

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

**November 13, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Acting President Noverini 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:** Frank Noverini, Neil Christensen, Shari Gillespie, Richard Simester

**ABSENT:** Nancy Campagnolo

**Staff:** Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris; Assistant Director, Della Deldin; Superintendent of Finance, Robert Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, Matt Henderson; Sportsplex General Manager, John Murphey; Attorney

**Guests:** Gloria Anderson, Darien

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**a. Darien Lions Club**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received correspondence from the Darien Lions Club thanking the District for having the Halloween party at Sportsplex.

**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 October 31, 2006.

**Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending October 31, 2006.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester, Noverini**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.**

### **COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Committee Meeting of the Whole was held at Sportsplex and that there was a short tour of the facility showing all of the improvements to the building. She reported on the recreation center plans for the District and the Board discussed sending out a newsletter to residents to keep them informed of the District's plans.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that General Manager Henderson provided an update on the Sportsplex financials and explained why the repairs and maintenance numbers were so high this year. She stated that he also reported on the increased enrollment in the fall soccer leagues.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Superintendent Strickler reported on the VFW memorial dedication on November 11<sup>th</sup> and the Lindenwood Playground dedication on November 18<sup>th</sup>. She further stated that Superintendent Strickler reported on the proposed snow plowing contract for the Library and that the Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she provided the Board with an update on the capital projects expenditures. She reported that the Board discussed possibly putting up no smoking signs at the parks but determined that the signs would probably not stop anyone from smoking.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed the proposed SEASPAR tax levy request and the Park District's tax levy. She reported that the SEASPAR levy amount is \$143,821 and as with previous years the board decided to do a "balloon" levy and levy at the 20% new growth rate followed by approving a Truth in Taxation Resolution. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the resolution shows that the District is asking for a 22% increase in operating funds with a 13% overall increase. She reported that the Board discussed how the District will only receive a 4% increase due to the tax cap. Executive Director Gurgone reported that there would be a public hearing at the December 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and that both items were placed on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed the remote participation ordinance for Board Meetings and that they agreed to table the item to the November Committee Meeting.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the items establishing the consent agenda.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Murphey reported that last year the District was sued by the State's Attorney's Office regarding the Open Meetings Act. He stated that approximately one year ago an order was negotiated requiring a 3 year monitoring where the District would be required to provide evidence complying with the Open Meetings Act.

Attorney Murphey happily reported that on November 6<sup>th</sup> he requested that the compliance period be shortened and that the State's Attorney's Office and the court concurred and that monitoring will end at the end of April 2007. He stated that the 3 year monitoring has been reduced to 1 ½ years and is attributed to a hard working staff and Board. He congratulated everyone.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Executive Director/SEASPAR**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that after the approval of the Truth in Taxation Resolution that the District will hold a public hearing for any tax levy questions at the December 11, 2007 Regular Board Meeting. She further reported that there will also be a public hearing at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting for a bond issue which will be approximately \$900,000 and will follow the same procedures as last year.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there will not be a Committee Meeting in December. She reported that the agenda for the November Committee Meeting includes discussion regarding the remote participation and that if there are no other items that she would notify the Board and the public if the meeting is cancelled.

### **B. Assistant Director**

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the April Consolidated Election packets are available in the Administrative Office located at 133 Plainfield Road and that candidates can begin circulating petitions November 7<sup>th</sup>. She further reported that there must be at least 55 signatures of Darien Park District voters required on the petition.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the winter brochure will be mailed to residents on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> and that registration for residents begins on December 6<sup>th</sup>. She further reported that the District will be participating in the Darien Lions Club needy family drive and that toy collection will begin the week of November 20<sup>th</sup>. Assistant Director Katsougris reported that delivery will take place on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and that the assembly of the food and gifts will be held at Marion Hills.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the deadline for submitting requests for letters from Santa is December 1<sup>st</sup> and that the questionnaires can be downloaded from the website. She further reported that the Polar Express trip to the North Pole is scheduled for Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from the Downers Grove train station at 1:17 p.m.

### **C. Superintendent of Finance**

Superintendent Deldin reported that a representative from Vermont Systems trained the staff on using the new Recreation Software and that they will be ready to use the new software by December 6<sup>th</sup> which is the first day of registration.

### **D. Superintendent of Parks**

Superintendent Strickler reported that all of the port a potties from all parks have been removed and the bathrooms at Community Park closed for the season. He further reported that the garbage cans have also been removed but that there is one garbage can at each shelter for the winter. He reminded residents to continue to clean up after their dogs.

Superintendent Strickler reported that the Lindenwood Park dedication will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. He stated that the park is completed and that it looks very nice.

Commissioner Christensen asked that staff begin collecting data for next year regarding the amount of money spent for vandalism. He stated that he believed that the amount spent this year on vandalism was probably equivalent to a new car.

### **E. Sportsplex General Manager**

General Manager Henderson reported that Sportsplex hosted the Nike Bauer 2006 International Invite AAA Hockey tournament. He stated that the tournament was held at rinks all over Chicago with 224 teams ages 10-18. General Manager Henderson stated that staff did a great job and that the tournament may be interested in a multi year contract.

General Manager Henderson reported that Sportsplex is hosting the annual Thanksgiving Tournament over the holiday weekend and games will be played Thursday through Sunday for all age groups. He further reported that he finalized an agreement with Reach Marketing Group and that they will provide the facility with plasma televisions which can be used to promote the facility and the District programs as well as display schedules, etc. and that the District will receive a portion of the revenue.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Gloria Anderson questioned if the donated toys needed to be wrapped.

Assistant Director Katsougris stated that the toys should not be wrapped so that they can be labeled to the appropriate age and gender.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Warrants, September 11, 2006 Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2006 Meeting Minutes, October 23, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes, SEASPAR Tax Levy, Truth in Taxation Resolution #2006-07-06 and the Library Snow Plow Contract.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Simester, Gillespie, Christensen, Noverini**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Christensen stated that the press is not clearly communicating to the public regarding the recreation center. He stated that the press continually reports that the District is going to spend \$4 million on a recreation center. He stated that the District is using a recreation center that was built in 2002 as a comparison, and the District understands that our costs will be higher.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the District is looking for the needs of the community and what can be afforded within the timeframe.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURN**

**There being no further discussion, Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.**

---

Frank Noverini, Acting President  
Darien Park District

---

Richard Simester, Secretary  
Darien Park District