

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 APRIL 26, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

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Call To Order at 7:00P.M.

Commissioners Present

Susan Gould, President  
Jennifer Rogers, Vice President  
Nicholas Sawyer, Treasurer

John Cozza  
Andrew McPherson

Staff Present

Ron Gbur, Executive Director  
Debbie Smith, Supt. of Finance & Personnel  
Pat Moser, Supt. of Parks & Planning  
Raul Zaldivar, Supt. of Revenue Facilities  
Keith Williams, Supt of Recreation  
Ed Tynczuk, Asst. Supt of Parks

Donelda Danz, Asst. Supt. of Recreation  
Pam Stoltz, Recreation Manager  
Kevin Romejko, Human Resource Manager  
Joshua Ludolph, Facilities Coordinator  
Kelli Hedding, Falcon Park Facility Manager  
Trish Feid, Recording Secretary

Citizens and Guests

Bob Alexander, resident/PHGA  
Jim Dietrich, resident  
Mike Henning, resident  
Larry Kline, resident  
Ed Horan, resident  
Caryn Bensmida, resident  
Grace Milota, resident  
Deb McDaniel, resident  
John Olles, resident  
A group of Willowood Children, residents  
Sue Bloomquist, resident  
John Hake, resident  
Mike Murphy, resident  
Anne Fisher, resident  
Mary O'Brien, resident  
Jim Nix, resident  
Judiann Quinn, resident

Dave Bratt, resident  
Barb Holland, resident  
Hongwei Du, resident  
Michelle Fielder, resident  
Sue Kadowaki, resident  
Val Banas, resident  
Colleen Lundell, resident  
Eunice Stevens, resident  
Doris Howden, resident  
Ellen Frech, resident  
Richard Murray, resident  
Kim Pohl, Daily Herald  
Gary Schwietz, resident/PHGA  
Jim Jessoghe, resident/PHGA  
Carolyn Rusin, Chicago Tribune  
Dave Thompson, resident/PHGA  
Brian Slupski, Palatine.Patch.com

In addition to the residents who addressed the Board, the PHGA and the representatives of the press which are listed above, approximately 104 residents were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Cozza moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded, that the agenda be approved. By a voice

vote, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2011 was unanimously approved as submitted.

AYE: Andrew McPherson, John Cozza, Nicholas Sawyer, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Cozza moved and Commissioner McPherson seconded, that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2010. President Gould made a correction on page 3, recognition of citizens; "President Gould thanked Mr. Alexander." By a voice vote, the minutes of the prior meeting were approved as amended.

AYE: Andrew McPherson, John Cozza, Nicholas Sawyer, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Parks and Planning Department Report. Supt. Moser asked if there were any questions; none were presented.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Revenue Facilities Report. Supt. Zaldivar commented on the permanent tee times and the reduction of the junior golf pass which has received positive feedback.

President Gould noted there were no other Departmental Reports.

#### RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

President Gould noted no one wanted to address the Board at this time.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director Gbur noted there was no unfinished business to be addressed at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS

President Gould said that the next item of new business on our agenda this evening is consideration of the possible closing and demolition of Willow Pool. We will hear first from our Executive Director Ron Gbur, and then open this item up for comments from the audience. President Gould announced that we have a sign in sheet at the podium if you would like to address the Board with your comments. Continuing, President Gould said that due to the nature of this item, it is her recommendation that the Park Board hear this evening the report of the Executive Director as well as public comments in response to that report, that Commissioners be given an opportunity to ask questions and make any preliminary observations they believe appropriate this evening, but that we defer a final vote on the matter until our regular meeting on May 10

after we have had a further opportunity to consider all of the information and comments we receive this evening and any additional information we deem necessary for purposes of making a final determination. Continuing, President Gould asked if any Commissioners object to our deferring the vote on this matter to May 10; it was unanimously approved that we take a final vote on this matter at our regular meeting on May 10 and also direct Secretary Feid to add it to that meeting's agenda under "unfinished" business.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

