

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DUPAGE
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE**

June 26, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

President Campagnolo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 5 of the Marion Hills Community Center, 133 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners and staff were present:

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

ABSENT: None.

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

GUESTS: Donna Carter, Darien
Gloria Anderson, Darien
Jean Starshak, Lemont
Raymond Truitt, Florida

PUBLIC COMMENT AND GUESTS

President Campagnolo welcomed the guests to the meeting and introduced her father, Ray Truitt who was visiting from Florida. There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Thank You card from Tom Swenson

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received a thank you from Mr. Tom Swenson retiring from District 61, Ms. Linda Waner thanking Superintendent Strickler and his staff for the adult swings at Smart Oaks Park and Mr. Scott Coren Assistant City Administrator stating that he

received a call from a resident thanking Superintendent Strickler and his staff for handling the trees near the pond at South Grove Park.

B. Resident Emails

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email from Mr. Lane Kelley, *Suburban Life* stating that he attended the February 27th, March 13th and April 10th meetings. She stated that she responded to Mr. Kelley explaining that her information was based on Board Meeting notes and minutes of who is in attendance. President Campagnolo also stated that she informed Mr. Kelley that he should sign in as he has done in the past and that if he is not interested in receiving a press packet that he should contact staff. President Campagnolo announced that Mr. Kelley was not present at the meeting.

COMMITTEE TOPICS

A. Long Range Goals

Commissioner Christensen suggested discussing the shortening of the Commissioner terms from 6 years to 4 years for a future meeting and after the next election.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she has compiled an ongoing list of upcoming issues for future discussion and she would place this on the list.

B. Short Range Goals

None.

C. Operational Issues

1. Sportsplex

a. Sportsplex Financials

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received the Sportsplex financials.

General Manager Henderson reported that the biggest difference is the ice side of the building and the Senior Men's League and High School League. He reported that there is a timing issue. He further reported that the programs have grown but that the season is stretched to June this year. General Manager Henderson stated that although the total revenue is approximately \$16,000 less than last year, the ice rental is up \$5,000.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the numbers have to be viewed on an accumulative basis and that the first month is tough to compare to the year's budget.

b. Lighting Grant

General Manager Henderson reported that he is scheduling a meeting to see if the grant can be split up using part of it at the end of the year and the other half for next year. He stated that he did not believe it would be an issue.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Field House could be done one year and the Ice House the other. She stated that the Director of Operations has been through the process before and that he is familiar with the grant procedures.

c. Resolution to Sell Inline Court

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received a copy of the resolution to declare surplus property. She reported that there is an interested party who wishes to purchase the inline court. Executive Director Gurgone stated that over the last couple of years inline has not been as popular. In addition, the inline court was not intended to be placed on top of the turf. Staff recommends selling all of the court.

General Manager Henderson reported that the selling of the court would be approximately \$20,000 and that the plywood that was to be used for the floor can be used for the upstairs at the Meyers Barn. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

d. Sportsplex Inside Summer Projects

General Manager Henderson stated that the biggest changes will be the cosmetics including painting and the bathrooms and locker rooms and that the work is being done in house.

General Manager Henderson also stated that the benches in the locker rooms are falling apart and that it appears that new benches will have to be purchased. He stated that they are a safety concern.

Commissioner Gillespie suggested purchasing a recycled product.

General Manager Henderson stated that the material is very expensive and can be looked at long term. He also stated that there was some money left over from last year and that new carpeting will be installed in the offices.

Commissioner Gillespie asked about replacing the mirrors. Superintendent Strickler stated that stainless mirrors are installed for safety.

Commissioner Christensen questioned if there was any new information regarding Gunzo's and the space allocation.

General Manager Henderson reported that Gunzo's is moved and they are in the old office.

e. Skate Park Vandalism Camera

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Board was provided a summary of the vandalism. She stated that she spoke with the Chief of Police and that the vandalism is occurring when the police are not there. Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Woodridge Park District has installed a camera and it can be monitored from the police station, from the police cars and the offices. She stated that it is very expensive but a solution needs to be reached. Executive Director Gurgone stated that staff is suggesting starting with a sign with a \$100 reward for information leading to the arrest & conviction of the vandal(s).

