

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DUPAGE
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**

April 10, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

President Campagnolo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Darien Council Chambers, 1702 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Nancy Campagnolo, Frank Noverini, Neil Christensen, Richard Simester, Shari Gillespie

ABSENT: None

Staff: Chris Katsougris, Assistant Director, Bob Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, Matt Henderson, Sportsplex General Manager; John Murphey, Attorney

Guests: Gloria Anderson, Darien

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

OFFICER REPORTS

- A. President** – No report.
- B. Vice President** – No report.
- C. Secretary** – No report.
- D. Treasurer** – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer's report for March.

Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending March 30, 2006.

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:
AYES: Christensen, Simester, Gillespie, Noverini
NAYS: None
President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.**

Commissioner Christensen reported that Sportsplex is \$130,000 ahead of last year through February 28, 2006. He stated that this money allows the District to pay for projects at Sportsplex such as installing a new phone system, landscaping and other capital projects.

Commissioner Christensen also reported that he received communication from Executive Director Gurgone regarding the actual tax dollar amount. He stated that the staff did an excellent job in estimating and that the actual amount will be \$1,436 less than estimated. He further stated that the estimated amount was \$1,183,708 and the actual amount is \$1,182,072.

Commissioner Christensen stated that other than the tax dollars from the SEASPAR Fund and the Bond Interest Fund there is approximately \$12,212 more than estimated in the Operating Fund from last year. He stated that based upon what was budgeted there is a little over \$10,000 less tax dollars than last year. He further stated that the most important thing is that the actual tax dollars received are approximately \$154,219 less than last year with a tax rate decreasing from .3243 to .2689. Commissioner Christensen stated that staff is doing an excellent job less the tax dollars and having a balanced budget.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the mother of a NYC participant advised the Board of her concerns with regards to NYC. She reported that the NYC Board also addressed the Board. She stated that resident Gloria Anderson urged the Board not to purchase future playground equipment from PlayPower, as their equipment was prone to safety recalls.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received the Sportsplex Financials through February 2006 and that this was the best February since 2000. She reported that Commissioner Christensen distributed a year-to-date report showing that the Sportsplex was approximately \$100,000 ahead from last year and with debt service approximately \$130,000.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Executive Director Gurgone reported on the failing phone system at Sportsplex and that its replacement is a high priority. She stated that staff recommended replacing the system using the services of Sellaphonic Communications, the original installer of the system. She reported that the Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received a job description for the position of Operations Manager at Sportsplex and that the

position is budgeted for the proposed 2006-07 budget. She reported that the position will allow for maintenance contracts with some outside vendors to be eliminated. Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Board agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that there was a discussion regarding the dynamics of the Little Hawks contract. She stated that the Board agreed to place it on the consent agenda.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that General Manager Henderson reported on high schools interested in ice contracts. She stated that the Board agreed to place the contract on the consent agenda as well as the ISHL contract.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that President Campagnolo denied any validity to a rumor circulating that the two ice rinks at Sportsplex were being converted to soccer fields. She reported that the Board also agreed to place the Trane Contract on the consent agenda.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Board received a copy of the new lease for LADSE for school year 2006-07 and that the Board agreed to place it on the consent agenda. She also reported that Superintendent Strickler reported that he met with the City regarding possible solutions to the drainage problem in the skate park basin and that he was acquiring quotes.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Executive Director Gurgone asked the Board for input regarding future use of Meyers Barn. She reported that the barn is currently utilized for desperately needed storage.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Superintendent Strickler requested funds to acquire an architectural assessment of the stability of the upstairs flooring and that the Board agreed to place the funds approval on the consent agenda.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Superintendent Strickler reviewed with the Board four quotes for the landscaping at Sportsplex recommending the lowest bidder to George's Landscaping. She also reported that Executive Director Gurgone reported that the City wrote a letter to the editor at Suburban Life newspapers highlighting concerns regarding inaccurate reporting and if the Board wanted her to follow suit. Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Board agreed that a letter be written addressing the District's concerns.

Assistant Director Katsougris stated that she reviewed with the Board staff's intentions for the volunteer recognition at the May 8th Board meeting. She reported that the consent agenda was established for the Board meeting.

President Campagnolo stated that Executive Director Gurgone wrote a letter to the Suburban Life and that it had not yet been published.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Murphey stated that he did not have a report.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that picnic permits were issued beginning April 3rd for residents and April 17th for non residents. She reported that the Spring/Summer brochure was mailed to all Darien residents. She stated that she apologized if a resident had not received a brochure but that the mail carriers were given enough for their entire route.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that summer registration begins on April 17th for residents and April 20th for non residents. She reported that the Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 15th and that the hunt will be for residents ages 8 and under at Darien Community, Lindenwood, South Grove, Smart Oaks and Westwood Parks. She thanked the Darien Lions who help hide the eggs and assist with crowd control.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Breakfast with the Bunny will also take place on Saturday, April 15th at Sportsplex and the deadline is Tuesday, April 11th. She also reported that the Family Swim is every Wednesday from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Hinsdale South High School and is \$2 for residents and \$3 for non-residents payable at the door.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that registration is currently underway for the 2006-07 preschool school year.

B. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that he is working with the City of Darien this year on the Tree Memorial program to plant five memorial trees for residents who passed away this year. He stated that currently there are 12 trees and that they are all doing outstanding.

Superintendent Strickler reported that he will be using George's Landscaping for the front entrance of Sportsplex and that staff will be working on the retaining wall.

Commissioner Christensen questioned the vandalism at Community Park.

Superintendent Strickler reported that someone moved a picnic table to the edge and ripped off three shingles off the roof. He stated that the police were notified and were asked to monitor the area.

Commissioner Christensen suggested posting signage notifying vandals that they would be prosecuted for any damage to the park.

Superintendent Strickler reported that he would look into it.

D. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Henderson reported that the Chicago Hawks organization can officially call the Darien Sportsplex home as of April 1st. He reported that they had a very positive introduction

and that their spring season consists of practices, games, skills and some power skating clinics and that they will be in the Sportsplex 12 months out of the year.

General Manager Henderson reported that four of the five high school contracts have been finalized for approval. He reported that ISHL is interested in a 3 year contract and that all the contracts will be 3 years.

General Manager Henderson reported that Clarendon Chiropractic Center in Clarendon Hills expressed interest in purchasing corporate sponsorship space. He stated that they were a corporate sponsor in the past and that he hopes to reestablish a relationship with them.

General Manager Henderson reported that the High School Spring League started on April 4th and that the league consists of 23 teams. He reported that there were 16 teams last year.

President Campagnolo questioned why the junior varsity has grown.

General Manager Henderson stated that there is more growth at the younger ages.

President Campagnolo asked who the competitors were.

Commissioner Christensen stated that Southwest Ice Arena and Seven Bridges were competitors. He asked that staff provide a list of who is participating.

General Manager Henderson stated that there were teams coming from all over.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Skate Park Drainage

Superintendent Strickler reported that the drainage problem is at the bottom of the basin at the skate park location. He stated that he met with the City of Darien and discussed different options. Superintendent Strickler reported that he contacted Timberline Landscaping who quoted \$5,800 to install drainage rock and drain pipe from the south side of the detention to the north end and also Tameling Landscaping who quoted \$7,400 to regrade and reseed with topsoil and to provide a pitch to angle the detention area for a total of \$13,200. He reported that a previous quote to put in wetland flowers was \$19,000.

Superintendent Strickler stated that this project will be less than the wetland flowers and will allow the District to maintain the grass. He stated that this will not stop the water from sitting at the bottom because it is a detention basin.

Superintendent Strickler stated that the work cannot be done until the basin is dry which may be June or July.

B. Sportsplex Scissor lift

General Manager Henderson reported that he received a quote from National Lift Truck for a new scissor lift. He stated that the quote is a lease option and that staff recommends a four or five year option. General Manager Henderson stated that the 48 month option is budgeted for capital projects and that he was looking for Board approval to purchase in May/June.

Commissioner Christensen suggested paying cash for the equipment because of the proven financials for the year.

General Manager Henderson stated that paying cash would use up the majority of the capital projects.

President Campagnolo stated that one of the goals was to build a fund for unanticipated issues at Sportsplex and that she preferred the lease option until the fund is up.

Commissioner Simester suggested the five year lease.

Superintendent Strickler reported that the 48 month lease would be \$19,880 at \$503.33 per month or total finance charges of \$4,279.84.

Attorney Murphey stated that it was approximately \$1,000 over four years.

Commissioner Simester stated that he would like to see if there is a early payout option.

The Board agreed to the four year lease.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Skate Park drainage project not to exceed \$13,200.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Gillespie, Noverini, Simester, Christensen, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the quote provided by National Lift Truck for a new scissor lift for a 48 month lease with a monthly payment of \$503.33 and a \$1.00 buyout.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Gillespie, Noverini, Simester, Christensen, Campagnolo

NAYS: None
President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Campagnolo reported that item H the ISHL Contract would be removed from the consent agenda. She stated that at the Committee meeting the Board approved a one year contract and that the ISHL was interested in a three year contract. She further stated that this would be on the agenda for the May Board meeting.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Warrants, February 27, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes, March 13, 2006 Board Meeting Minutes, March 20, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes, Sportsplex Phone System, Little Hawks Contract, High School Ice Contracts: Hinsdale South, Hinsdale Central, Lyons Township, Montini, Trane Contract, LADSE Lease, Structural Architect for Barn not to exceed \$3,000, Operations Manager Job Description, and the 2006-07-01 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Comment

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District