

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 13, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00P.M.

Commissioners Present

Robert Schultz, President
Jennifer Rogers, Vice President
Susan Gould, Treasurer

Andrew McPherson
John Cozza

Staff Present

Ron Gbur, Executive Director
Pat Moser, Supt. of Parks & Planning
Keith Williams, Supt. of Recreation
Raul Zaldivar, Supt. of Revenue Facilities
Tina Becke, Asst. Supt of Finance & Personnel

Donelda Danz, Asst. Supt. of Recreation
Pam Stoltz, Recreation Manager
Carol Lange, Cultural Arts Coordinator
Bonnie Bennett, Secretary

Citizens and Guests

Bob Alexander, PHGA
Kathy Millin, POC
Karen Kabarec, POC
Scott Jacobs, PBA

Terry Ellis, Celtic Soccer
James Brustad, Swim Team
Jerry Milligan
Curt Freund, Swim Team

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McPherson moved and Commissioner Gould seconded, that the Board approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2007. Upon a voice vote, the Agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gould moved, and Commissioner Cozza seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2007. Upon a voice vote, the minutes of the previously held meeting were approved as submitted.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Commissioner Gould moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 5, 2007. Upon a voice vote, the minutes of the previously held special meeting were approved as submitted.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Revenue Facilities Department Report. Noting this was his October report, Zaldivar said that once again *Fall Fest* was a great event, weather was superb; thanks are extended to the Rec and Parks departments for all their help; attendance was down this year enabling those in attendance to enjoy the event more. President Schultz said that it was great to get the email regarding the special sale at the Pro Shop, stopped in yesterday and it was very busy. Commissioner Rogers noted that his sentence under Rounds and Revenue seems to infer that staff was responsible for the storm damage. Zaldivar said that due to the solution we came up with play picked up but it would have been better if we had all eighteen holes; the damage was definitely due to the storms. President Schultz noted that the course was closing Sunday November 25. Zaldivar said that seems early but it is the Sunday after Thanksgiving – our usual closing time – Thanksgiving is early this year; we use that last week in November for odds and ends as we have a smaller staff.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Finance and Personnel Department Report. There were no questions or comments regarding the report.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Recreation Department Report. Williams had one item to highlight and a DVD presentation of the PCC to show. Whole Foods was brought in as a partner for the Halloween Party this year; they provided a lot of unique variety of new foods – fresh fruits, milk, muffins – and promoted the event at their store, resulting in a lot of walk-ins that morning.

Gbur asked Lange to set-up the performance about to be shown. Lange explained that we would be watching an excerpt from the concert the Palatine Children's Chorus performed at *Great Hall of the Mozarteum* in Salzburg, Austria; the Chorus also performed in Vienna, Austria and Venice, Italy.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Annual Pool Report 2007. Danz said that some of her "highlights" have a negative side; Birchwood Pool renovation was well received, we have gotten a lot of positive comments from the residents especially regarding the expanded water features; Swim Team received a lot of compliments from other teams and attendees at the two meets they hosted; problem with the slide in the kiddy pool has been worked out and it will be re-installed; the biggest negative was the increase in expenses – extra water, chemicals (using chlorine pellets more expensive, phasing out cheaper gas chlorine for safety reasons); a new life-guard program came out at the end of 2006 which we implemented at the beginning of the season, and although it was hard to retrain and retest everyone, 32 of our kids, and our facilities, scored 100% done by an outside auditor - we are very proud of our kids and the Parks Department who deserve credit as well; and, there were no serious life threatening injuries or saves this season. Noting the newspaper article regarding Streamwood Park District closing their pool, President Schultz noted that their costs for one pool is like our costs to operate four; also nice to have a season without a major incident,

staff does a great job – Danz and her staff are outstanding. Commissioner McPherson said that he senses a change in kids' lifestyles and attendance at our pools. Danz responded that staff was a little concerned about the effect the new aquatic facilities at *Great America* and *Coco Key* but those are usually day trips – neighborhood kids go to neighborhood pools and the pool pass cost is low, going up about 6% each year; attendance, which reflects the drop in air temperature, was about 17,000 less this year.

Gbur said that there were no more Departmental Reports.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

Gbur introduced, and the Board recognized, Mr. Scott Jacobs, president of the Palatine Baseball Association. Gbur noted that after approximately fourteen years, Dick Trotter is no longer serving as president. Jacobs addressed the Board thanking them, Williams and the Parks Department for their support and assistance in providing another successful year for over 600 players, 1,000 games maximizing our field use; highlights this season were 125 participants on All Star Day, instituting “*Golden Glove*”, “*Silver Slugger*” and “*Cy Young*” awards, and participation by the Palomino League in a game at the Schaumburg Flyers Stadium. Commissioner Gould said that she appreciated receiving a written report prior to the meeting. Commissioner Cozza stated that he went to a couple of events and threw out the first pitch; he then asked about teams with other communities. Jacobs responded that some surrounding communities do not have enough players to a house league, in return they supply field usage; have been doing this for 14-15 years particularly with Girls, Pony and Palomino teams; although we ask the other communities to draft the teams some do (Rolling Meadows) and some others don't; problem isn't easily solved. Jacobs thanked everyone again saying that PBA appreciates all you do for them and the nice facilities the Park District provides.

Gbur introduced and the Board recognized Kathy Millin, POC Executive Director, and POC Board President Karen Kabarec. Millin began by distributing copies of the POC's Service Provider Index for 2007 and thanking the Board and staff for all their support over the years; POC provided over 256,000 client interactions this fiscal year (May, 2007), the number of individuals keep doubling and they have a waiting list for many programs and the clinic has lines; the need this community has and what we are able to give through our programs and partners; ICompete had 225 kids, over our goal, and we know our numbers will double; kids are involved in quality programs not on the street; through our Rec programs to our arts programs, it is worthwhile; walked to Falcon Park top see where the kids will be in just a few years – so many families looking to us; doing a monthly newsletter (passed out) each month highlighting one of the agencies; why do kids come to the center, we don't give free food, gave them shirts, circus tickets, trip to the library (many have never been to a full-service library); received some grant monies and we will have a musical in February as we look to balance our budget while still provide quality programming; may look to bring in other providers; we make the best use of a small space with a small staff; a fabulous organization – thank you again. Williams said that when POC started out those first years they went through what they could and could not afford, they have made drastic cuts in staffing, cut \$50,000 in expenses – in return the YMCA and Park District took on some of those programs, e.g. ICOMPETE, summer camp, athletics, dance, guitar; you will see we added \$16,000 to Rec budget and the Y an additional \$25,000 in their budget; we are currently looking for another full-time coordinator.

Kabarec addressed the Board regarding the \$34,250.20 debt, they made a payment of \$5,328; POC Board is proposing is that after the 2007-08 \$10,000 contribution for operating expenses over the next three years the Park District not allocate the those funds and POC will issue a paid invoice for \$10,000; appreciate the Park District patience and hope we will not have to come in again – we do not like debt; possibly this will be approved by the Park Board; we are going to other agencies applying for grants. Responding to Commissioner Cozza, Kabarec explained that the monies went to pay staff at the front desk; the Park District

will not pay for three years. Millin explained that they now have “POC program graduates” who volunteer to work the front desk. Responding to Commissioner McPherson, Williams said that we do not restrict anyone from participating but the programs are only promoted in that area; plan to expand after school programs through District 15 schools – we do not exclude kids; we haven’t talked about how Falcon Park will be impacted but we are sure it definitely will. Commissioner McPherson expressed concerns about committing this \$10,000 for a period of time – doesn’t know if this Board or any Board should do this – we need a paper trail showing a transfer of funds; need to know how it will be transacted. Gbur responded saying that next year we will have a better idea of how they will work into Falcon Park plan use and what part of operation we are keeping on Rand Road. Kabarec said it will be three years until Falcon Park is accomplished.

President Schultz thanked them for coming and stated that they are doing a fantastic job. Commissioner Gould said that she agreed with that. Commissioner Cozza said that PTSCC also does a lot of recreation programs for our seniors; most everything on their list is recreational maybe they will someday come through our catalog. Millin said that they will be doing a field trip to the Village Hall; maybe they will make a stop at the Park District so the kids can see what is available there too. Kabarec said that it is a small world that they live in without a car. Responding to Commissioner Cozza, Millen said that she made it to Falcon Park on foot with her dog in nine and one-half minutes, on bike it would probably take only three and one-half.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Schultz noted there was no unfinished business to be addressed at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to the Truth in Taxation Law. Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded, that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt Resolution #07-04 stating that the estimated percentage increase in the aggregate levy for 2007 is 4.1%. Commissioner Gould asked that we give a thought to going to 47.5¢ and Gbur responded that this actually just begins the process. President Schultz requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed list of bills. Commissioner Rogers moved that Warrant #21, in the amount of \$1,328,473.14, be approved and released for payment. Commissioner Gould seconded the motion. There were no questions or comments. President Schultz requested a roll call vote on the motion.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Executive Director's Report. There were no highlights. Commissioner Gould said that she would attend the NWSRA Holiday luncheon along with possibly President Schultz – it is a nice event.

Gbur then distributed 2008 budgets excluding Golf Course and Stables budgets which will be reviewed separately; information he prepared indicated a 47¢ tax rate to keep current level of service; additional \$400,000 in Rec which we want to set aside for Falcon Park, start an inter-fund for tracking; the anticipated 2007 expenses includes Birchwood Pool; despite everything, we are still going to be in a good financial position; any questions we will go over at the November 27 meeting.

Zaldivar passed out the Golf Course and Stables budgets saying that it was pretty much the same format from last several years; did put an 'actual 2006' column for expenses; cover letter self-explanatory, 2007 difficult year at Golf Course with many peaks and valleys due to mother nature; based on numbers from 2007 increase of \$1 for 18-holes, \$0.50 for 9-holes seems in line – did not raise fees in 2007; proposing cart fee increase of \$1 per person for 18-holes; made several improvement to cart fleet, e.g. windshields and proposal to add GPS system, numbers included in the budget; we see the increase we are proposing as fair. Zaldivar responded to questions regarding the GPS system being considered saying that it was pictured in the left corner of the booklet passed out – give yardage front of green and back, most inexpensive we have found, used by others in the area so we are familiar with it; this one doesn't do the advertising – that one requires \$69,000 up front; any questions can be directed to him. Stables: continues to do very well, proposing a minimum increase of boarders' rates just to keep up with expenses; we are proposing deficit because we need to do some capital improvements, passing all on to boarders some would leave; any questions contact him or Stables Manager Toni Bruns.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner McPherson thanked our staff for putting together the part-time/volunteer dinner and thanks for inviting him. He commented that he read the article regarding Streamwood's pool closing; seems today everything in deficit – would you build as many things after Falcon Park; it might be interesting in looking at Eagle and Willowwood pools to consider having one less pool – it might make sense to take a step back and look at it. Gbur said that after the Falcon Park project we are asking PHN to do a rough site plan for Community Center, e.g. where would PHN put in a 78,000 sq. ft. center, maybe let people know what we are thinking about in terms of pools which are costing us more money as time goes by; splash pads and smaller pools are more affordable; in doing a rough site plan for Community Center we can have them look at Eagle and Willowwood too; really look at and think about keeping water in the center of town. Commissioner Gould said that she is an advocate of swimming lessons – every child should know how to swim; very important to have pools – playgrounds don't bring in revenue; really feel we need to look it not as a financial burden but recreation. Gbur said that swim teams have given us different ideas for keeping pools; FAC is in center of town, it would be different to have two pools in the center of town, but ten years from now we may have to reconsider.

Commissioner Rogers said that she attended the play at Cutting Hall, she was happy to see other Park District staff support Theater Coordinator Jeff Greene in his projects.

Commissioner Gould said that the part-time/volunteer dinner was well attended.

Commissioner Cozza said that he attended *Today I am a Fountain Pen*, it was very entertaining. He said that he and Williams were at a District 15 meeting; they have a committee that is going to redo the contracts with the park districts; some of the items discussed were Travel Teams and House League as not all inclusive, Williams did a lot of work with this trying to make them look at the Park District teams as one – not two separate organizations; it may start costing us more money for basketball, soccer and baseball in order to keep outside organizations from coming in; Williams is on top of it and his and Facilities Coordinator Josh Ludolph’s work will help us with 15’s committee. Gbur said that the relationship with District 15 has changed over recent years – they (newer Board members and personnel) don’t understand the relationship we had over the years not only with 15 but also with 211; trying to get Rolling Meadows and Hoffman Estates too – we need to be on the same page when it comes to these contracts. Commissioner Cozza said that it is more a budget thing. President Schultz asked that staff keep the rest of the Board apprised of this. Gbur said that he didn’t think the school board is aware of this and Williams said that their (15) timetable is February. President Schultz said that he needs to be up on these things as he has a lot of contact with the people in the community.

President Schultz asked the status of architectural contracts, and Moser responded that a contract has not been signed, legal council Jim Wascher designed one but PHN has come back with some items they want excluded. President Schultz said that we haven’t approved the contract yet PHN is starting to do some things that they should be paid for. He continued saying that he received his property tax bill and his Park district taxes went up 16% over last year; keep this in mind when doing the budget and tax levy.

President Schultz requested Future Agenda Items; there were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Schultz requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and convene in executive session under Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings for the purpose of review and discussion of minutes of prior executive sessions. Commissioner McPherson so moved and Commissioner Gould seconded the motion. President Schultz requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed at 8:16 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 8:20 p.m.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

President Schultz stated that the Board met in Executive Session for the purpose of review and discussion of minutes of prior Executive Sessions. Commissioner Gould moved and Commissioner Cozza seconded, that Executive Session minutes of June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, and September 27, 2005 be approved and released. President Schultz requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board on this date, Commissioner Gould moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by a voice vote at 8:21 p.m.

AYES: John Cozza, Andrew McPherson, Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, Robert Schultz

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Bennett

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Bonnie M. Bennett
Secretary

/s/ Robert G. Schultz
President

Next scheduled Park Board meetings: November 27, 2007
December 11, 2007
December 18, 2007