

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

November 15, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

President Durkin called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 were present:

PRESENT: Jack Durkin, Shari Gillespie, Don McGreal, Nancy Campagnolo,
Richard Simester

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: Warren Anderson, Sergeant at Arms

Staff: Roy Cripe, Executive Director; Chris Katsougris, Assistant Director;
Stephanie Gurgone; Superintendent of Finance, Bob Strickler;
Superintendent of Parks, Seve Ghose; Sportsplex General Manager, Don
Kreger; Attorney

Guests: Kris Sant, Darien
Gloria Anderson, Darien
Dave Dever, Darien
Dave Skala, Darien Police Department
Bryon Vanna, City of Darien
Rob Sarocco, Darien
Rick Veldman, Darien
Dawn Aulet, *The Doings*
Jennie Korb, *Suburban Life*
Dennis Kopustka, Darien
Joe Bohannon, Alsip
Anna Harkins, Wheaton

ACKNOWLEDGE GUESTS

President Durkin welcomed the guests to the meeting.

Mr. Dave Dever, Get Fast, Inc. stated that he had attempted to present a plan to the Board to expand his program at Sportsplex. He stated that he was told by Commissioner McGreal to hang tight and to stay at Sportsplex. Mr. Dever stated that he lost the opportunity to move elsewhere and that he is concerned that the expansion is not moving in the right direction. He further stated that he met with Executive Director Cripe and General Manager Ghose regarding his concerns.

Executive Director Cripe reported that he and General Manager Ghose met several times with Mr. Dever regarding the cost per square foot as well as the build out and recovery costs. He reported that he had not formally put the information together to present to the Board but that he would provide the information to the Board within the next day so that Mr. Dever could move forward.

Mr. Dever stated he would like to stay at Sportsplex and continue the services.

Commissioner Simester stated that there was a verbal agreement in March 2003 that in June the rent would go up to \$5,000 with discussion to follow.

Mr. Dever stated that he increased his rent to \$4,000 on his own.

Commissioner Campagnolo stated that she did not feel comfortable having the Board members negotiate the lease agreement. She stated that the Board should rely solely on staff to negotiate. She further stated that Board members should not be sitting in negotiations.

Mr. Dever stated that he was informed by staff that the proposal had been forwarded to the Board.

Executive Director Cripe stated that he has received comment on the details of the negotiation from individual Board members.

Rick Veldman, 2337 Dunmore, Darien, stated his opposition for the tornado siren site. He stated that Terra Hill has spent a lot of money to upgrade the entrances and the Barn and that the tornado siren is not something he wants to look at every morning. He further stated that there had to be a better location.

President Durkin stated that this subject was on the agenda for discussion and he too shared the same concern.

Mr. Veldman stated that the old siren is located next to a water tower and if the City of Darien wants the siren they should place it on their property.

Mr. Rob Sarocco, 7209 Richmond, NYC President, asked how much Sportsplex normally charges for fieldhouse time.

General Manager Ghose reported that the cost would be \$225 per hour. He explained that the Sportsplex receives over \$300 per court hour for time used by the Sportsplex Soccer League. He said the per hour rental rate for prime time is \$225.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the October 18, 2004 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

APPROVE CLAIMS, ACCOUNTS AND WARRANTS

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie that the following Warrants be approved: Corporate Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$31,595.34; Recreation Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$32,215.16; SEASPAR Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$1,359.14; Capital Project Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$2,999.64; Sportsplex Reimbursement Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$9,364.95; Sportsplex Operating Fund Warrant FY #2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$73,918.19; Imprest Fund Warrant FY #2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$527.42; Sportsplex Imprest Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$9.82; and the Recreation Refund Fund Warrant FY # 2004-2005-07 in the amount of \$662.00.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

OFFICER REPORTS

- A. **President** –None.
- B. **Vice President** – None.
- C. **Secretary** –None.

- D. Treasurer –Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month ending October 31, 2004.**

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Buildings and Grounds**
None.
- B. Finance**
None.
- C. Land Acquisition**
None.
- D. Police & Personnel**
None.
- E. Recreation**
None.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Attorney Kreger reported that the Lil Huskies agreement was completed and that the bond issue to pay the last payment on the two purchase agreements would be discussed under New Business on the agenda.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Executive Director**

Executive Director Cripe reported that the closing for the 7201 property was delayed until October 23rd because the buyer was required to perform a Phase I Environmental Study. He stated that the investigation includes a review of how the property was used by previous owners.

