

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

March 14, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Ray Jablonski, Frank Noverini, Rob Sarocco,
James Tikalsky, Neil Christensen

ABSENT: None

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris, Assistant Director; Robert Strickler; Superintendent of Parks

PUBLIC COMMENT & GUESTS

a. Bill Carpenter, DYC

Mr. Bill Carpenter stated that he was representing the DYC. He stated that it has been difficult for the DYC to meeting the fee schedules and field rental policy deadlines because of registration. Mr. Carpenter asked that based on the DYC being around for 50 years that the Board consider grandfathering the DYC from the rules for permit request deadlines.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Park District is asking for regular communication regarding requested field permits.

Mr. Carpenter stated that that was fair. He stated that he needed clarification.

Mr. Carpenter asked about the fee imposed for field cancellation and if the fee is imposed because the field could be rented to someone else.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the fees are in place for many reasons. She stated that when fields are prepared and not used, sometimes other groups who had requested it ask why we didn't rent to them. In addition, she stated that last year, the District spent staff time and money on materials to prep the fields, and then teams didn't use them.

Mr. Carpenter stated that a parent called the Park District to inquire about a DYC sport and that the DYC phone number and website were not available. He asked if the Park District could provide a DYC phone number for people looking for DYC information for staff to hand out.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that staff would be happy to distribute DYC contact information to those asking.

Commissioner Christensen stated that there is a DYC link on the Park District Website.

President Jablonski stated that the link is also on the City of Darien Website as well.

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Sarocco stated that he received correspondence from a resident inquiring on the hours of concession at Sportsplex.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the hours vary daily depending on the hours of the building and what is going on at the building. She stated that it is not the District concession stand it is a leased out contract. She further stated that there are minimum hours that the concession stand has to be open. Executive Director Gurgone stated that she would find out what the hours are now.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received an email from Angelo Imbrogno – President Darien Chamber of Commerce regarding Darien Fest 2011 and how open communication is the best way to overcome any challenges. She reported that the Chamber hopes to reach an agreement and that numerous organizations rely heavily on Darien Fest for a percentage of their annual revenue and hope that all parties can work together.

Commissioner Christensen stated that the District is not taking anything away from the Chamber or Darien Fest.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the Chamber is asking for a reduction in fee and that it is not listed on the agenda for discussion tonight.

OFFICER REPORTS

A. President – None..

B. Vice President – None.

C. Secretary – None.

D. Treasurer –Commissioner Sarocco presented the Treasurer’s report ending February 28, 2011.

Commissioner Tikalsky made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report ending February 28, 2011.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Tikalsky, Christensen, Sarocco, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. and that the scheduled Committee Meeting on Monday, April 25th is cancelled.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that SEASPAR is having an open house on Thursday, March 24th from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the recreation center in Downers Grove. She further reported that SEASPAR is having a fundraiser/concert on Thursday, April 28th at the Tivoli Theater and the proceeds benefit SEASPAR.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the summer brochure will be mailed to residents on April 1st and resident registration will begin April 13th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that picnic permits will be issued beginning April 1st for residents and April 15th for non residents.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Preschool will be conducting an Open House on Wednesday, March 16th from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. and to date there are 116 children enrolled for next fall. She announced that there are only 2 openings left for 4 year old mornings.

Assistant Director Katsougris announced the next day trip is scheduled for Thursday, April 7th to New Buffalo, Michigan at the Four Winds Casino. She stated that tickets are \$30 for residents and \$35 for non residents and includes transportation, a \$15 instant credit slot play and a \$10 food coupon. She further stated that the deadline to register is March 23rd.

Assistant Director Katsougris announced that on Thursday, April 28th a trip is scheduled to the spring flower show at Mitchell Park Domes and from there to Greendale, Wisconsin for the Taste of Home tour. She announced that the price of \$68 for residents and \$73 for non residents includes lunch and transportation and the deadline to register is March 28th.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Executive Director Gurgone reported that because the Committee Meeting was pushed back the Budget Public Hearing will be held on April 11th and the budget approval at the May 9th meeting. She stated that she will give details on the budget at the April 11th Meeting.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that staff is getting ready for spring and beginning to work on bid specifications for the playground proposed at Community Park. He stated that he will be bringing a large concept plan to the next meeting.

Superintendent Strickler reported that annual training for staff was the past week.

Commissioner Sarocco questioned if there would be any fields out of use for soccer or baseball.

Superintendent Strickler reported that the soccer practice fields will no longer be practice fields because the ground is not flat enough for playing soccer.

He further stated that the diagonal field at Hinsbrook is out of use right now for soccer because it holds a lot of water. Last year approximately \$3,000 was spent to level the field and the field is now in bad condition again.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the surface work is not working and that staff is looking at having an engineering firm look at the field for a solution.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the emergency repairs needed on the refrigeration plant were completed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for consent agenda)

There was no one wishing to present public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Tikalsky to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: Warrants, February 14, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes, and rental rates for parks, DPDCC, Sportsplex..

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Tikalsky, Sarocco, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Tikalsky moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Sarocco that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Ray Jablonski, President
Darien Park District

Frank Noverini, Secretary
Darien Park District