

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

June 12, 2013

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Petry presided over the meeting.

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

Absent: Commissioner Timothy McMahon

Staff present: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Jan Plotner, Director of Finance, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, J. R. Pope, Superintendent of Planning and Operations, Laura Auteberry, Marketing and Development Director, Andrew Weiss, Park Planner, and Cindy Harvey, Executive Assistant/Assistant Secretary.

Max Geise, intern, and David Phillips, Speers Financial, Inc. were also present.

Call to Order

President Petry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Comments from the Public

President Petry called for comments from the public. There were none.

Communications

President Petry circulated the communications.

Re-order the Agenda

President Petry reported that David Phillips, Speers Financial, Inc., was in attendance to report to the Board on refinancing the General Obligation Bonds. He asked if there were any objections to reordering the agenda to consider the General Obligation Bond Issue after the Treasurer's Report. There were no objections from the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Consideration of Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the Month of May 2013

Treasurer Wackerlin presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2013. He stated that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. The motion passed 4-0.

Refinancing of General Obligation Bonds

Mr. Phillips reported that the Board received the information packet which is called the awards packet, a summation of the refinancing and pricing that took place this morning. He stated that the Park District's bonds were rated Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service. He reviewed the report from Moody's which is attached as a part of this record. Mr. Phillips reported that five bids were received and that BMO Capital Markets GKST Inc., Chicago, IL was the successful bidder at 2.6439%. The bid form and debt schedule were included in the packet of information. The Park District will see a savings of \$144,047.36. He reviewed the comparison of the debt service of the old bonds and the new bonds. The present value of the savings of \$144,047.36 is \$130,817.66 which calculates to an average savings of approximately \$12,000 per year.

Mr. Phillips recommended acceptance of the low bid and adoption of Ordinance No. 562. President Petry called for questions. He noted that the bids were open for 15 minutes. He stated that he was surprised no local banks bid. Mr. Phillips stated that Commerce Bank has a local office but that its bid was out of St. Louis. He reported that all local banks were given notice and the opportunity to bid.

Commissioner Kuhl commented that based on her experience in banking, local banks would not be interested in purchasing the entire issue but probably would buy some maturities from the winning bidder.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Herakovich stated that staff sent notices to local banks about the bond issue.

President Petry asked if the Park District had gone directly to local banks regarding this bond issue, would they have been interested in purchasing the entire issue. Commissioner Kuhl indicated she did not think so and that only one local bank was probably of the size that they would even look at the entire issue.

President Petry asked about restrictions on loans and bonds. Mr. Phillips stated that the Park District can do certificates but not loans in a typical commercial manner. He talked about the borrowing processes available to the Park District.

Vice President Griggs questioned Moody's average income assessment information. Mr. Phillips stated that this was not a detriment but a measuring point and is a factor which is not controlled by the Park District.

Consideration of Approval Accepting a Bid for Refinancing of the General Obligation Bonds

Ms. Herakovich recommended that the Board accept the low bid for refinancing the General Obligation Bonds from BMO Capital Markets GKST Inc., Chicago, IL at 2.6439%.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to approve accepting the low bid from BMO Capital Markets GKST Inc., Chicago, IL at 2.6439%. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval Adopting Ordinance No. 574 Initiating the 2013A General Obligation Bond Issue

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff recommended adoption of Ordinance No. 574, An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2013A, of the Champaign Park District, in Champaign County, Illinois, providing the details of such bonds and for alternate revenue sources and the levy of direct annual taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest of such bonds, and related matters.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 574. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Vice President Griggs – yes; President Petry – yes; and Commissioner Kuhl – yes. The motion passed 4-0. A copy of Ordinance No. 574 is attached to the minutes.

The Board thanked Mr. Phillips for his efforts on the bond issues. Mr. Phillips thanked Ms. Herakovich, Ms. Plotner and their staff for their assistance during this process.

Executive Director's Report

Volunteer of the Month

Leigh Kaiser was chosen as Volunteer of the Month for May. Ms. Kaiser volunteered over 600 hours for the last four Youth Theater programs. She attended all rehearsals for all four shows assisting with various duties and tasks. Ms. Kaiser was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a bag of goodies.

The Board thanked Ms. Kaiser for her efforts.

General Announcements

Ms. Herakovich reported that a Neighborhood Park Concert was held in Porter Park. The Adopt-A-Park group helped plan the event which was well attended. She reported that the Adopt-A-Park group has taken

on the task of raising funds to construct a bridge to the Pipeline Trail.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the fall event about Red Grange will held at the Virginia Theatre on August 23, 2013. Discussion ensued about what the event will entail and the history of Red Grange.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the renovation of Kaufman Lake roadway will begin soon. She also reported that staff is in the process of moving the playground in Centennial Park near the Rotary pavilion. The current playground area will be used as a staging area for Dodds Company's work on the new Leonhard Recreation Center. Ms. Herakovich reported that the parks look good and programs are underway.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the Community Coalition Group Committee, on which the Park District serves, is concerned about the recent violence in north Champaign. She stated that the Park District underwent a review of its emergency procedures. Charles Burton, Douglass Park Supervisor, serves on the committee. Mr. DeLuce and Ms. Herakovich meet with members of the committee as well.

Ms. Herakovich introduced Max Geise, part-time Landscape Worker. The Board welcomed Mr. Geise.

Ms. Herakovich updated the Board on a complaint from residents at Johnston Park. She stated that staff will bring their request to close the park at dusk instead of 11 p.m. back to the Board for consideration.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Kuhl asked if there could be a uniform policy regarding the hours for which parks are open. Ms. Herakovich stated that staff will bring a policy back to the Board for its consideration.

Report of Officers

Attorney's Report

Mr. Hall reported that he is working on the contract for the new Leonhard Recreation Center.

President's Report

President Petry thanked Vice President Griggs for running the meeting on June 5, 2013. He reported that he attended an IAPD Boot Camp in Schaumburg. President Petry informed the Board that one of his take-aways from this meeting was the severity of the punishment for a violation of the Open Meetings Act. He said that the Park District should continue to be cognizant of this Act and insure compliance with the Act.

President Petry updated the Board on discussion with Laurie Bonnett, President of the Unit 4 School Board, regarding any interest the School District might have in the existing Leonhard Recreation Center. He stated that Ms. Bonnett will follow up with Ms. Herakovich on her discussion with Unit 4 about the Leonhard Recreation building. President Petry reported that Unit 4 may also approach the Park District to see if there is interest for a public park site on a portion of the area selected for a new high school.

President Petry reported that Ms. Herakovich and he met with the Mayor and City Manager on May 29, 2013. Issues on the agenda that were addressed included the liquor license for Taste of Champaign-Urbana, a cultural arts district, and land cash donation ordinance. Ms. Herakovich stated that Parkland Way was discussed as well.

Consent Agenda

Vice President Petry stated that all items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon by one motion. If discussion is desired, that item shall be removed and discussed separately. The items are as follows:

1. Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting, May 8, 2013
2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, May 8, 2013
3. Addendum to the Agreement with Corkscrew Wine Emporium

Vice President Griggs made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

Consideration of Approval of Disbursements as of June 12, 2013

President Petry reported that staff recommended approval of disbursements for the period beginning May 9, 2013 and ending June 12, 2013.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve disbursements for the period beginning May 9, 2013 and ending June 12, 2013. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Refurbishment of the Lindsay Tennis Courts

President Petry reported that staff recommended approval of a bid for refurbishment of the Lindsay Tennis Courts.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to award the bid for crack-filling and re-coloring of the Lindsay Tennis Courts to Harris Barrier Corp. in the amount of \$73,866 and authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Accessible Safety Surface for Centennial Playground

President Petry reported that staff recommended approval of a bid for accessible safety surface for Centennial playground.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to award the bid for installation of the poured-in-place accessible rubber safety surfacing and stone sub-base for the Centennial playground and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with low bidder, Spectra Contract Flooring of Valley View, Ohio, in the amount of \$49,990. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of Ordinance No. 573: Prevailing Wage

President Petry reported that staff recommended that the Board adopt Ordinance No. 573 declaring the prevailing wage rates for the ensuing year to be the same as those fixed for Champaign County by the Illinois Department of Labor.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 573 declaring the prevailing wage rates as stated above. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval Authorizing the Submittal of an Application for 2013 OSLAD Funding

President Petry reported that staff recommended submitting an application for 2013 OSLAD funding.

Mr. Weiss reported that the deadline for the OSLAD grant application is July 1, 2013. He stated that staff is requesting approval to submit an application for Douglass Park redevelopment. Mr. Weiss reported that the submittal would include an estimate of the amenities that could be included in the park.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Solon discussed the group interested in an additional ballfield. Commissioner Kuhl stated that some Board Members and staff met with Douglass seniors a year and half ago. At that time, the seniors requested several amenities for the park. She commented that if the Park District receives a grant, it will not be notified until July 2014 and that construction would not occur until after that timeframe. Commissioner Kuhl stated that staff will need to communicate with the Douglass area residents about the Park District plans for the park.

Vice President Griggs feels that if the Park District communicates with the Douglass residents this will not be an issue. Discussion ensued about the request for horseshoe pits at the park. It was determined that this amenity could be removed from the grant application and installed separately.

President Petry asked staff if they were confident that \$600,000 was enough to complete the improvements to Douglass Park. Mr. Weiss stated that it depends on the scale of the proposed spray park.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Weiss reported that the Park District over sampled the neighbors at Douglass and Spalding Parks during the Community Needs Assessment Survey. He stated that staff will hold a neighborhood meeting with Douglass residents to get feedback on the proposed improvements to the park.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to authorize staff to submit an application for the 2013 OSLAD funding for Douglass Park redevelopment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of an Approval of an Agreement between the City of Champaign and the Champaign Park District for the Community Matters Program

President Petry reported that staff recommended approval of the Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Champaign and the Park District for the Community Matters Program. The term of the agreement is from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to approve an agreement between the City and Park District for the Community Matters Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Consideration of Approval of a Site Plan for Current Leonhard Recreation Center and Determination to Demolish the Existing Building

Mr. Weiss presented the possibilities for the proposed site plan for the current Leonhard Recreation Center location if the site were to be demolished. He noted that the drawings were authored by Max Geise. Mr. Weiss presented drawings depicting gathering space and support facilities to the Lindsay Tennis Center. The development could provide restrooms, storage, small concession area, meeting room, shaded areas, and additional sport amenities. In addition, the design features two nearby sand volleyball courts, a central plaza with raised planting bed, shade trees, and new accessible walkways connecting to existing adjacent sidewalks. The landscaping would tie in and transition into elements of the Lindsay New American Gardens both in material and appropriate planting palette. The proposed development would be in the \$250,000 price range. The design presented was schematic only. Site topography and potential demolition issues would require more detailed design and engineering consulting.

Mr. DeLuce noted that the Lindsay Tennis courts are home to Central and Centennial High School teams and the Park District's programs.

Commissioner Solon noted that sand volleyball courts were once removed due to lack of use. Ms. Herakovich noted that this is a program trend (with the advent of the Olympic sport) to which the Park District is responding. She noted that this was an exploratory matter to gauge interest conceptually.

Commissioner Solon suggested that the Board not take action on this item but wait until Commissioner McMahon is in attendance as this was one of his priorities.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Old Business

None

Discussion Items

Hessel Park Pavilion Landscape Design

Ms. Herakovich reported that it has been one of the Commissioners' and staffs' goals to renovate older parks if feasible to do so. Ms. Herakovich reported that Hessel Park is one of the District's most heavily used parks. She stated that work began with the pavilion, the pathway and the bathroom.

Mr. Weiss presented the proposed landscape design for Hessel Park which will take place in the fall. The scope of work will include accessible paths and grilling areas, flanking terraces and seat walls, and landscaping and drainage improvements to give the pavilion a more monumental, featured, presence in

the park. The Bocce Courts are shown for reference only and are not considered as part of the pavilion landscape design. However if and when Bocce Ball increases in popularity, this design could be utilized to determine what the courts would look like if added. The drawings were prepared by Max Geise

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the proposed landscape design for Hessel Park.

Board Priorities

Ms. Herakovich reported that staff took the Commissioners priorities and tallied them.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to table this item until Commissioner McMahon could be present. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. Discussion ensued.

President Petry commented that a lot of good input was received from Commissioners. He stated that now it is incumbent upon Commissioners to communicate effectively with staff to understand which priorities are considered high priority action items to be accomplished within the next two years.

Vice President Griggs reported that he has information on leadership that he would like to share with the Board.

Discussion ensued. It was suggested that the categories be reduced to possibly four and a more detailed discussion take place at the next Board meeting.

Comments from Commissioners

Vice President Griggs reported that the CCDC Board met and that it is very close to resolving the trail matter with Vermilion County. Commissioner Solon reported that she attend the concert in Hessel Park on Sunday and enjoyed the music. Commissioner Kuhl echoed David Phillips comments to staff on how they handled the Bond issue. She thanked Treasurer Wackerlin for bringing the matter to the Board's attention and pushing the idea forward. Commissioner Kuhl noted that by moving forward it saved the taxpayers money. The Board thanked Treasurer Wackerlin and staff on their efforts.

Commissioner Griggs commended staff on the monthly report included in the packet. Ms. Herakovich asked the Board Members to let her know if they had any comments or suggestions on the report.

Closed Session

Commissioner Solon made a motion as set forth below to convene in Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Griggs. The motion passed 4-0. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Vice President Griggs – yes; President Petry – yes; and Commissioner Kuhl – yes. The Board convened in Closed Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2(c)(1) for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body.

Return to Regular Meeting

Following the adjournment of the Closed Session, the Board reconvened in open meeting.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Solon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Approved:

Joseph A. Petry, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary