

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE PALATINE PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE PALATINE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER, IN SAID DISTRICT, AT 505 S. QUENTIN ROAD, PALATINE, ILLINOIS ON NOVEMBER 14, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.

These Minutes are not a verbatim record of what was said during the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER @ 7:30P.M.

Commissioners Present

John Cozza, President
Andrew McPherson, Treasurer
Jennifer Rogers
Susan Gould

Commissioners Absent

Robert Schultz

Staff Present

Ron Gbur, Executive Director
Debbie Smith, Supt. of Finance & Personnel
Pat Moser, Supt. of Parks & Planning
Raul Zaldivar, Supt. of Revenue Facilities
Tina Becke, Asst. Supt. of Finance
Donelda Danz, Asst. Supt. of Recreation
Pam Stoltz, Recreation Manager

Brad Helms, Golf Course Supt.
Dan Hotchkin, Head Golf Pro
Eric Klebosits, Asst. Golf Pro
Toni Bruns, Stables Manager
Bonnie Bennett, Secretary
Keith Williams, Supt. of Recreation (arrived later)

Citizens and Guests

Bob Alexander, PGHA
Scott Jacobs, PBA
Betty Framm, PIAC
Pamela Olander, PIAC/Patten House Task Force

Sarah Bowers, PIAC
Jerry Balcer
Tom Howard

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Gould moved, and Commissioner McPherson seconded, that the Board approve the meeting's Agenda. Upon a voice vote, the Agenda for the regular meeting of November 14, 2006 was approved as submitted.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza
NAY: None
ABSENT: Robert Schultz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 24, 2006. Upon a voice vote, the minutes of the prior meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza
NAY: None
ABSENT: Robert Schultz

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Finance and Personnel Department Report. Smith highlighted that the AEK conversion is going slower than staff had hoped it would; a Celtic Soccer registrar brought flowers to several registration and tech staff to thank them for all their work with the soccer program - it was very nice of them to show their appreciation; the check printing problems experienced due to the AEK conversion seem to have been resolved.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Recreation Department Report. Danz highlighted two Special Events; the annual *Halloween Party* had an increase in attendance this year, and the *Howl-O-Ween Party* – a new event – had forty-four 4-legged participants even with the bad weather. President Cozza noted that Cutting Hall has a full schedule for the upcoming month.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed 2006 Annual Pool Report. Danz highlighted that there were no serious accidents or paramedic calls this season which she credited to great staff (238), and good work with training and preparation before and during the season; facilities and staff got another perfect audit from MRMA; Learn-to-Swim revenues/expenses are part of the Pool Fund. Gbur said that the community thinks that the pool staff does a good job; Danz does an excellent job with her staff. President Cozza said that the Board never hears anything bad about the pool staff.

Responding to President Cozza, Gbur said that there were no more Departmental Reports.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

President Cozza recognized representatives from PIAC/Patten House Task Force. Ms. Sarah Bowers of Evanston distributed copies of PIAC’s PowerPoint presentation (copy attached to official minutes) and thanked the Board for continuing dialogue regarding the Patten House. In highlighting the presentation Ms. Bower noted that many park districts were proponents of Arts agencies and have partnerships with local Arts councils; Arts and cultural centers boost the economy of towns and local businesses; \$36 billion has been generated through the arts, e.g. grant making, facility management, programming, etc.; growth in local arts agencies has increased almost ten-fold; keeping open space and the arts are of interest to the Palatine community; various Patten House events, programming, and rental options could generate revenue; and, the Patten House could become part of a cultural arts “campus” along with

Cutting Hall and the Clayson House. After responding to some questions regarding other suburban cultural centers, both park district partnerships and private, Ms. Bowers thanked the Board for their time and interest.

