

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DUPAGE
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**

February 12, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

President Campagnolo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Darien Council Chambers, 1702 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Nancy Campagnolo, Frank Noverini, Neil Christensen,
Shari Gillespie, Richard Simester

ABSENT: None

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris; Assistant Director, Della Deldin; Superintendent of Finance, Robert Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, Matt Henderson; Sportsplex General Manager, John Murphey, Attorney

Guests: Ray Jablonski, Darien
Jim Tikalsky, Darien

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION: 2(c)5: Discussion of the purchase or lease of real estate for the use of the District

At 7:01 p.m. Commissioner Simester made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to adjourn into Executive Session.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Christensen, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Darien Park District will be purchasing Fairview School for the sum of \$3,500,000 with payment of \$1,800,000 at the initial closing in 2007, annual payment of \$150,000 in years 2008-2017 for ten years and payment of \$200,000 at the final closing in 2017. She reported that in addition, the Darien Park District will be giving up interest in 133 Plainfield Road. She further reported that upon vacating Marion Hills and occupying Fairview, parties would cancel the Marion Hills lease.

Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the terms subject to a formal contract.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Gurgone stated she received communication from the Darien Lions Club thanking Assistant Director Katsougris and staff for help with the Christmas Food Baskets. She also reported that correspondence was received from Jim Tikalsky, Darien Environmental Committee Chairman asking the Board to reconsider signs at the parks regarding not smoking in the parks. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received correspondence regarding the Citizen of the Year dinner.

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email from Ron Brueckmann the resident who has a home that borders Birchwood Park. She reported that Mr. Brueckmann was concerned about the stones being placed around the pond and that it entices children to throw them into the pond and that it could be a safety issue. President Campagnolo stated that she forwarded the email to staff and responded to Mr. Brueckmann.

Superintendent Strickler stated that staff will be monitoring the pond and hopefully the landscaping around the pond will deter children from trying to get to it. He stated that the work being done on the pond is the best practice for preventing erosion.

Commissioner Christensen stated that this was a joint venture between the City and the Park District and that the City agreed that this was best for the pond.

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email from Mr. Ross Rice from the NYC Baseball and if the purchase of Fairview and sale of Marion Hills will have any affect on the use of the ball field located in back of Marion Hills. She also reported that Mr. Rice was concerned that the NYC will spend approximately \$5,000 to maintain their field at Fairview this spring.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she responded to Mr. Rice. She informed him that this year t-ball would not be affected but that it would be thereafter. She stated that she explained to Mr. Rice that the District will need to discuss what options are available for next season.

Executive Director Gurgone also informed Mr. Rice that the District had no intention of touching the Fairview field.

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email from a parent concerned with the limited space for ballet. She stated that the parent wanted to inform the Board that the ballet program has grown and that the Board and staff consider future space for the ballet program.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she contacted the parent and informed her that all the programs will be looked at and that currently Fairview has an open floor plan. She explained that staff will have to be creative and that there is currently a space for dance. She stated that staff is aware that ballet has grown and that staff will try to accommodate all of the programs.

President Campagnolo questioned the flooring that is currently at Marion Hills and if it is going to be moved to Fairview.

Assistant Director Katsougris stated that the most likely different flooring will be used. She stated that the existing flooring probably can be removed and returned to the owner.

OFFICER REPORTS

- A. President** – President Campagnolo congratulated Attorney Murphey who was named one of Chicago’s “Super Lawyers”
- B. Vice President** – No report.
- C. Secretary** – No report.
- D. Treasurer** – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer’s report ending January 31, 2007.
Commissioner Noverini made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month ending January 31, 2007.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Gillespie, Christensen, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE

Executive Director Gurgone reported that General Manager Henderson discussed the Sportsplex financials for December. She reported that staff reviewed the statement of economic interest list and the capital projects update. She also reported that staff reported on the new personnel policy manual and that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff and the Board discussed the District’s options for a new recreation center and that there was detailed discussion regarding the three options: buying Fairview Elementary School, building a new recreation center at Westwood Park, and remodeling Sportsplex. She reported that the Board discussed the pros and cons of each option.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board met in closed session to discuss a price for a possible purchase of Fairview Elementary School. She also reported that there was more detailed discussion in the minutes which are available on the District's website once approved.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Murphey reported on the timing of Fairview School. He stated that the Board of Education will be meeting within a day and hopefully pass a similar motion. He further stated that the goal is to have a contract approved by the end of March.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District anticipates moving sometime this summer depending on how soon the school district can move out. She also reported that she will be attending a meeting regarding drainage issues at some of the homes that surround the facility at 802 Plainfield. She explained that the meeting is with the City and some of the surrounding neighbors regarding drainage issues that have been going on for years.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Winter Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, March 3rd and that space is still available. She also reported that registration is underway for the fall 2007 term of First Step Preschool and that there will be an Open House on Wednesday, February 21st.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the deadline for Tommy Guns Garage trip has been extended. She also reported that there are two candidates Mr. Ray Jablonski and Mr. James Tikalsky for the April election.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Deldin reported that there is a vacancy for a part time Accountant who will assist the finance department.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler provided his report to the Board and asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Christensen questioned if the dead tree at Holly Park was old or new.

Superintendent Strickler reported that the dead tree was an older tree.

President Campagnolo stated that she appreciated the horticultural report.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Henderson reported that staff is presently working on the spring and summer activities.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that during the move that Sportsplex will be utilized for some of the summer programs.

General Manager Henderson reported that spring should be very busy for ice time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Commissioner Christensen stated that the District is paying \$2,000 to US Bank which relates back to the 2000 bond issue. He stated that as in the past that he is still not comfortable paying this.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Warrants, January 8, 2006 Meeting Minutes, January 22, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes and the Personnel Policy Manual.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Noverini, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DSC Tournament Contract

Executive Director Gurgone reported that this is the contract for the Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day Tournaments in the amount of \$24,960.

B. Southgrove Pond Aeration Equipment

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Superintendent Strickler received three proposals for the pond in Southgrove Park. She reported that the lowest bid was from Ross Electric for \$16,819.70 for Equipment.

C. Southgrove Pond Aeration Equipment Installation

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Superintendent Strickler received three proposals for the installation and that the lowest bid was from Ross Electric for \$15,765.00 for installation. Executive Director Gurgone stated that total for both equipment and installation is \$2,584.70 over the budgeted amount and that the extra cost will come from the savings from the Meyer's barn windows and from asphalt repairs.

D. Public Comment

None.

Commissioner Noverini made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve the DSC Tournament Contract, the Southgrove Pond Aeration Equipment and the Southgrove Pond Aeration Equipment Installation as presented.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Christensen, Gillespie, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District