President Gould announced several times that we have a sign in sheet at the podium if you would like to address the Board with your comments. Director Gbur thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said that he knows his recommendation is not a popular one with those in attendance tonight; however, his decision as the Director is to consider what is in the best interest of our 83,000 park district residents. Continuing, he said that the park district can accommodate its current and future bathing demand at the other three pool sites. In 2012 we will have three very nice pools with a variety of aquatic options and by maximizing the usage at these sites we will efficiently serve the majority of our tax paying residents. Rebuilding and operating a pool primarily for just a neighborhood is not in the best interest of the Park District.

President Gould turned the floor over to Mr. Henning and Mr. Dietrich; their presentations (paper copy filed with official minutes) outlined Willow Pool's background, financial status/ attendance, safety concerns, view of the effects on Willow Pool's community property, pool and parking lot modifications' questions. Expressing for the Willowwood families and those residents around the area that use the pool, that they would like the park district to continue supporting their neighborhood pool; adding that they would like our vote on this matter delayed. President Gould thanked Mr. Henning and Mr. Dietrich for their twenty minute presentation.

President Gould said that it is the Park Board's desire to have participation from the Community before their decision; the floor was open to residents for audience input. Before hearing the comments, patrons were asked to sign in to speak; we had 6 residents sign in. Continuing, President Gould said that when a name is called, please come to the podium and state your name and address. Once again, she asked if anyone else would like to speak to please sign in with your name and address.

Larry Kline, 735 E. Stark Drive: Mr. Kline said that he bought his Willowwood home six months ago; invested in Palatine and would like the Palatine Park District to invest in it too by supporting his neighborhood's community pool.

Ed Horan, 898 E. Schirra Drive: Mr. Horan said that he and his wife have lived in Willowwood for thirty-four years; enjoyed the pool during the noon hour senior swim. He added that the Palatine Park District is fantastic, thank you!

Caryn Bensmida, 636 N. Bel Aire Terrace: Mrs. Bensmida said that she represents eleven people, her family of four and her friend's (who is not able to drive) family of seven. She said that they depend on this pool; safety is an issue because their children are not old enough to walk or bike to the other pools. She said that we also need to promote Willow Pool; offer camps and schedule other activities to have more attendance at the pool.

Grace Milota, 545 N. Stark Drive: Ms. Milota said that she has lived forty-one years across from the pool; when her children were young they went to swim lessons at the pool and they were on the swim team, now her grandchildren use the pool. She said that we pay taxes, what good is having no pool if we pay taxes.

Deb McDaniel, 711 N. Greenwood Drive: Mrs. McDaniel said she bought the house so she can walk to the pool, adding that the value of these neighborhood homes depend on the pool. She said that there is no advertisement for the pool, suggested to have a picture of Willow Pool in the catalog. Adding that people like to walk to the pool, with gas prices up and that people meet other neighbors at the pool.

John Olles, 657 E. Tahoe Trail: Mr. Olles said that he has lived in Willowood since 1966. He wasn't asked to come tonight, he saw a sign posted to attend the meeting and wanted to show support. Back when the neighborhood was being developed, he said that the residents paid a \$200-\$250 fee in their agreement for the neighborhood pool. This was years back when Palatine had a population of 17,000 and kids didn't have to cross Northwest Highway. He said that Willow Pool is a selling feature for their homes.

A group of children approached the podium and said that they love our community, love our pool, love Palatine.

President Gould said that there was no one else signed up to speak, then asked if anyone else would like to comment. 18 additional residents walked up to speak.

Sue Bloomquist, 511 N. Stark Drive: Mrs. Bloomquist said that this is a big sport night in Chicago, all of these people showed up here to express how important the pool is to us. She said this pool means everything for us; consider the kids and family when you vote.

John Hake, 645 N. Bel Aire Terrace: Thanking the Board and for the presentation, Mr. Hake said that forty years ago he was one of those kids at the pool. He and his family are on their third home in Willowood. He has safety concerns with his daughters getting to other pools. Loves Palatine. Willow Pool is part of the fabric of Palatine, not much of an investment but still works for the neighborhood.

Mike Murphy, 722 E. Pompano Lane: Mr. Murphy said that he goes to other pools; tonight he attends the meeting for his neighbors. He said that we should keep the pool open for them.

Anne Fisher, 1024 E. Morris Lane: Mrs. Fisher said that she lives in Winston Park and she attends Willow Pool, she would like to see the pool stay open.

Mary O'Brien, 646 N. Stark Drive: Mrs. O'Brien said that she is concerned, no stoplight to cross when going to other pools when they ride a bike or walk.

Jim Nix, Reseda neighborhood: Mr. Nix said that he doesn't use the pool; stated his concern that the key factor of closing Willow Pool would be the effect on our property value.

Judiann Quinn, 724 N. Stark Drive: Mrs. Quinn said that Willow Pool is a community pool; she sees kids riding their bikes to the pool. Her grandchildren of the Birchwood pool area like going to Grandmas and Grandpas' Willow Pool; less rules.

Dave Bratt, 103 S. Linden Avenue: Mr. Bratt said that he lives three blocks from FAC and goes to Willow Pool, sense of Community that draws residents from other areas of Palatine.

Barb Holland, 631 Bel Aire Terrace: Mrs. Holland said that she is surprised that Willow Pool may close. She said that we like the small pool; Willowood is a place for a simple pool, a place for young teens to go. Adding that she is concerned there are no safe ways to get to other Palatine pools.

Hongwei Du, 748 Willow Wood Drive: Mrs. Du said that she is attending the meeting because her son asked her to and that he is upset the pool may close. Willow is a pool to relax and swim; spending quality time together when other pools are crowded. She also said that FAC is very crowded and large; she said that we need to consider other children's feelings.

Michelle Fielder, 2301 N. Enlund Drive: Mrs. Fielder said that she grew up in Palatine, has been in the Willowwood neighborhood for a year. She loves to go Willow Pool to relax and tan; she likes that Willow Pool offers that; no kids running around.

Sue Kadowaki, 1163 E. Anderson Drive: Mrs. Kadowaki said that she finds safety with the small pool; it is easier to keep track of the children at Willow Pool. They never go to other pools; she loves this pool, understands it is complicated with the finances.

Val Banas, 343 N. Mac Arthur Drive: Mrs. Banas said that her husband would go to Willow Pool after work while she cooks; wonderful pool for our family.

Colleen Lundell, 457 N. Stark Drive: Mrs. Lundell said that the Willow Pool serves the Palatine Community not just the Willowwood neighborhood; we will not go to busy pools, therefore the Park District will lose pool sales. She wants the safe quieter environment for kids at Willow Pool, and added that Winston Park residents do not want their kids to cross busy roads also.

Eunice Stevens, 215 S. Greenwood: Mrs. Stevens said that she lives in Palanois Park, close to FAC but she goes to Willow. She loves that smaller quieter pool; save the pool.

Doris Howden, 634 E. Malibu Lane: Mrs. Howden said that now her kids are no longer in school, back then the only thing was Willow Pool. She pays high property taxes; money is spent for other things that she doesn't care about, adding that this little pool she cares about and they want to take away.

Ellen Frech, 736 N. Stark Drive: Mrs. Frech said that she has seen children and adults come from Reseda to use Willow Pool. She said that a parking lot is not a big deal; everyone walks or rides to the pool.

Mrs. McDaniel (added an additional comment before the last presenter) said that the Willow Pool lifeguards, like Clair Johnson, knew the kids; they knew all the kids who used the pool.

Richard Murray, 648 E. Stark Drive: Mr. Murray said that with the size of Palatine's community on the east side and consideration of the attendance at the pools, we should evaluate that before the decision of closing Willow Pool.

President Gould once again asked if anyone would like to comment; no one responded. President Gould thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to the results of the April 5, 2011 election. Director Gbur informed the Board that Cook County did not post in time the *official certificate* of the election results on their website by 5 p.m. this evening as they had said. President Gould asked for a motion to table Resolution #11-02. Commissioner McPherson moved, and Commissioner Cozza seconded, that we table this item which was unanimously approved by a voice vote as follows:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion approved.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to surplus property. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Cozza seconded, that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt Ordinance #11-04 declaring a 1990 Chevrolet K-30 Chipper Box Truck, 1998 Verti Drain Aerator, and 1995 Smitcho Ball Diamond Drag surplus equipment; declaring the items surplus will allow staff to sell them. There were no questions or comments. President Gould requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed Board Summary pertaining to a high pressure athletic field painter. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner McPherson seconded, that the Board of Park Commissioners direct staff to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$14,635 to Central Distributing Company, Inc. for the purchase of an AFM-H8 Kromer Liner and a spectator line painting arm. The Central Distributing Company is the sole vendor in Illinois for this type of equipment; currently the Parks department has three Kromer units which have performed well over the years. President Gould requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Monthly Financial Report dated March 2011.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed list of bills. Commissioner Rogers moved that Warrant #8, in the amount of \$827,233.42, be approved and released for payment. Commissioner McPherson seconded the motion. President Gould requested a roll call vote on the motion.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

President Gould noted there was no more new business to be addressed at this time.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board reviewed the previously distributed Executive Director's Report. Director Gbur highlighted item 2, that the request for the specified hours of amplified sound at the Hamilton Sports Fields in May was approved, per Reid Otteson's attached letter. Commissioner Rogers asked about the parking situation for the upcoming Hamilton events. President Gould expressed a concern that the affiliates need to follow through with their promise to contact the Church before their tournaments; President Gould said that she spoke to the church secretary and that she has not heard from our affiliates. Supt. Williams said that he will double check with the affiliates to see if they contacted the Church as they said they did; adding that PEMA will be handling traffic control with the crossing of Smith Road for those using Sundling's parking lot. Commissioner Sawyer commented that the Soccer award ceremony is not that big of a group and that it is spread over a long period of time; we should not have issues with parking concerns. President Gould said that she has concerns with the parking situation and with the affiliates for not following through with contacting the Church.

## COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Rogers will volunteer for the Arbor Day celebration at Birchwood on April 29.

President Gould will not be able to attend the Arbor Day event this year as she has many times in the past.

Commissioner Sawyer was happy for the Golf Course's reinstatement of the Junior Golf Pass.

President Gould requested items for Future Agenda; there were none.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Gould requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and convene in executive session for the purpose of discussion of acquisition of real property for the benefit of the District and for the performance of specific personnel, sections 2(c)(5) and 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner McPherson so moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion. President Gould requested a roll call vote, the result of which follows:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed at 8:28 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 9:30 p.m.

## ACTION ON MATTERS CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION

President Gould stated that the Board of Park Commissioners met in Executive Session for discussion of two items. The first item in regard to the discussion of acquisition of real property for the benefit of the District; no action will be taken at this time. The second item was for the performance of specific personnel. Commissioner Cozza moved that the Executive Director's salary be increased by 2.9%. Commissioner McPherson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by a voice vote as follows:

AYE: Andrew McPherson, John Cozza, Nicholas Sawyer, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board on this date, Commissioner Rogers moved that the regular meeting be adjourned; Commissioner Cozza seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by a voice vote at 9:31 p.m.

AYE: Andrew McPherson, John Cozza, Nicholas Sawyer, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Feid  
Secretary

ATTEST:

/s/ Trish A. Feid  
Secretary

APPROVED:

/s/ Susan E. Gould  
President

Next scheduled Park Board meetings: May 10, 2011  
May 24, 2011  
June 14, 2011