President Cozza recognized PBA Board president Scott Jacobs. Jacobs gave an overview of the 2006 Palatine Baseball Association Year-end Review which had been previously distributed. He highlighted the number of players (641), teams (54), ages served (7th grade through 27 years), number of fields used (9 PPD, 1 Rolling Meadows), and number of volunteers (18 Board members – 106 managers/coaches); PBA has new Website linked to Park District's site; did first participants survey this year with good results – communication and value were positives, need for more practices and more time under lights at Hamilton were challenges. Responding to questions, Jacobs said that spring is the biggest challenge due to weather, once games start they take precedence over practices; high school fields no longer available to them as 211 has gone to having their own summer league teams using the fields; games scheduled at 6 and 8:15 at Hamilton, lights go off at 10:30 – hard to move forward on week nights; focusing on working more with PYB/S regarding age/grade issue, fifteen years old but not in high school, but must be consistent with other leagues; issue applies more to travel teams than in-house play; only aware of one noise complain regarding one of the girls' teams which was addressed. Williams said that the Park District will facilitate the meetings with these two affiliate groups. Commissioner McPherson said that we appreciate all that they do for the kids and the community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed a previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to a Truth in Taxation Resolution. Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded, that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt Resolution #06-10 determining the estimated percentage increase in the proposed aggregate levy of real estate taxes (4.0%) in accordance with the Truth in Taxation Law. Referring to an email memo (copy attached to official minutes), Gbur explained how we arrived at that figure and his proposal of a projected tax rate of 45.5¢ to maintain the current level of maintenance and service as well as accomplish approved Goals & Objectives projects. Commissioner McPherson asked if it can be changed in two weeks when the Board addresses the Tax Levy Ordinance. Gbur responded said that we can adjust the Bond & Interest Fund but we have a lot of bond dollars out there; some can be paid from the Corporate Fund but then not all of the G & O's can be done; Gbur explained how much revenue declines with each penny the rate is lowered. Smith said that she has spoken with Palatine Township and Eric Anderson but even they are giving an educated guess to how much the triennial reassessment will affect the EAV – it normally goes down during reassessment years then build up again; the proposed cap on reassessments makes it an even more different equation. Commissioner McPherson said he would like to see it at 44.5¢. Discussion ensued regarding reduction through the abatement of bonds, basic numbers will not change, the expiration of the local TIF's and future projects, e.g. Falcon Park, possibility of incorporating golf course expenses as other park districts do. Gbur said that the Resolution needs to be approved at this meeting. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed informational Board Summary pertaining to a Metro Risk Management Agency update. Smith introduced MRMA Risk Manager Chris Johlle who explained to the Board the 28% cost increase was necessary due to the need to build up current cash reserves required by our underwriters; he was leaving MRMA to return full-time to his practice of law; enjoyed working with MRMA and staff; there are still unresolved claims, and though Elk Grove is not longer a part of the group, they are still responsible for their outstanding claims; he thinks MRMA can grow, adding a few more park districts is realistic and would be to current park district member's advantage; lot of benefit belonging to a smaller group, e.g. making own decisions, however bottom line would improve with a few more members; a source for members would be PDMRA or IPRA; former manger Toloken had put together some marketing materials but accomplishing this would be more of a networking type of approach. Smith said that the three members had this as an objective this year along with cleaning up all claims. Discussion ensued regarding options if MRMA becomes financially unfeasible, increased money in reserves would be divided among the participating park districts on the same percentage basis; PTSCC no longer under the plan as they are a self-governing/operating organization, provide Certificate of Insurance to us because we own building; Johlle will remain until MRMA has someone in place. Johlle was thanked for his service.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed 2007 Golf Course Budget. Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Gould seconded, that the Board approve the 2007 Golf Course budget. Commissioner McPherson said he had no problem with the budget, some things were different but the GC staff is on top of these things; would like to talk about some type of discount pass/rewards/incentive/frequent player program. Some discussion ensued pertaining to: a suggestion for buy ten, get one; a previous discount card offer not very successful, not used by PHGA members and does not include Permanent Tee Times or weekend play which is the Course's bread and butter; are investigating incentives used at other courses, e.g. buying \$1,000 golf course dollars get \$1,200 value, will bring suggestions to the Board for them to choose, staff needs to know to what extent the Board wants to discount; average once a week golfer plays 35 rounds, league player averages 15 rounds, PTT plays 19 rounds; more resident ID's were used this past year, only 60% of rain-checks redeemed; marketing plans change each year; fees staying the same; need to increase starting pay for maintenance staff and add one more person; turnover consistent, needed to focus on training and extreme weather conditions in late summer hurt us; new ideas for next year's maintenance plan – Recreation area mowing option – not on regular schedule, volunteer for overtime pay; utilize starters/rangers in other areas of GC maintenance; received an offer to extend E-Z Go cart contract for next four years at same costs with addition of windshields on the carts, also in negotiations with Open Kitchens. Regarding the Palatine Hills Drive replacement, Zaldivar said we will be doing everything possible to stay open until the asphalt needs to be poured; will work with contractor to possibly stay open weekend throughout construction, although there are some logistics regarding the Clubhouse; Moser said we are offering a bonus to complete before April 1, 2007; bids being prepared now, contract given December 19 and work to start in February. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed 2007 Stables Budget. Commissioner Gould moved, and Commissioner McPherson seconded, that the Board approve the 2007 Stables Budget as presented. Commissioner Gould said that it was nice to see many boarders; Zaldivar said that the people are please with the tile work, and we get many compliments on the Pony Parties. Zaldivar explained that salaries have been re-allocated to simplify bookkeeping – one person/one area. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Motion carried.