Superintendent Strickler stated that the kids are dismantling the equipment with a wrench and that the equipment is full of graffiti.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the camera is approximately \$7,500 plus maintenance and that Woodridge has a 50/50 split with the police department. She stated that obviously monitoring will have to be done with the camera.

President Campagnolo recommended that staff check with PDRMA to see if the park can be locked. She stated that liability is an issue either way because the kids are taking off a railing with a 5 foot drop.

Ms. Gloria Anderson questioned how the youths will be identified even if they are on a camera.

Commissioner Gillespie suggested asking both newspapers to do a story about closing the park if the vandalism continues and also work with the police department for more security.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she will continue to keep looking into the cost of a camera.

f. Sportsplex Landscaping

Superintendent Strickler reported that the landscaping was complete and that the Board received an additional proposal. He stated that staff is recommending landscaping in the four medians in front of the entrance installing new flowering crabs and paving the area and purchasing giant size planters to bring in color.

Executive Director Gurgone recommended doing the four medians this year and work on the others in the future. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

g. Sportsplex Advertising

General Manager Henderson reported that he is working with Clarendon Hills Chiropractic by purchasing two boards. He stated that he is also working with other organizations regarding sponsorship and that over the next couple of months he will be looking for an individual or company to do the marketing.

President Campagnolo suggested placing the marketing efforts as top priority. She stated that the revenue can really help.

Commissioner Gillespie suggested advertising to alert individuals or companies that the District is interested in finding someone who can go out and sell.

General Manager Henderson stated that he will do more research. He also stated that he will contact the Hawks to see if they are interested in working together.

2. Parks and Recreation

a. EJH Tennis Courts

Executive Director Gurgone reported that as of June 8th that the school had not put up the closed sign. She stated that she spoke with the Superintendent of District 61 and that he informed her that the school district did not want to close the courts and that their liability insurance includes the tennis courts. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the school is fixing the cracks.

b. Meyers Barn Update

Superintendent Strickler reported that plywood has been moved into the barn from Sportsplex and that staff will begin installing the floor and windows.

c. Lindenwood Playground

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff is working on Lindenwood and that there will be discussion at a future meeting.

d. Recreation Software

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received information on the recreation software. She reported that the new software will allow both locations to integrate and also to upload to the appropriate accounting software and allow online registration. Executive Director Gurgone stated that this can be paid for out of the capital money and a budget adjustment at the end of the year. She reported that the cost is under \$50,000 and that Sportsplex will pay the District back for a portion.

Ms. Gloria Anderson questioned if the online registration will be secure.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the online registration will be secure. The Board agreed to place this on the consent agenda.

3. Administration

a. Resident Inquiry re: Property Purchase

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received correspondence from a resident who owns property at 408 Plainfield Road inquiring if the District is interested in purchasing the land for around \$500,000. The Board agreed that this was too much money. Executive Director Gurgone stated that she would respond to the resident.

b. Capital Projects Update

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she provided the Board with an update on the Capital projects noting the status. She reported that staff is trying to get through most of the projects within the next few months.

c. Non-Solicitation Ordinance

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Huskies have been trying to solicit patrons at Sportsplex. She reported that PDRMA recommended a Non-Solicitation Ordinance. She further stated that the District has an Ordinance that needs to be updated but that it states that the Huskies can be told to leave if they are soliciting and if so they can be fined. Executive Director Gurgone stated that she would evaluate the issues and update the Ordinance for approval.

d. Executive Director Project List

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received a list of the main projects over the next year.

e. Cancel July Committee Meeting

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the July Committee Meeting will be cancelled.

President Campagnolo stated that the meeting is not necessary and that it will give staff and the Commissioners a break. She stated that there has been a lot done and is an indication of how hard staff and the Board have been working.

f. Establish Consent Agenda for 7/10 Meeting

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board agreed to place the Inline Court Resolution, the Sportsplex Landscaping, and the Recreation Software on the Consent agenda for the July 10, 2006 Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini that the meeting be adjourned. Upon voice vote the Motion was thereby carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District