

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

March 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, Judith Kolman, Attorney

Guests: Ray Jablonski, Darien
Jim Tikalsky, Darien

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2007-08 BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE

At 7:01 p.m. Commissioner Simester made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christenson to open the public hearing.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Christensen Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the budget was discussed in more detail at the District's February 26, 2007 Committee Meeting and was placed on display on Monday, March 5, 2007 and the notice of public hearing given in the March 3, 2007 Suburban Life.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is anticipating receiving \$2,285,197 in tax dollars in 2007-08 and an increase of 3% from 2006-07. She reported that the District will receive \$47,889 more in operating funds, \$21,886 more in the SEASPAR fund and no change in bond funds from last year.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that excluding capital, bond accounts, and Sportsplex, the District is budgeting a 4% increase in revenues over last year and a 4% increase in expenses. She further reported that the District is anticipating spending \$315,268 for capital projects in 2007-08, plus \$1,800,000 for the down payment on the purchase of Fairview School.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Sportsplex budget shows an anticipating net income of \$9,392 which includes debt payments of \$869,342 and capital projects of \$45,000. She reported that the Sportsplex budget has revenues and expenses each about ½% higher than last year.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Budget & Appropriations Ordinance will be placed on the April 9, 2007 board meeting for approval.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment. President Campagnolo closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

President Campagnolo reported that she received communication from a resident with suggestions for the new recreation center and communication from Alderman Poteraske regarding a drug abuse and crime awareness event.

Commissioner Christensen stated that the resident who suggested the play area had some clever ideas and questioned if all of the suggestions were being noted.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff responded to the resident stating that the toddler/preschool play area was a great idea and that staff has looked at doing something maybe not exactly as Arlington Heights but the same concept. She further stated that staff is noting all of the suggestions.

President Campagnolo informed the audience that the resident suggested replicating the Little Village Playplace in Arlington Heights where there are open times where parents can bring their children to a play place.

OFFICER REPORTS

A. President – No report.

B. Vice President – No report.

C. Secretary – No report.

D. Treasurer – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer's report ending

February 28, 2007.

Commissioner Noverini made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending February 28, 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 staff discussed the proposed RFP for energy related improvements at Fairview and announced that anyone interested could pick up a packet. She reported that the Board discussed the possibility of doing lighting work at Sportsplex.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff proposed rates for the ice and fieldhouse at Sportsplex recommending \$325 for prime time ice and \$235 for prime time fieldhouse. She reported that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff reviewed the Sportsplex budget draft and the preliminary plans for summer programs. She further reported that staff discussed the rental rates for the parks and Marion Hills recommended keeping the rates the same until after the move. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board reviewed the Crisis Management Plan required by PDRMA. The Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that it was announced that the budget would be on display by March 9th and that a public hearing would be held at the March 12, 2007 Board Meeting. She reported that the Board discussed the budget and reported that the list of Capital Projects would be on hold until the necessary project costs are available for Fairview.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed the fee for Darien Fest and decided to keep the fee the same as last year for the use of the park and not for any staff involvement. She reported that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff discussed a resolution for designating Sportsplex as a mass care shelter, per the City's request and that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the last item of business was to establish the consent agenda for the March 12, 2007 meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she spoke with Attorney Murphey and that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2007 with the School District. She stated that the purpose of the meeting is to get the remaining details worked out so that the contract can be presented to the Board at the April 9, 2007 Board Meeting.

Executive Director Gurgone suggested canceling the March 26, 2007 Committee Meeting due to lack of agenda items. The Board unanimously agreed to cancel the meeting.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District will be applying for a Special Use permit for Fairview. She stated that the Special Use requires a public hearing tentatively scheduled for April 4th. She further stated that the contract will be contingent upon the City granting the District the Special Use permit.

Commissioner Simester asked who to speak to if he wanted a tour of Fairview.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she would arrange the tour with the school.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that staff will begin issuing picnic permits on April 2nd for residents and April 16th for non-residents. She reported that interested groups can contact the District office to check rates and availability.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 7th beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Darien Community, Lindenwood, South Grove, Smart Oaks and Westwood Parks. She thanked the Darien Lions for their continued help in hiding the eggs and assisting with crowd control.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Breakfast with the Bunny will take place on Saturday, April 7th at Sportsplex. She stated that the deadline to register is Monday April 2nd.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Deldin reported that various in service training seminars for full and part time staff in the next several months. She reported that a representative from Workplace Solutions will be speaking on proper customer service techniques.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that Birchwood Park has been completed with some small renovations to be completed weather permitting.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Henderson reported that he has had several discussions with a group that rents out the facility and uses it for paintless paint ball. He reported that the group is willing to make an investment in equipment and that they are interested in April – October when the facility is at a standstill. General Manager Henderson stated that he is going to do a trial run and if successful it could be a potential \$50,000 - \$60,000 contract. He stated that the group has a customer base and that he is looking to give them a discount on the price this summer to get them in the facility and help out the Sportsplex income.

General Manager Henderson reported that the spring programs begin April 1st and that the Hawks have 17 teams for the spring. He stated that this is the same number of teams as last year and a great indication that the fall numbers are continuing to grow.

President Campagnolo questioned if the group would be organizing paint ball leagues.

General Manager Henderson reported that the group will run their own leagues and that they would be charged an hourly rate. He stated that they will have drop in times for private parties and rentals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for consent agenda)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Simester questioned the \$35,350 return on the Sportsplex Fund.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there were so many soccer teams that staff opted to shorten the season and take the fee in full and reimburse each team that applied but with less games.

General Manager Henderson stated that next year, fewer teams would be accepted.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Warrants, February 12, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes, Rental Rates for Sportsplex Ice/Fieldhouse, Rental Rates for Parks/Marion Hills, Crisis Management Plan, Darien Fest Fee, and the Resolution Designating Sportsplex as a Mass Care Shelter.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Noverini, Christensen, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Driver Qualification & Improvement Policy

Executive Director Gurgone reported the Driver Qualification & Improvement Policy is required by PDRMA and is information regarding employees who drive District vehicles.

B. Revisions to Parks & Facilities Policy

Executive Director Gurgone reported that is also required by PDRMA and describes things that are prohibited in the parks. She stated that this policy was last updated in 1992.

C. Public Comment (for new business)

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

Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the Driver Qualification & Improvement Policy and the Parks & Facilitates Policy as presented.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District