

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

October 10, 2005

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: Stephanie Gurgone, Executive Director, Chris Katsougris, Assistant
Director, Bob Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, John Murphey,
Attorney

Guests: Eileen Budney, Darien
Estelle Kirsanoff, Darien
Sharon Poteraske, Darien
Debby Heniff, Darien
Erin Sauder, *Suburban Life*
Jennifer Duda, *The Doings*

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GUESTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that she received correspondence from Mr. Bob Pindar stating that SEASPAR received the final grant payment of \$25,000 for the facility construction.

Commissioner Christensen reported that he received an email from Mr. Stan Nemiak thanking the District for Holly Park. He stated that Mr. Nemiak questioned the surface for the playground.

Commissioner Christensen stated that he spoke with Superintendent Strickler and followed up with a response.

President Campagnolo reported that she received a lot of positive comments from the Hoe-Down. She thanked staff for a great job.

OFFICER REPORTS

A. **President** – President Campagnolo reflected on the Board accomplishments over the last six months. She stated that a Committee Meeting of the Whole was created and is held on the fourth Monday of the month. President Campagnolo reported that residents are now allowed to speak openly without time limitation and without any restrictions. She reported that the Sergeant at Arms Ordinance to forcefully remove residents was rescinded as well and a Capital Replacement Asset Schedule created. She further reported that the Board will vote on an agreement to commit to open and honest government.

President Campagnolo stated that the meetings are now seen and heard more clearly and that the District will be working with an independent non biased financial company for bond issues.

President Campagnolo stated that she hoped the residents recognize that the Board is trying to provide a good solid product and an open form of government.

B. **Vice President** – No report.

C. **Secretary** – No report.

D. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer's report for September 30, 2005. He stated that the recreation and corporate accounts are off to a very good start with significant capital improvements which include Holly Park. Commissioner Christensen stated that Sportsplex from May – August compared to last year indicates \$93,000 ahead and factoring in debt service repayment \$110,000 ahead from last year. Commissioner Christensen stated that Executive Director Gurgone and the staff are doing a great job.

Commissioner Noverini moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending September 30, 2005.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Gillespie, Christensen, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Christy Cole from Knutte & Associates presented the 2004-05 audit report. She reported that Ms. Cole summarized the report and noted that this is the first year that the District is using the GASB 34 reporting model. Executive Director Gurgone stated that the audit was placed on the consent agenda for approval.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Mr. Dave Phillips, Speer Financial gave a presentation to the Board regarding financial advisory services for the District's upcoming bond issue. She reported that Mr. Phillips stated that his company works with many local park districts.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that Ms. Gloria Anderson asked if the Board was going to consider any other firms. She reported that the Board agreed to seek quotes from other firms and decide on a financial advisor at the Board meeting.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that President Campagnolo reported that the Board received a draft of the Capital Asset Replacement Plan prepared by staff and that the draft document showed a replacement program for all of the assets from now through the year 2020.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the room rental issues and alcohol. She reported that the Board discussed the problem and agreed that no further rentals would be booked with alcohol until further notice.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the cash flow situation at Sportsplex and that a large bond payment is due on November 1st. She reported that due to the revenue flow the Park District normally has to loan the Sportsplex money to make the bond payment. Executive Director Gurgone stated that the cash flow situation has improved but the Board needed to vote to approve a loan of up to \$100,000 in case it is needed.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the August financials for Sportsplex and highlighted that the summer rentals for ice exceeded budgeted numbers. She reported that a public skate fundraiser was scheduled for September 30th and that proceeds would benefit the Hurricane Katrina victims.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Superintendent Strickler updated the Board on the four parks projects and that the work at Holly Park playground was almost completed. She reported that Superintendent Strickler stated that the skate park lighting would be installed the first week of October and that the Community Park bathrooms were completed and open to the residents. She also reported that Superintendent Strickler reported that the battens for the Meyers Barn were milled and delivered to the District and that he is pursuing various options to get the battens installed so the barn can be painted before winter.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the Annual Treasurer's report and stated that it would be published on October 15th in the Suburban Life. She stated that the report was placed on the consent agenda for approval.

Executive Director Gurgone reported on the Park District financials through August 31st and that the District collected 50% of budgeted revenues and expended 30% of budgeted expenses to date.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that President Campagnolo suggested that the Board set a recognition day annually for all residents who volunteer for the Park District. She reported that the Board decided to start at the February 2006 meeting.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Assistant Director Katsougris reported on a new administrative time off policy and that the Board agreed to place it on the consent agenda for approval.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the NYC sublease for a room at Marion Hills is up for renewal. She reported that the Board agreed to renew the sublease and place it on the consent agenda for approval.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she provided the Board with a list of the consent agenda items.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Murphey reported that he had no report except for what was being discussed in Closed Session.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is accepting applications for the Sportsplex General Manager and Superintendent of Finance positions. She stated that they were posted on the Darien Park District website.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that IAPD Legal Symposium is scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd. She stated that any interested Commissioner should contact Joanne Pollack by November 1st.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Hoe-Down was a huge success. She thanked all of the volunteers for their support and stated that they were looking forward to having the Hoe-Down next year.

Commissioner Simester questioned if there was a profit/loss report.

Assistant Director Katsougris stated that the report was not complete but that the event typically breaks even. It is not intended to make a profit.

C. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that all the woodwork was completed at the Meyers Barn and that Marquis Painting should have the barn scraped and painted and completed by the end of the week.

Superintendent Strickler reported that renovation for all five ball fields are being worked on. He reported that the security lighting for skate park has been installed but that the shield has not. Superintendent Strickler reported that the light was installed on an angle and that he would be checking on if it needed a shield.

Superintendent Strickler reported that Holly Park is completed and that two benches were installed. He reported that two spring toys are being replaced with a space shuttle because the paint was peeling.

Superintendent Strickler reported that an Eagle Scout will be performing an Eagle Scout project at Smart Oaks Park on October 22nd and that he will be landscaping the park sign and placing wood carpet in the playground and repainting all of the grills.

Commissioner Simester questioned the labor costs at Darienfest and suggested that the additional labor costs be factored in next year.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that this would be placed on the agenda for the Committee Meeting for discussion. She reported that the Holly Park dedication was scheduled for Saturday, October 15th at 9:30 a.m.

D. Sportsplex General Manager

Executive Director Gurgone reported that approximately \$3,000 was raised at the public skate fundraiser on Friday, September 30th. She stated that the event was a great success. She reported that Sportsplex is still accepting registration for fall youth soccer leagues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM GUESTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Executive Director Gurgone reported that two changes were made on the minutes on page four and that the Board received new copies of the minutes.

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

September 12, 2005 Board Meeting Minutes, Warrants, Audit, \$100,000 loan to Sportsplex for bond payment if needed, Annual Treasurer's Report, Administrative Time Off Policy and DYC Lease Renewal.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Simester, Christensen, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Financial Advisor

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she contacted multiple firms but that she only had two quotes. She reported that Baird Financial quoted \$5,000 and Speer Financial \$3,000. Executive Director Gurgone recommended Speer because their fee is lower and that they have a proven reputation in working with other local park districts.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve Speer Financial.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Noverini, Christensen, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

B. Approve Bond Council

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received three quotes for bond council and that Chapman & Cutler were the lowest fee and one which was recommended by Attorney Murphey and many other park districts.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve Chapman & Cutler as bond council.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Noverini, Simester, Gillespie, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

C. GM Job Description

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Board received an updated job description for the Sportsplex General Manager.

Commissioner Noverini moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the proposed Sportsplex General Manager job description.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Gillespie, Christensen, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

D. Windy City Pride Rental Contract

Executive Director Gurgone reported that this is being brought to the Board because the approval is over the \$10,000 limit of the Executive Director. She reported that Windy City Pride uses the field house from November – March.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Windy City Pride contract for field house use.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Noverini, Simester, Campagnolo

NAYS: None

President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

E. Appoint new SEASPAR Representatives

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that staff recommends approving Executive Director Gurgone as SEASPAR Representative.

Commissioner Simester moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to appoint Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone as SEASPAR Representative and Assistant Director Chris Katsougris as SEASPAR Alternate.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Simester, Gillespie, Noverini, Christensen, Campagnolo
NAYS: None
President Campagnolo declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:15 p.m. Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to convene into executive session under Section 2(c)11 for discussion of litigation against the District – Open Meetings Act Complaint, Section 2(c)21 for Approval of the September 7, 2005 and September 12, 2005 Closed Session Meeting Minutes and Section 2 (c)5 for discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District.

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

President Campagnolo reported that the Board would be taking action in open session.

ACTION OF CLOSED SESSION

At 7:53 p.m. President Campagnolo reconvened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Campagnolo moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester to approve the agreement with the State’s Attorney’s Office in a form substantially submitted.

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

ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Simester that the meeting be adjourned. Upon voice vote the Motion was thereby carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Nancy Campagnolo, President
Darien Park District

Richard Simester, Secretary
Darien Park District