Zaldivar expressed his thanks to staff for all their efforts and hard work this past year.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed list of bills. Commissioner McPherson moved that Warrant #21, in the amount of \$1,789,693.83, be approved and released for payment. Commissioner Gould seconded the motion. Staff responded to questions pertaining to tree replacement at Hamilton and an emergency tire repair for a Golf Course tractor. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Motion carried.

Gbur said there was no more new business.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Executive Director's Report. Highlighting item #5, Gbur said that the Hamilton Path Project was denied – not enough points - but we are an alternative if the any of the other projects fall through. Regarding the Wayne Johnson project (item #6), Gbur said that he and Superintendent Moser attended the Plan Commission meeting; with the assistance and support from the Prairie Woods Audubon Society presentation, the Plan Commission is supporting our stand; rumor has it that the Village Council is going to request them to lower the height of the building (seven floors) and address our concerns about the water run-off problem; it will be presented December 4 and Mr. Wilhelm (the environmental professional) will attend. Gbur reported that in speaking with Commissioner Schultz, he stated that the Prairie is part of the Illinois Nature Preserve; we have good strong people behind us on this item.

The remaining 2007 budgets were distributed. Gbur commented that some big G & O projects were included, e.g. Birchwood Pool, Palatine Hills Drive, the Community Center fitness area expansion and the path at Hamilton Sports Fields; over \$1 million in projects were cut to do this budget; take time to look it over and call with any questions.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Gould said she attended the SLSF Dinner/Dance and the Part-time/Volunteer dinner, both were very nice. Gbur said 136 rsvp'd but we had less than 100, probably the rain. Commissioner Gould said regarding Hamilton Sports Fields, the affiliate groups promised to work with the neighbors but not one of them have done it.

Commissioner Rogers said that the catalogue design was nice; she mentioned to Gbur that a congratulatory letter to Matt Murphy might be in order because of our relationship with his new elected post; maybe invite him to one of our Park Board meetings. Commissioner McPherson said that Commissioner Roger has a good idea; we should let him know what we do. President Cozza said that his district has a new representative as Terry Parke was defeated; sent one to Senator elect Murphy and one to Representative elect Crespo too.

Commissioner McPherson said that he attended the SLSF Dinner, although he could not stay; he also went to the opening of the new bike trail/bridge extension, where President Cozza and the Rolling Meadows Mayor said some nice words. He thinks that this is the best catalogue ever – but our logo artwork looks fuzzy; see if we can fix it.

President Cozza said that he could not stay long at the Part-time staff/Volunteer dinner but was very impressed with Janet Degner's twenty-nine years of service to the Historical Society. He stated that the new bike trail extension has been so busy and he is proud that we did this in collaboration with the City of Rolling Meadows; perhaps the repair of the rail fence along the bike trail at Harper College could be a Boy Scout project.

President Cozza requested Future Agenda Items; there were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Cozza requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and convene in executive session for the purpose of discussion of possible sale or lease of real property owned by the District, Section 2(c)(6) of the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner McPherson so moved and Commissioner Gould seconded the motion. President Cozza requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Motion approved at 9:24 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:47 p.m.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

President Cozza said that the Board met in Executive Session to discussion the possible sale or lease of real property owned by the District (OMA Section 2(c)(6). No action will be taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board on this date, Commissioner Rogers moved that the meeting be adjourned; Commissioner Gould seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by a voice vote at 9:48 p.m.

AYE: Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Andrew McPherson, John Cozza

NAY: None

ABSENT: Robert Schultz

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Bennett, Secretary

ATTEST:

/s/ Bonnie M. Bennett

Bonnie M. Bennett
Secretary

APPROVED:

/s/ John F. Cozza

John F. Cozza
President

Next scheduled Park Board meetings: November 28, 2006
December 5, 2006 (first Tuesday of the month)
December 19, 2006 (third Tuesday of the month)