

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 26, 2013

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at 6:00 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, Jane Solon and Timothy McMahon, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin and Attorney Guy Hall.

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

Call to Order

President Petry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Comments from the Public

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

Action Items

Consideration of Approval of a Bid for Virginia Theatre Projection Room Renovation

President Petry reported that this item was for consideration and action upon a bid for Virginia Theatre projection room renovation.

Ms. Herakovich reported that the scope of work includes tile roof replacement, eave and gutter replacement, new follow spotlight positions within the projection room, additional projector position and window, as well as new wall and flooring finishes. She stated that staff recommended accepting the low bid for the Virginia Theatre projection room renovation with Otis Construction Company of Chicago, IL in the amount of \$179,000 and authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to accept the low base bid for the projection room renovation and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Otis Construction Company of Chicago, IL in the amount of \$179,000. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Board Priorities

Ms. Herakovich reported that this item was discussed previously by the Board. She stated that President Petry and she worked on condensing the categories and priorities.

President Petry presented the proposed summary of discussion of Board priorities for FY13-15. He reported that he made changes to the Virginia Theatre Item priorities based on comments by the Board. President Petry stated that priorities are designed to be a working document that the Park District feels very comfortable with. He stated that it is important to have a strong consensus going forward. President Petry reported that if anyone wants to add, subtract or make clarifications they are welcome to do so. The proposed priorities include three categories: land acquisition plan; park and facility development and Virginia Theatre. Park and facility development largely entails completion of new Leonhard Recreation Center, determine the disposition of the existing Leonhard Recreation Center, complete redevelopment of Spalding and Douglass Parks, and determine if an additional swimming pool is needed, and if so, a suitable location. He stated that the idea would be to have a

study session or significant meetings on each of these major topics so that the Board can come to a consensus on implementing action on each of them.

President Petry reported that time was spent addressing what should be on the list, what are considered action items, and what are best practices to continually do regardless of whether they are on the list. He reported that efficiency and effectiveness measurements and benchmarks, and board and staff communications have been included as “Best Practices.” Other items included as “Best Practices” include staff retention and succession, staff and Board training and maintaining the District’s parks and facilities at the high levels our residents have come to enjoy and expect. Some of the Board priorities cover topics such as, follow up session with Peter Murphy in the fall and potentially a coach or motivational speaker at the December meeting. He asked for feedback from the Board.

Discussion ensued about what should and should not be included in the documents, and whether the document should be general or specific. Based on the discussion and comments by the Board, it was the consensus of the Board that the “Best Practices” be revised to include the word “regular” before “board and staff communication and development”, and add the word “trails” in the sentence about maintaining the District’s parks.

Ms. Herakovich noted that the Board priorities are to be completed in two years and that staff is working on a strategic plan until 2020 which will include more specific items that are measurable. She stated that staff wanted to highlight what the Board priorities are so that staff could have better direction.

Commissioner Kuhl stated that she understands these items will be on a study session on a routine basis. Based on a comment by Commissioner Solon about trails, it was noted that trials will be discussed in more detail during the discussion of the proposed strategic plan. It was also noted when the Board addresses parks one of the items for consideration under land acquisition will be a nature center.

President Petry asked the Board if the proposed document was acceptable. Commissioner Kuhl suggested that the wording in the document be enhanced and offered to help do so. She also questioned whether the Board wanted to approve the document prior to reviewing the proposed strategic plan.

It was the consensus of the Board that the document be further refined and revised, and reviewed along with the strategic plan to ensure that the documents are consistent.

Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to table the mater for further review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion Items

New Leonhard Recreation Center Consideration of Additional Costs

Ms. Herakovich reported that this item is a follow up at the Board request. She stated that staff has put together a report of additional costs that can be anticipated to be needed to complete the new Leonhard Recreation Center.

Mr. Weiss summarized the additional anticipated costs for the new Leonhard Recreation Center. He noted that the largest additional cost will be for the fixtures, furniture, and equipment. Additional costs are for remaining architect’s fee; permit, utility and engineering fees; and landscaping and plant material. Mr. Weiss noted that the landscaping will be installed by the Operations Department.

Commissioner Solon asked if labor costs were included in the proposed costs for landscaping. Mr. Weiss responded, "no." She questioned why such costs were not accounted for here. Ms. Herakovich stated that labor costs have not been included because the plan for landscaping has not been completed. However, once the plan has been completed staff will determine what the cost will be to implement the plan.

Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board that if a decision is made to demolish the existing Leonhard Recreation Center those costs should be included as part of the overall costs for the new Leonhard Recreation Center.

Ms. Herakovich reported that this report was informational only to inform the Board about the additional costs other than the building construction cost associated with the new Leonhard Recreation Center.

The existing Leonhard Recreation Center will be placed on an upcoming agenda for discussion.

Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Solon reported that her son and she visited Sunset Ridge Park. The park looks great and she likes the orientation of the benches which provide a nice view of the sunset. Commissioner Solon questioned whether the seeding will take. She noted that the skate area is impressive.

Commissioner Kuhl commended staff on a great job with the Taste of Champaign-Urbana (Taste). Ms. Herakovich stated that it was staff dedication and volunteer time which make Taste work. She stated that without the volunteers it would not have been possible. Ms. Herakovich thanked Commissioner Solon for volunteering to sell tickets.

President Petry thanked staff for a great job at Taste especially for taking the risk to sell beer. He also thanked Vice President Griggs for the boardsmanship and leadership articles he provided to the Board.

Closed Session

Commissioner Solon made a motion as set forth below to convene in Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. The motion passed 5-0. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Commissioner McMahon – 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.

Closed Session Action Items

No action was taken on any items discussed in Closed Session.

Comments from Commissioners

None

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Solon made a motion to adjourn the Special Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahon. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved:

Joseph A. Petry, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary