

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

December 10, 2014

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 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 S. Griggs, Commissioners Jane L. Solon, and Timothy P. McMahon, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin and Attorney Guy Hall.

Absent: Commissioner Barbara J. Kuhl.

Staff present: Joseph DeLuce, Executive Director, Cindy Harvey, Assistant to the Executive Director/Board Secretary, Andrea Wallace, Director of Finance, Kevin Crump, Director of Operations and Planning, Jameel Jones, Director of Cultural Arts, Tammy Hoggatt, Director of Human Resources, Shane Coats, Sports and Aquatics Coordinator, Katie Hicks, Douglass Park Program Coordinator, Shannon Meissner, Youth Programs Coordinator, and Stacey Cornell, Administrative Specialist.

Several members of the public were in attendance. Tim Mitchell, a reporter with the News-Gazette, was also present.

Call to Order

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

CPD Highlights

None.

Comments from the Public

Dean Ekberg, 1615 East Lake of the Woods Court, Mahomet, IL, addressed the Board regarding the McKinley Aquatics Center. He stated he is the Head Swim Coach for Mahomet-Seymour High School that currently uses and enjoys the facility located on Church Street. Mr. Ekberg reported there is discussion of the McKinley Aquatics Center closing and he would prefer to see it remain open. He stated he coached the Master's swim team and was an age group coach for the Heat when the YMCA owned the building. He is of the opinion that the McKinley Aquatics Center is a benefit to the people in central Champaign who cannot get to the new YMCA. Mr. Ekberg stated that swimming is great exercise. He commented that it would be fantastic if the Champaign Park District could get involved and keep the McKinley Aquatics Center open.

Judy Gamble, 2107 Grange Drive, Urbana, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. She stated she became acquainted with deep water exercise when she was approximately 55 years of age, and she is now 75. Ms. Gamble proceeded to demonstrate the equipment she uses for deep water exercise.

Theresa W. Truelove, 508 South McKinley Avenue, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. She joined the YMCA in 1985, and she learned to appreciate the warm pool. Ms. Truelove stated she cannot tolerate the 80 degree water temperature in the lap pool. The other pools in town are too shallow to do deep water exercise.

Al Kagan, 310 West Hill Street, #1E, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. He stated he started going there 5-6 years ago when it was the YMCA. Mr. Kagan commented he currently attends 3-4 times per week and enjoys the 90 degree water. He stated that you cannot find that anywhere else in town. He hopes the Park District can step in to make it a public facility.

Glenn Rasmussen, 802 West Healey Street, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. He stated he is a 70 year old Vietnam combat veteran. The past three years he has used the deep water aerobics class. Mr. Rasmussen commented that the McKinley members are paying a higher cost of membership than those at comparable facilities. He stated it is a unique facility. Mr. Rasmussen asked the Board to assume the facility for at least a year.

Cathy Harper, 604 West Washington Street, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. It is used by wrestlers, has a gym and could be an additional facility for the Park District. It is not just older people who use it, but many young people swim and it can be used year round. The building does need modifications. If the Park District cannot use it, then she stated it would be great if the Park District would build a new facility. She asked the Board to consider it.

Ruth Latham, 1615 West Union Street, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. She commented that she learned to swim there. Ms. Latham stated she uses the deep water with barbells and does kicking. She asked the Board to please consider the facility.

Ramona Curry, 602 West Washington Street, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. She stated she has an interest in the neighborhood and the facility. The neighborhood is historical and diverse. In her opinion, it is a core of Champaign that needs Park District investment. She stated she wanted to add to what the others said and speak of the social aspect. It is an important social resource.

Joe Fejes, 1612 Crabapple Lane, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. He drives to McKinley almost every day. Mr. Fejes stated he was on the YMCA board for ten years. He believes it is a part of the community that affects numerous people.

Astrid Berkson, 12 Stanford Place, Champaign, addressed the Board in support of the McKinley Aquatics Center. She stated she lives closer to the new YMCA than the old one. The new YMCA has water that is mostly three feet deep and the area is very small. She is hopeful the Park District can keep the McKinley facility open.

President Petry thanked all individuals for their comments.