Executive Director Cripe reported that he received a letter dated September 31, 2004 from the DYC President Rob Sorocco that he will respond at this time.

He reported that the letter stated that the DYC was only given time that could not be sold to someone else and that the fees were outrageous. Executive Director Cripe explained

that January thru April is the busiest time of year for Sportsplex. Director Cripe named specific groups who would rent all the time given to NYC.

Executive Director Cripe addressed the statement that the NYC is paying outrageous fees. He stated that the NYC time per court hour price is worth an additional \$22,450 that could be sold to someone else.

Executive Director Cripe stated that he believes the Park District has obligations to the NYC but that the financial condition at Sportsplex at this time can't afford to give a deeper discount. He stated that his intent of this reply is not to debate the level of support given to NYC. While disappointed by the letter, he said that the partnership of the NYC and the Park District has been built over many years. He stated that Darien residents benefit because NYC has so many volunteers to run the organization to make it affordable. He further stated that he did not believe that the Park District can invest more in the NYC then it is already providing at this time.

Commissioner Simester stated that the NYC received a \$169.21 per court hour fee reduction. He stated that last year approximately 100 hours were not used by the NYC and that the hours were not sold.

President Durkin stated that the Park District is trying to accommodate the NYC to the best possible.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that she should be contacted if anyone is interested in attending the IAPD State Conference on January 22-29th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Park District will have an intern working from Aurora University. She stated that the intern will split his time at Sportsplex, Administration, and Recreation and Parks.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that staff will be assisting the Darien Lions Club with the needy family drive beginning the week of November 22nd. She also reported that the Board received a copy of an updated phone list.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the winter brochure would be mailed out on November 19th and registration for residents begins December 6th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the visit with Santa is scheduled for Saturday December 11th at Sportsplex. She further reported that letters from Santa deadline is December 6th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that a trip to the Premium Outlet Mall in Aurora is scheduled for Thursday, December 2nd.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Gurgone reported that the 2004 Tax Levy would be discussed under New Business on the agenda. She reported that two quotes for the G/O Bond were received and the lowest rate for the \$1,137,000 bond was for 2.17% from Harris Bank.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that the Park District and the Library agreed on a snow plowing contract. He further reported that he attended three workshops and that the information was provided in the report.

Superintendent Strickler reported that the Men's Soccer League at Nantucket Park would be receiving 130 dump loads of top soil and that there would be some major renovation to the field.

President Durkin thanked Superintendent Strickler and his staff for the great condition of the fields at Community Park.

Superintendent Strickler reported that Mac the dog is out continuing to chase away the geese.

Commissioner Campagnolo stated that a resident contacted her concerning the toxicity of the fertilizer.

Superintendent Strickler stated that there is no toxicity associated with fertilizer. He reported that signs are placed on the lawn to inform those who may have a low tolerance to fertilizer chemicals. He further reported that the parks will be fertilized this fall and that they will be treated again in the spring and fall next year.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Ghose reported that the fall Soccer League has 145 teams as well as 18 adult teams. He reported that a Holiday Tournament has been scheduled for boys and girls ages 7-12 and that there is currently a 60 teams on a waiting list for the winter leagues.

General Manager Ghose reported that he received a \$1,000 sponsorship from US Indoor Soccer for displaying and passing out Discovery Channel for Kids items in the lobby at Sportsplex over the last two months. He further reported that he is negotiating seven flat screen monitors to broadcast the games as well as to advertise Darien programs.

General Manager Ghose reported that he has not received the final payment from the Huskies. He stated that he would be discussing three contracts under New Business on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discuss and Approve G.O. Bond Ordinance

Attorney Kreger reported the conditions of the Lil Huskies contract. He stated that the conditions set out the usage and revenues that are expected and in return for their services the Huskies Hockey club receives a \$75,000 credit towards the annual ice rental fee.

Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner McGreal to approve the contract between the Darien Park District and the Huskies Hockey Club beginning September 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Campagnolo, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

B. Discuss and Approve City of Darien Request for Tornado Siren Site

Mr. Bryon Vanna, City Administrator, City of Darien discussed the need to move the Tornado Siren Site at 87th and Lemont Road. He stated that after consultant review, it was recommended that the site be moved to avoid the overlap with Woodridge sirens. He further stated that moving the siren to Meyer Woods park site would provide better coverage for City of Darien residents. Mr. Vanna stated that he fully understood the concerns of the residents but that the new location will provide better coverage and it would be buffered by very tall trees.

Mr. Dave Skala, Deputy Chief, City of Darien Police Department, stated that he too understood the concerns of the residents. He reported that after much discussion and consideration, the siren would be mounted on a wood pole. He stated that aesthetically the pole would not be in the middle of the park and would be covered by tall trees. Mr. Skala provided photos to Executive Director Cripe.

Mr. Veldman stated that the siren will affect the present hawk and owls that are in the area presently. He suggested placing the siren in the wetlands on I-55 or near Wight and Company.

Mr. Vanna stated that moving the siren to the wetlands or near Wight and Company would bring it closer to Woodridge. He stated that it could be moved closer to the roadway on the City right-of-way but the protection from the trees would be lost.

President Durkin stated that the City is trying to do their job. He stated that the City provided a map and that the public was welcome to look at it because it explains what needs to be done.

Superintendent Strickler reported that he and Executive Director Cripe looked at the location and that the siren would be shielded by the surrounding trees. He stated that if it was moved to the right-of-way it would be clearly visible.

Executive Director Cripe asked for the schedule of installation.

Mr. Vanna stated that it was on the City Council agenda at the meeting following this meeting.

A resident from the audience stated that he was notified of the siren two hours prior to the meeting and was concerned that it was too close to his home.

President Durkin suggested that the City work with the residents to find a better location. He stated that the meeting discussion was posted in the newspapers.

Mr. Vanna stated that he would be glad to meet with the residents.

Commissioner Campagnolo stated that the best location was in Meyers Woods and that if it was placed on Oldfield Road, it would be out in the open.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss and Approve G.O. Bond Ordinance

Attorney Kreger reported that the principal amount of the bonds is \$1,137,000 and will be retired within the next 12 months. He reported that the total levy for this year for the bonds is \$1,161,810 which is slightly more than last year. He further reported that overall the rate will not be affected.

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR BORROWING MONEY AND THE ISSUANCE OF A \$1,137,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT GENERAL OBLIGATION PARK BOND, SERIES 2004B, OF THE DARIEN PARK DISTRICT, DUPAGE COUNTY, IL AND PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SAID BOND.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Campagnolo, Simester

NAYS: None
President Durkin declared the motion carried.

B. Discuss and Approve Resolution to Take Action on 2004 Levy Ordinance

Superintendent Gurgone reported that the amount to be levied needs to be decided to determine if a Truth in Taxation notice is necessary. She stated that the district must publish a Truth in Taxation statement if the district is levying an amount 105% greater than the amount extended to the District last year. She further stated that if the district decides to levy an amount greater than 105%, the Truth in Taxation resolution needs to be passed and published in the newspaper, along with a hearing notice 7-14 days prior to the December 20th Board meeting.

Superintendent Gurgone reported that for the 2004 levy, the CPI is 1.90%. She stated that to be secure that all available tax funds will be received, staff recommends funds levied to operate the District be 20% over the 2003 tax extension, which would result in a 19% increase in operating funds over last year.

Executive Director Cripe stated that should the conditions change, any money over what is projected by staff would be used for capital purposes.

Superintendent Gurgone reported that the estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases represent a 14% increase over the previous year.

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Durkin to approve RESOLUTION 2004-05-04, A RESOLUTION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEARING COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED 2004 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Campagnolo, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

C. Discuss and Approve Personnel Policy: Grievance Procedure

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Grievance Procedure Policy identifies the appropriate action to be taken should an employee have a grievance that is not being addressed to their satisfaction by the supervisor. She stated that this policy was developed by PDRMA.

Executive Director Cripe stated that the policy is an update to the current policy.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to adopt the Darien Park District Grievance Procedure Policy developed by PDRMA and added to the personnel manual.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Campagnolo, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

D. Discuss and Approve IAPD Credentials to Attend Annual Meeting

Executive Director Cripe reported that a delegate and alternate are needed for the IAPD Annual Meeting.

Commissioner Durkin moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to appoint Executive Director Roy Cripe as delegate, Assistant Director Chris Katsougris as first alternate and Commissioner Shari Gillespie as second alternate to attend the IAPD Annual Meeting.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Campagnolo, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

E. Discuss and Approve Bylaw Change to Establish a Park Board Sportsplex Committee

Executive Director Cripe reported that the intention of establishing a Sportsplex Committee is to improve communication between the General Manager, Executive Director and the Board.

Commissioner Campagnolo stated that she was not in favor of adding another layer of bureaucracy. She stated that there is already under utilization of the present committees and that Sportsplex could be handled under the Finance or Recreation Committee. She further stated that in the future the Committees should have established dates and times.

Commissioner McGreal stated that the Committee would be a vehicle to resolve questions and provide more immediate direction to staff.

Commissioner Durkin moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve a bylaw change to establish a Park District Board Sportsplex Committee.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: Campagnolo
President Durkin declared the motion carried.

F. Discuss and Approve Amendments to Tree Memorial Policy

Superintendent Strickler reported that the amendments add to the current program. He stated that they are more user friendly and would be on display in the front lobby.

Commissioner Simester stated that he would provide Superintendent Strickler with an article from the *Parks & Recreation Magazine* regarding some legal issues that may be of interest.

Commissioner Campagnolo moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Durkin to approve the amendments to the Tree Memorial Policy.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

G. Discuss and Approve Beverage Vending Machine Contract

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the RFP was prepared and mailed to Pepsi Cola Bottling Company, American Bottling Company and Coca Cola Bottling Company for a beverage vending contract. She reported that Coca Cola Bottling Company was the lowest for the four most purchased products.

Executive Director Cripe reported that the RFP was competitively bid with Coca Cola providing the best price. He recommended that the contract be awarded to them and that he would have the contract at the next meeting providing detail on how it will be carried out.

Commissioner Gillespie expressed her disappointment with the service from Coca Cola.

Executive Director Cripe agreed and stated that the new contract would address those issues.

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Durkin to award the Darien Park District Vending Machine Contract bid to Coca Cola Bottling Company of Chicago.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

H. Discuss and Approve Darien Youth Club Contract for use of Sportsplex

Mr. Rob Sarocco, DYC President, stated that the DYC would not be using the 7:00 – 8:00 time. He stated that had to cut the Division II girls because there was lack of participation. Mr. Sarocco stated that they were down 300 registrants from last year and that he would contact General Manager Ghose as soon as he had a final count.

Commissioner Campagnolo stated that the Park District could never afford to run the programs that the DYC runs and that the DYC does a great service for the residents. She stated that the Park District has an obligation to the Darien clubs and that she was disturbed by the letter from the DYC. Commissioner Campagnolo stated that she did not want the issues to be on the backs of the Darien residents or the Darien clubs.

Commissioner McGreal reported that the DYC used 280 hours and that the same time is priced out at \$60,000 - \$70,000. He stated that the Board makes every attempt to make it possible so that every child in Darien is serviced.

Mr. Sarocco stated that the high school level is not serviced.

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Durkin to approve the Darien Youth Club (DYC) and the Sportsplex-Darien Park District agreement for field use at the Sportsplex for January 2005 – April 2005.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

I. Discuss and Approve Lacrosse America Contract for use of Sportsplex

Commissioner McGreal moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Durkin to approve the contract for the use of Darien Park District Sportsplex Facility to Lacrosse America from September 22, 2004 – March 12, 2005.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

J. Discuss and Approve Windy City Pride Contract for use of Sportsplex

General Manager Ghose reported that the soccer contract is from November 16, 2004 – March 9, 2005 at \$225 per hour.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the contract for the use of Darien Park District Sportsplex Facility to Windy City Pride from November 16, 2004- March 9, 2005.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Durkin, Gillespie, Campagnolo, McGreal, Simester

NAYS: None

President Durkin declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

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

President Durkin adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Jack Durkin, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District