consent agenda for Board consideration.

Consideration of a Park and Trail Donation Guidelines Policy

Ms. Herakovich reported that the suggested conditions that were discussed at the October 8th Board meeting are being presented in a policy format. She stated that the draft policy includes additions and deletions suggested by legal counsel.

This item will be placed on the November 12, 2008 agenda for Board consideration.

Discussion Items

Scott Park Final Design

Steve Konters, with Hitchcock Designs, reviewed the final design for Scott Park. He stated that the plan is to have the construction plans completed by December in order to bid the project in January and start construction in spring 2009. Mr. Konters stated that the project will be constructed using the

meandering design. He reported that the design will include a concrete walkway, a water feature that will serve as a visual and interactive play area for children, playground, basketball court that has been moved forward north to provide more surveillance, and away from children's activity areas, a fence to act as a barrier due to proximity to 3rd Street and to the playground, pathways to the shelter and picnic grove, plantings and a new entry sign off of Springfield Avenue. Mr. Konters stated that there were two design options for the entry off Springfield: two columns on either side with a low seating wall and the alternative option with a fence to the corner going across with the low seat walls located further into the park. He distributed a summary of the cost of the project. Mr. Konters reported that \$750,000 has been budgeted for the base bid but the cost summary is more and that the Park District would need to make some cuts. He also discussed proposed alternate bid items.

Discussion ensued about the basketball court. Mr. Konters stated that the basketball court would be approximately 50 ft. from Springfield Avenue. In response to a question by Ms. Herakovich about moving the basketball court to the southwest corner, Mr. Konters stated that it would be difficult to move the courts due to existing trees. Ms. Herakovich commented that there was concern about the courts being too close to the playground. Mr. Konters said that angling the courts may be an option. Questions were also raised about whether the basketball court was needed or if a half court would work better. Vice President Solon commented that the courts were used more than the playground and Ms. Gibble agreed that courts are highly used.

Vice President Solon stated she liked the two columns with the low seating area for the entry design. Commissioners Petry and Griggs agreed.

Mr. Konters discussed the lighting which will include two additional light fixtures for pedestrian travel and the lighting for shelter security purposes. He stated that he could provide pictures of the proposed light fixtures.

Mr. Konters stated that Hitchcock Design will proceed with the construction documents to let bids for the project out in January.

Hallbeck Park Design Options

Ms. Gibble reported that staff met with the City's Director of Public Works, Dennis Schmidt, to discuss the drainage concerns related to the park site. She stated that Mr. Schmidt reported that the City has no immediate plans to place this drainage ditch into a storm water pipe and suggested that the Park District conduct a drainage study of the park and surrounding area to determine the best way to address the drainage concerns. Ms. Gibble stated that one idea would be to pipe it between houses to the detention basin which would be costly.

Ms. Gibble stated that staff recommended hiring a civil engineer to conduct a drainage study of the park site to determine the most cost efficient method of addressing the drainage concerns prior to any development in the park taking place. She stated that once this is determined, staff would be in a better position to recommend a course of action. Ms. Gibble stated that aside from the drainage issues, staff recommends Option C design which will provide development of the park desired by the Hallbeck Family at the least cost to the Park District.

After discussion, there was no objection with placing this item on the November 12, 2008 agenda Board for consideration.

Vice President Solon stated that she was fine with Option C without addressing the drainage problem.

Commissioner Griggs stated that he liked Option A and not Option C but that he could go with Option B. He stated that he would like to see a rain garden constructed in the park.

Commissioner Petry stated that if the Park District constructed Option C, additions could be added later. He was not in favor of spending a large amount of money to fix the drainage problem.

Aquatics Summer End Report

Ms. Crump presented the end of summer aquatics report for Sholem Aquatic Center and Spalding Pool. The report included information on attendance, days and hours of operation, pool passes, swimming lessons, special events, programming, staffing, marketing, birthday/lawn parties and facility rentals and budget. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

Collaboration Report

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Collaboration report is for informational purposes.

Honorary Commissioner Nomination for the Annual December Board Meeting

Ms. Herakovich reported that it is time to start thinking about nominations for Honorary Commissioner for the December Board meeting. She asked the Board to forward recommendations to her.

2009-10 Capital Budget

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff will present the draft 2009-10 capital budget at the November Board meeting. She reported that the black box of the tax levy and the Treasurer's report will run in *The News-Gazette* this month.

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff is still working with the auditors and that the audit will be on the November Board agenda.

Ms. Herakovich announced that the new showmobile had arrived and encouraged the Board go see it after the meeting.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the monthly priority update was on the table for the Board's review.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Petry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Griggs seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Approved:

Jane L. Solon, Vice President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary