

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

August 12, 2009

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Solon presided over the meeting.

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

Staff: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Jan Plotner, Director of Finance, Laura Auteberry, Marketing and Development Director, and David Schneider, Maintenance Supervisor

Comments from the Public

Nancy Creason of the League of Women Voters introduced Jean Peters of the League of Women Voters who will replace her as observer of Park District meetings.

Travonda Davenport accompanied by her husband, William Davenport, resident of the Garden Hills neighborhood, stated that their children attended the Garden Hills day camp. She informed the Board about their concerns regarding the day camp providers. Ms. Davenport read a letter addressed to Sarah Wright, day camp director, informing her of the concerns. Ms. Davenport stated that she wanted to make sure that the Board was aware of their concerns. She reported that she and her husband were relieved to be able to send their children to an affordable camp. Ms. Davenport stated that she believes that the overall intent of the camp was to provide a safe and positive environment for the children in the Garden Hills community. However, she and her husband were very concerned about the quality of the care of the programs offered. Specifically they were concerned with a dance their seven year old daughter came home doing called the "Stanky Leg", which the Davenports consider to be a very degrading dance. In addition, songs titled "You're a Jerk" and "Turn My Swag On" that their daughter was allowed to listen to were troubling. Ms. Davenport stated that after making several complaints to the staff, she felt that it was necessary to inform other staff and Board members of their concerns. She stated that children need to experience a positive environment, and that the camp staff sets the tone and standards for what is expected. Ms. Davenport informed the Board that she feels that this is a good example of poor leadership by the camp staffers. She stated that she believes that it is necessary to thoroughly screen potential staff more and offer a more rigorous training process. Ms. Davenport thanked the staff and Board for the opportunity to address them and hoped that their comments enlighten the Park District about how to better serve the children in our community. She stated that she previously relayed her concerns and never received a response from staff.

Ms. Herakovich stated that this was the first time that she had heard of this complaint and that she would follow up and let the Board know of the outcome.

President Solon thanked the Davenports for expressing their concerns to the Board.

Communications

President Solon circulated the communications.

Treasurer's Report

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

Treasurer Wackerlin presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2009. He stated that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in order. Mr. Wackerlin complimented Ms. Plotner on her hard work in finding the best certificates of deposits for the Park District.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2009. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

Executive Director's Report

Volunteers of the Month

Ms. Auteberry introduced Tracey Jones, who was chosen as Volunteer of the Month for August, 2009. Ms. Jones was chosen for her efforts as Sholem Sharks swim team coordinator. She was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, a gift certificate and a bag of goodies.

Updates

Ms. Herakovich noted for the record that the Unit 4 School Board has determined that it will rebuild at the Booker T. Washington School site. She reported that she received a thank you for Arthur Culver, Unit IV Superintendent, for considering the School District's options in Douglass Park. Ms. Herakovich stated that Unit 4 received several comments from the community and that given the timeline the School Board decided to move forward with building on the existing site. Ms. Herakovich reported that she still has not heard anything about Garden Hills School. She stated that there will be a community meeting on August 24, 2009 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Douglass Center gymnasium to hear comments from residents on what they would like to see in the school.

In response to a question by Commissioner Kuhl, Ms. Herakovich stated that she did not know what the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club involvement was and that no decisions have been made. She reported that the School District runs the afterschool program and that she is sure that the Club representatives will attend the community meeting. Ms. Herakovich stated that she will be attending the meeting and suggested that the Board task force members attend as well.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Downtown Festival of the Arts will be held on August 15, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the National Recreation and Parks Association Congress is scheduled for October 14-17, 2009 in Salt Lake City, Utah. She asked Board members to let her know if anyone was interested in attending.

Attorney's Report

Mr. Hall stated that he has a couple of items later on the agenda.

President's Report

None

Consent Agenda

President Solon stated that all items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired, that item shall be removed and discussed separately. These items were:

1. Minutes of Special Board Meeting, July 2, 2009
2. Minutes of Closed Session Meeting, July 2, 2009
3. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, July 8, 2009
4. Minutes of Closed Session Meeting, July 8, 2009
5. Awarding the Bid for Waterline Additions and Replacement Project at Various Parks to the lowest bidder, Duce Construction Company, at a total cost of \$49,623 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said contract.
6. Awarding the Bid for Zahnd Park Concession Roofing Replacement to the lowest bidder JVVM, Inc. at a total cost of \$14,910.00 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said contract.

7. Approval of an Agreement between the Park District and Michael Fredricks
8. Approval of the Release of an Easement at 202 E. Clark, Champaign

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

Consideration of Approval of the List of Bills for July 2009

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff requested Board approval of the list of bills for July, 2009 for payment.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve the list of bills for July, 2009 for payment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Resolution Regarding Disposal of Audio or Video Recordings of Closed Meetings

President Solon stated that staff recommended Board approval of the proposed Resolution regarding disposal of audio or video recordings of Closed Session meetings as listed in Section 1 of the Resolution.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve the resolution as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Hallbeck Park Improvements

President Solon stated that staff recommended awarding the bid and authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract for Hallbeck Park improvements to the lowest responsible bidder, Champaign Tree and Landscape, for the base bid and both alternates for a total construction cost of \$57,613.60.

Commissioner Kuhl commented that she was not familiar with Champaign Tree and Landscape. She stated that the Park District is asking the company to put in sidewalks and that she would like some reassurance that this work is within the scope of a landscape company.

Ms. Herakovich stated that she will make sure that staff checks references. Commissioner Dodds commented that he is sure Jim Spencer, Director of Operations, has checked references. President Solon commented that she believes staff feels confident that the company can perform the job.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve awarding the bid to Champaign Tree and Landscape for the base bid and both alternates for a total construction cost of \$57,613.60 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Douglass Annex Parking Improvements

President Solon stated that staff recommended awarding the bid and authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract for improvements to the Douglass Annex parking lot to the lowest responsible bidder, Duce Construction, at the bid price of \$35,691.44.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve awarding the bid to Duce Construction at the bid price of \$35,691.44 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said contract. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Bresnan Parking Lot Improvements

President Solon stated that staff recommends awarding the bid and authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract for Bresnan parking lot improvements to the lowest responsible bidder, Cross Construction, at the bid price of \$75,000.00.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve awarding the bid to Cross Construction at the bid price of \$75,000.00 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said contract. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Temporary Construction Easement

President Solon stated that staff recommended approval of a request of a temporary construction easement to the Urbana Champaign Sanitary District to use Morrissey Park for storage of equipment (pumps) while repairing sewer lines on Harrington Drive.

Commissioner Dodds made a motion to approve the request for the temporary construction. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

None

Discussion Items

Vice President Griggs ask for an update on Sholem Aquatic Center. Ms. Herakovich stated that the financial forecast was better than anticipated. Ms. Plotner reported that for the month of July the Park District was \$40,000 down from last year, which staff attributes to weather. However, utility costs were \$30,000 less than last year. Ms. Plotner reported that a more detailed report will be given at the August 26, 2009 Study Session meeting.

Ms. Herakovich reported that Taste of Champaign-Urbana turned out better than was anticipated and that approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 would be going to the scholarship fund.

President Solon commented that she had received very positive comments from people about the Park District's pool staff. Ms. Herakovich stated that she will let the pool staff know about the positive comments.

In response to a question by Commissioner Kuhl, Ms. Herakovich stated that when school starts, Sholem Aquatic Center will have reduced hours.

Comments from Commissioners

None

Closed Session

Commissioner Petry made a motion, seconded by Vice President Griggs to convene into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS Par. 120/2(c)(5) regarding the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body and Par. 120/2(c) (6) regarding the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Petry – yes; Vice President Griggs – yes; President Solon – yes; and Commissioner Kuhl – yes; and Commissioner Dodds – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Dodds made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Petry. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Approved:

Jane L. Solon, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary