

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

August 14, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

President Campagnolo called the meeting to order at 7:02 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:

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris; Assistant Director, Della Deldin; Superintendent of Finance, Matt Henderson; Sportsplex General Manager, Gina Madden; Attorney

Guests: Gloria Anderson, Darien
Paul Gozder, Little Tikes Playground Equipment

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Gloria Anderson, stated that she disagreed with the Board's decision to not hold a public hearing regarding the playground equipment at Lindenwood Park. She stated that the Board held a public hearing for Holly Park and that there was a good turnout and good public comments. Ms. Anderson stated that she also disagreed with staff's recommendation to use Little Tikes Playground Equipment. She stated that there is concern with the parent companies and that in March 2006 Little Tikes had two safety recalls. Ms. Anderson cautioned the Board on what they would be putting in the park and urged the Board to seek public comment.

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received communication from Mr. Mark Piccoli, Darien Lions Club thanking staff for the generous support to the Darien Independence Day Parade.

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email from Community High School 99 thanking the Board and presenting the Board with complimentary season tickets. She also reported that she received an email from the Chicago Storm informing the District that they moved to Hoffman Estates but that they were interested in having the District take part in some of their camps or programs. President Campagnolo stated that she forwarded the request to staff.

President Campagnolo reported that she received an email on August 8, 2006 from Kids First Sports Safety Camp concerned that the District did not run their program in the last week. She reported that she met with staff and that staff was unhappy with the services and that they were in communication with Kids First.

OFFICER REPORTS

- A. **President** – No Report.
- B. **Vice President** – No report.
- C. **Secretary** – No report.
- D. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer's report ending July 31, 2006.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending July 31, 2006.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT

No Report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Madden stated that she did not have a report.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the SEASPAR's 30th Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, September 9th at Ty Warner Park in Westmont. She stated that preregistration is required and that SEASPAR is the beneficiary of Wheels Around Town, and an

auction on Saturday, August 19th. She further stated that proceeds are designated for SEASPAR's vehicle replacement fund.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that a special meeting may be necessary prior to the August 29th Committee Meeting in order to award the bid for the playground installation.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the second Concert in the Park is scheduled for Saturday, August 26th at 6:30 p.m. at Darien Community Park featuring the West Suburban Concert Band.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the fall brochure would be mailed out on August 15th instead of August 18th. She stated that registration for residents begins August 30th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported there are openings available for fall preschool and that school begins the week after Labor Day.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that a day trip to the Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City, Indiana is scheduled for September 22nd and the deadline is September 8th. She stated that the cost is \$26 for residents and \$29 for non-residents.

Commissioner Christensen questioned the timing of the concert and how it is being promoted.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the concert is a different set than the July concert and will run from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. She further reported that staff promoted the event through the local businesses, local cable, press releases in the Suburban Life and the Doings and banners displayed in the park.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Deldin reported that she is seeking an RFP for new banking services and that the selection for a new bank should be available by the October Board Meeting. She stated that any interested parties should contact the District.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that the four parking lot islands in front of Sportsplex should be completed by Friday. He reported that all summer staff has returned to school and that mowing and trimming will be done at a slower pace.

Commissioner Christensen asked if it was beneficial to hire someone for two or three weeks.

Superintendent Strickler stated that because of the training involved it may not be beneficial but that he would look into it.

Commissioner Gillespie asked about the display case at Darien Community Park.

Superintendent Strickler stated that the display case is working out great.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Henderson reported that the Chicago Hawks Hockey Club's opening week starts September 8-10th. He reported that the Hawks are accepting registrations and that Brian Noonan, former Chicago Blackhawk is the leading instructor.

General Manager Henderson reported that the Chicago Hawks have 250 players and approximately 20 teams. He reported that they will get the ice they need but that the Board will need to reapprove the contract with a confirmed number.

General Manager Henderson reported that he continues to work on Corporate Sponsorship. He stated that he is working with the Chicago Storm with potential to partner up. He reported that he is in the process of finishing up negotiations with Clarendon Hills Chiropractic as well.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff is working with Attorney Murphey regarding a marketing contract.

General Manager Henderson reported that staff is completing the inside renovations and that everything should be done by opening weekend September 1st.

Commissioner Gillespie asked for an update on the soccer program.

General Manager Henderson reported that the Director of Facility Programs is working on the current structure and making some adjustments. He stated that they need to wait to start until the first week in November so that most of the outdoor season is finished. General Manager Henderson stated that he is trying to book other events from May-October. He reported that some of the camps this summer were not that successful and hopefully more in house camps can be done with a full staff.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Gloria Anderson asked for an update on the Skate Park vandalism.

Superintendent Strickler reported that after the last Board Meeting a sign was posted offering a reward for catching anyone vandalizing the park. He reported that the vandalism has subsided. Superintendent Strickler stated that the Skate Park was built to enjoy not destroy!

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Warrants, June 22, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes and the July 10, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Noverini, Simester, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Lindenwood Playground Equipment

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received information on the Lindenwood playground equipment and that the Little Tikes Representative was present. She reported that 6 of the 14 playgrounds in Darien are equipped with Little Tikes playground equipment.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that Little Tikes provides great service and stands behind their products.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Little Tikes is a separate company under Miracle and that they were the lowest of five bids. She reported that the bids ranged from \$24,000 - \$29,000 and that staff could not justify the higher bids.

Mr. Paul Gozder, Little Tikes thanked the Board. He stated that the swings that Ms. Anderson referenced were recalled because of a noticeable weld in the swing. Mr. Gozder stated that Little Tikes informed all who had the swings and sent out extra support. He reported that Little Tikes changed the design and that prior to fixing the weld no one was hurt and that the swings will not have a weld issue.

Mr. Gozder stated that they provided the set design and that Little Tikes came in as the lowest bidder. He stated that he looked forward to working with the District.

Commissioner Christensen questioned the timing of installation.

Superintendent Strickler stated that until the playground equipment is awarded the documentation for installation would follow. He stated that he was anticipating the installation for sometime in October.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that now that the Capital Asset Replacement Program is in place the process for future projects can be done sooner and playground equipment used in the summer.

President Campagnolo stated that the new Capital Asset Replacement Program is a new learning curve and a big step in the right direction. She asked that Ms. Anderson direct any concerns to Mr. Gozder.

Ms. Anderson stated that the Consumer Product Safety Commission reported 22 incidents and that Little Tikes waited until they received the complaints. She stated that she would be happy to provide the Board with a copy of the report.

Mr. Gozder stated that the weld recall was changed.

Superintendent Strickler stated that as Mr. Gozder indicated the District received a Federal Express letter regarding the recall. He reported that he received approximately 50 phone calls why the swings were removed. Superintendent Strickler stated that the swings were replaced and that staff did a visual prior to changing them and that none of the welds were cracked. He stated that there is no chance of the weld breaking. Superintendent Strickler stated that the Little Tikes products are excellent.

Ms. Anderson stated that she was concerned with the reputation of the recalls and that she expressed her concerns to the Board in the past. She stated that the Board has the opportunity to go with someone else.

Mr. Gozder stated that the Lindenwood swings are different and that there is no chance for the welding to fail. He stated that Little Tikes and Miracle are two separate companies.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff did extensive research and has trust in Little Tikes. She stated that all playground equipment companies have recalls and that staff recommends Little Tikes. She further stated that staff wants a company that comes to the District before there is a recall.

The Board did not have any concerns regarding the Little Tikes equipment.

Commissioner Noverini moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to award the bid to Little Tikes Playground Equipment.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Simester, Christensen, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

B. Chicago Hawks Contract Re-Approval

General Manager Henderson reported that the Chicago Hawks Contract is a revised copy of the finalized contract with an annual increase of approximately \$70,000 and an increase of \$215,904.60 over the life of the contract.

Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve the revised Chicago Hawks Hockey Club Contract.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Gillespie, Christensen, Noverini, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

C. Chicago Hawks Office Lease

General Manager Henderson reported that Chicago Hawks lease agreement is to lease the office formally known as the Loft Room. He stated that all the rentals previously using the Loft Room will be relocated to one half of the Chalet Room.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that year one will generate \$5,400 and \$18,000 over three years.

Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Chicago Hawks Office lease rate of \$450.00 a month (2006-07), \$500.00 a month (2007-08), and \$550.00 a month (2008-09).

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Gillespie, Noverini, Christensen, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

D. Dupage County Traffic Court

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Dupage County approached the District regarding renting the Chalet room at Sportsplex for Dupage County Traffic Court currently held in Downers Grove. She stated that she is working with Attorney Murphey and that this will be up for discussion at a future Committee Meeting.

Commissioner Simester questioned the Senior Clubs.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that they would try to move all of the clubs to Monday and that one of them already met on Monday. She stated that staff would accommodate them but that this is a revenue opportunity that cannot be passed on.

Commissioner Gillespie questioned the hours and the parking availability.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the hours would be from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and that staff discussed segregating the parking.

E. Budget Reserves Resolution 2006-07-03

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the each year the District levies taxes to pay for the General Obligation Bonds issued. She stated that the Board determined to keep a 6-month operating reserve in the Recreation Fund and that any funds over the 6-month reserve would be transferred annually to the Capital Fund. She further stated that the balances are being transferred in the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve RESOLUTION #2006-07-03, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING EXCESS FUND BALANCES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$287,750.99 TO THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF THE DARIEN PARK DISTRICT.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

F. Budget Line Item Adjustments Motion

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Budget & Appropriations Ordinance cannot exceed 10% of any budgeted expenditure and that the Board has the authority to make transfers between the various line items in any fund in the appropriations ordinance. She stated that this cannot be done until the fiscal year is over.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the Budget Line Item Adjustments for the 2005-06 budget as presented.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Simester, Gillespie, Noverini, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

G. Surplus Vehicle Resolution 2006-0704

Superintendent Strickler reported that the red truck is out of service and that it will need approximately \$2,500 to \$3,000 to repair. He stated that the resolution declares the truck as surplus and that it will not be replaced in the fleet.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve RESOLUTION #2006-07-04, A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE SURPLUS PROPERTY A 1994 FORD 4X4 PICK-UP WITH PLOW.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Noverini, Gillespie, Christensen, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

H. Public Comment (before vote)

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to adjourn into Executive Session under 2(c)5: Discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District (Possible purchase of Fairview Elementary from School District #61), 2(c)6: Discussion of the setting of a price for the sale or lease of property owned by the District (Possible sale of Marion Hills Recreation Center) and 2(c)21: Discussion of minutes of prior meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act. For the purpose of review, approval or release of such Minutes: i. February 13, 2006, ii. May 22, 2006.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Noverini, Christensen, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Gillespie 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 8:45 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District