Presentations

Proposed Conceptual Design for Spalding Park Improvements, BLDD Architects

Mark Ritz and Caleb Walder from BLDD Architects, presented a proposed conceptual design for Spalding Park improvements and responded to questions from the Board. The design of the proposed Spalding Park recreation center has goals of serving as a gateway to the park and the complete integration of it with the park as a whole. Two options were presented for Board consideration. The one story 20,000 square foot facility outlined contained a lobby, reception area, multi-purpose room, kitchen, meeting space and gym. The existing parking lot would be expanded to include a drop off area. Mr. Walder showed a video of both concepts. Mr. Ritz stated the cost estimate for the 20,000 square foot building was \$3.4 million and \$5.1 for the

30,000 square foot building. Those amounts were for only the building and did not include the outdoor amenities. The facility would have a full-size basketball court. President Petry inquired about the size and cost if a pool or pools were installed instead of a gym. Mr. Ritz stated he could provide that information.

President Petry thanked Mr. Ritz and Mr. Walder for their presentation.

Washington Park Easement, Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District

Rick Manner from the Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District gave a presentation regarding the proposed Washington Park easement and responded to questions from the Board. He distributed a map showing the proposed route for a forcemain sewer that would cross through Washington Park. Mr. Manner stated there is currently a diagonal wear trail and a sidewalk could be installed during rehabilitation of the site. He is hoping to come to the next Board meeting with an easement proposal. Commissioner Solon inquired if the permanent easement needed to be 20 feet in width. Mr. Manner stated that it helps from a maintenance standpoint and it is a standard width. Attorney Hall stated that there is a deed restriction that the property must be used for a public park. President Petry inquired if a recreation center or other park related building would be prohibited. Attorney Hall stated a building could be erected if it is owned by the Park District. Commissioner Solon questioned if the sidewalk would prohibit certain activities in the park. President Petry inquired if input had been gathered from the neighbors. Mr. DeLuce stated it had not been.

Mr. Manner stated that during construction the neighbors would be kept informed. Commissioner Solon inquired about the timing of the work. Mr. Manner stated that as much as possible would be done during May through August of 2015. If not completed, some work may need to be done in summer 2016. Commissioner McMahan inquired what would happen if a tree dies a year later after planting. Attorney Hall stated that provisions would be made for that. Mr. Manner commented that the sidewalk width could be increased from five feet and curves added. The rehabilitation would be done to Park District standards. Mr. Crump stated that the most worn area of the park is the diagonal path. Most rentals take place on the north half of the park unless they involve sand volleyball. He thought a diagonal sidewalk in that area made sense. President Petry polled the Board members to get their opinion on the easement. Both Vice President Griggs and Commissioner McMahan were comfortable with it. Commissioner Solon thought that in general it was a satisfactory idea. She stated she would feel better talking to the fraternities and sororities to see how they feel about a diagonal sidewalk. Commissioner Solon also stated that it would incur maintenance costs of snow removal in winter and repairs as needed. Mr. DeLuce stated the fraternities and sororities input would be sought.

President Petry thanked Mr. Manner for his presentation.

Communications

President Petry circulated the communications.

Treasurer's Report

Consideration of Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2014

Treasurer Wackerlin presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2014. He stated that the Park District's finances have been reviewed and found to be in appropriate order.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2014. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Executive Director's Report

Staff Introductions

Mr. DeLuce introduced Shannon Meissner, Youth Programs Coordinator, and Shane Coats, Sports and Aquatics Coordinator. Mr. Jones introduced Katie Hicks, Douglass Park Program Coordinator.

Volunteer of the Month

Mr. Jones reported that Erin Rypka was chosen as November Volunteer of the Month. She was recognized for her efforts as a costumer with the youth theatre program. Ms. Rypka was in attendance and was presented with a bag of gifts in appreciation.

The Board thanked Ms. Rypka for her efforts.

Diversity Committee Update

Ms. Hoggatt presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. She stated the committee consists of six staff. A survey was done and staff members were to list three things they could begin doing in their jobs to aid the Park District. A majority said they needed to get to know other staff members better. Ms. Hoggatt plans to use staff trainings to bring staff together in an enjoyable manner. A diversity plan is also being developed that will include minority hiring practices. Currently 17% of full-time staff are African American and 5% are Asian. The United States Census for the City of Champaign is 12.8% of the population is African American. Vice President Griggs inquired if the employee goals would be shared. Ms. Hoggatt stated she would provide those for distribution to the Board. President Petry inquired what the census figures were for Asians and Hispanics. Ms. Hoggatt did not know but would find out and provide that information. Currently, there are no full-time Hispanic employees.

Trails Master Plan Update

Mr. DeLuce presented the staff report. He stated the steering committee for the trails master plan had its first meeting on December 4th. The committee is comprised of two staff from the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Andrew Weiss (Champaign Park District Lead Park Planner), Max Geise (Champaign Park District Park Planner), Commissioner McMahan, Ben Leroy (City of Champaign Associate Planner), Joe Rank (Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District Planner), Nikki Hillier (Champaign Urbana Public Health District Program Coordinator), Jeff Yockey (President of Champaign County Bikes) and himself. Mr. DeLuce stated that project scope, timeline, definition of public engagement strategy, and data collection were discussed. Park District staff will develop a trails logo. He also reported the project start date may be delayed due to the start of winter. The committee's next meeting is April 2nd. Mr. DeLuce stated there would be opportunities for updates to be provided throughout the process.

Douglass Park Improvements Update

Mr. Crump and Ms. Wallace presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. Mr. Crump stated the Dodds Company completed its part of the project on November 21st. The safety surface under the playground should be completed by the end of the week. The outdoor fitness equipment has been received and placement will be made during the winter or spring. All park lighting is complete. Items yet to be done are the repositioning of the batting cages, adding horseshoe pits, and landscaping. He commented that the neighbors are excited about the improvements. A grand opening will be held in the spring. Ms. Wallace reported that projected costs are \$1,019,570. Approximately \$42,000 in expenditures were for change orders. She noted the final bill from the Dodds Company had not been received and was not included. Ms. Wallace stated that staff labor related to the installation of the playground equipment was tracked and totaled \$11,406. That amount will increase in the spring. She stated the grant auditors were able to begin but they cannot submit their report until the project is 100% complete. Ms. Wallace anticipates the project to finish slightly over budget.

Report of Officers

Attorney's Report-Ordinance No. 591

Attorney Hall recommended approval of Ordinance No. 591, Annexing Territory Pursuant to Petition (311 Staley Road; 306 and 308 Tiffany Court; 3001 W. Bradley Avenue; and 3013 W. Bradley Avenue).

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 591. A copy of the ordinance is attached to the minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

President's Report

President Petry stated Mr. DeLuce and he attended "Leading People Through Change"; the last session of the Illinois Association of Park Districts Leadership Institute. The institute was very useful and worthwhile. President Petry reported he had met with Jim Acheson and Barb Leach regarding the McKinley Aquatics Center. He also toured the facility with Leon Jeske. President Petry stated the dates for filing the necessary forms to run in the election for Park Board Commissioner are December 15-22.

Consent Agenda

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. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, November 12, 2014
2. Approval of Board Meeting Dates for 2015

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

Approval of Disbursements as of November 13, 2014

Staff recommended the approval of disbursements for the period beginning November 13, 2014 and ending December 10, 2014.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to approve the list of disbursements for the period beginning November 13, 2014 and ending December 10, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahan. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Bid to Purchase a Stump Grinder

Staff recommended that the Board accept the bid and authorize the purchase of one new Vermeer SC372 Stump Grinder from Vermeer Sales and Service in the amount of \$29,337.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to accept the bid and authorize the purchase of one new Vermeer SC372 Stump Grinder from Vermeer Sales and Service in the amount of \$29,337. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Bids for 2015 Bedding Plants

Mr. Crump presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. He stated the bids for bedding plants are divided into three orders with the contracts awarded to separate vendors to minimize the risk of disease damaging all of one nursery and having no alternative.

Mr. Crump commented that his remark was based on an incident that did happen in the past since this has been Park District policy for several years. Attorney Hall stated that using the responsibility factor he did not see an issue with the bid process.

Commissioner Solon made a motion that the Board accept the bids and authorize the Executive Director to execute contracts to purchase 2015 bedding plants as follows: Park Flower Order for 2,615 flats to Ropps Flower Factory for a total of \$37,120; Flower Island Order #1 for 2,287 flats to Jones Country Gardens for a total of \$37,289; and Flower Island Order #2 for 688 flats to Connie's Country Greenhouse for a total of \$10,200. The total cost of the three orders for 2015 will be \$84,609 and funds will be allocated in the FY15-16 operating budget. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of a Request for Proposal for Virginia Theatre Sound System and Acoustics

Mr. Crump presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. Two proposals were received. Mr. Crump stated that the firm would not be paid a percentage of the cost of the work and \$55,000 would be the total amount. He stated that the work is very specialized and this contributed to there being few bids. Mr. DeLuce reported that both firms that submitted proposals were subcontracting to Threshold Acoustics. References were checked and all were satisfied. Mr. Crump stated that Threshold Acoustics is one of the leaders in theatre sound systems.

Commissioner Solon made a motion that the Board accept the proposal and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the low, responsive firm, BLDD Architects of Champaign, Illinois, in the amount of \$55,000 for the design work of the Virginia Theatre Sound System project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahon. The motion passed 3-0 (President Petry stepped out of the meeting at 8:43 p.m. and returned at 8:44 p.m.).

Approval of Bid for Sholem Pool Filter and Chlorine System Improvements

Mr. Crump presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. He stated contractors must be licensed in the State of Illinois and certified by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The improvements will help maintain water quality.

Vice President Griggs made a motion that the Board accept the bid and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the low, responsive bidder, Spears Corporation of Roachdale, Indiana, in the amount of \$110,136 for the Sholem pool filter and chlorine system improvements project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Extension of Agreement with Carle Foundation for Parking at Tennis Center

Staff recommended that the Board approve renewing the License Agreement with The Carle Foundation for parking spaces adjacent to the Dodds Tennis Center for an additional three year term commencing December 1, 2014 and expiring November 30, 2017.

Vice President Griggs made a motion to approve renewing the License Agreement with The Carle Foundation for parking spaces adjacent to the Dodds Tennis Center for an additional three year term commencing December 1, 2014 and expiring November 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Policies

Ms. Hoggatt presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Board. She stated the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was signed into law in 2010 to provide affordable healthcare to citizens. The Park District is considered a large employer under the law. The Park District must comply, beginning with the start of its 2015 health plan year, which is March 1. At least 70% of staff that qualify must have health insurance in 2015 or the Park

District is subject to penalties of up to \$2,000 per full-time employee in excess of 80 employees. Employees who work 30 hours per week on average year round or 1,560 hours in a year qualify. Ms. Hoggatt stated it would be most beneficial for the Park District to have a one year measurement period. Attachment B outlined the measurement period as 2014. An administrative period would follow from January 1-February 28, 2015. Employees who qualify would be put on the health insurance plan beginning March 1 for one year. New staff would have their own measurement period. Attachment A outlined current and proposed employee classifications. Ms. Hoggatt stated that currently there are ten regular part-time positions approved by the Board. All are scheduled to work 30 hours or more, and are thus eligible for health insurance. One is a Champaign-Urbana Special Recreation (CUSR) employee and the cost would affect that budget. Another employee is grandfathered and already on the health insurance plan. Eight employees would need to be provided health insurance beginning March 1, 2015 at an estimated cost of \$59,168 based upon current rates. The impact on the CUSR budget would be \$7,396.

Ms. Hoggatt stated that the employees would not have to be added the first year since the Park District does cover 70% of its staff. If any of these employees use the health insurance exchange for coverage, the Park District would get a \$3,000 fine per employee. Currently, full-time employees not utilizing Park District health insurance who show proof of coverage receive \$2,000 per year as opt-out compensation. That may be an issue to address. Ms. Hoggatt reported staff received assistance from Wells Fargo. Commissioner Solon commented on her preference to discuss this item in a study session, with a chart of the costs as well as pros and cons. She inquired if the reclassification of employees would affect any other benefits. Ms. Hoggatt reported the only employees affected by the insurance mandate are currently regular part-time and their other benefits would not change. She stated a decision could be deferred until January with the issue having an absolute deadline of March 1, 2015. Mr. DeLuce stated that he would have staff create charts with the pros, cons and costs. It would also be determined if the affected employees could take the health insurance coverage or receive opt-out compensation.

It was the consensus of the Board to defer action on this item.

Discussion Items

None.

Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Solon reported the Parks Foundation voted at their last meeting to proceed with having a car raffle fundraiser next year. Parks Foundation Board members with terms expiring in 2015 are to let the chair know if they would like to serve another term. There are also two vacancies on the Foundation Board.

Commissioner Solon commented that the musical *From Here to Eternity* at the Virginia Theatre was a great event.

Executive Session

Commissioner Solon moved as set forth below to convene in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 4-0. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; Vice President Griggs – yes; and President Petry – yes. The Board convened into Executive Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS 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; 120/2(c)(5) for the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body; 120/2(c)(6) for the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

Return to Regular Meeting

Following the adjournment of the Executive 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 Commissioner McMahon. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Approved:

Joseph A. Petry, President

Cindy Harvey, Secretary