

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK HELD THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M., AT WEST RIDGE CENTER IN THE BOARD ROOM, 636 RIDGE ROAD, HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035.

Present: President Werhane, Vice President Waxman, Commissioners Weiss, Bernstein and Rosenbaum

Also Present: Executive Director McElroy, Director Swan, Director Stumpf, Superintendent Donahue, Superintendent Coutts, Superintendent Baker, Manager Schulewitz, Manager Huegel, Manager Carlo, Manager Meyer, Manager Meo, Supervisor Naatz, Supervisor Lebak and Office Coordinator Mitchell

ON CAMERA MEETING

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

OPEN TO PUBLIC TO ADDRESS BOARD

CORRESPONDENCE

President Werhane read a letter from the City of Highland Park to participate in a round table meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items on the Consent Agenda subject to attorney review.

Minutes of June 18, 2009 Workshop/Regular Meeting, Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$1,113,158.75, Final Payout/John Keno & Company/2009 Dredging Project/\$20,184, Payout #1/2009 Centennial Ice Arena Roof Replacement Project/Bennett & Brosseau Roofing, Inc./\$116,280, Bid/Skokie River Woods Wetland Restoration and Enhancement Project/JFNew/\$353,135.

Motion by Commissioner Weiss to accept the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Waxman.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: President Werhane, Commissioners Waxman, Weiss, Bernstein and Rosenbaum

Nays: None

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Manager Smith showed before and after pictures of the signage that was replaced at Heller Nature Center. The signs are more visible and updated. They replaced two trail head signs and three interpretive signs. The Board was very pleased with the way the signs looked and commended Manager Smith for his work on the project.

TREASURERS REPORT

Director Swan highlighted a few items of interest to the Board:

Good News:

- A. Taxes are coming in on schedule and program revenues are up.
- B. Corporate (Administrative and Parks/Planning) net is better by \$66,614.
- C. Recreation net is up by \$368,566 with camp revenues up by \$175,320 to \$1,205,536, Recreation Center of Highland Park net is \$149,195 and Hidden Creek AquaPark, even with the weather we've had, has actually improved by \$7,854 to a positive \$1,238.

This was accomplished, even though revenues declined by \$12,840 to \$123,525 by reducing expenses from \$142,981 to \$122,287.

- D. The Museum net remains positive at \$342,477.
- E. Deer Creek Tennis net improved by \$36,602 to \$215,055.

Not Necessarily Bad News:

- A. Sunset Valley Golf Course net is \$75,002 compared to last year at this time of \$68,383, with Membership revenue of \$218,294 slightly down from last year's figure of \$240,934.
- B. The Golf Learning Center net decreased to \$22,517 from \$25,576 a year ago.

Staff will continue to monitor the golf operations and hopefully figures may improve with a good July and August if the weather cooperates.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Attitude and Interest Survey

Executive Director McElroy explained the purpose for the survey. She stated that it would be a good opportunity to get a pulse of the community and the type of programs they would like the Park District to offer. The survey would also help with the strategic planning to help the District move into the future. The survey would start in August and the results would be ready in November. Leisure Vision will send out 4,000 surveys and guarantee 800 responses.

Motion by Commissioner Weiss to approve the survey and engage Leisure Vision for \$22,500 to conduct the survey. Seconded by Commissioner Waxman.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: President Werhane, Commissioners Waxman, Weiss,
Bernstein and Rosenbaum

Nays: None

Motion Carried

July Special Event Review

Supervisor Lebak reviewed the events for July.

Firecracker 4: There were 206 runners and \$13,000 was raised for our S.M.I.L.E. Fund. She thanked the Highland Park Bank & Trust for being the title sponsor and all of the volunteers who helped to make the event a success.

4th of July: There were over 66 entrants in the parade and 6,000-7,000 people in attendance. Approximately 3,000 were in attendance at Fourth Fest at Sunset Woods Park. The District received a proclamation from the Mayor for the District's 100-Year Anniversary.

July 9 was the all camp birthday party at West Ridge Center. There were two 20-foot water slides, a time capsule, ice cream and DJ. All of the campers had a great time celebrating together.

Summer Concert Series: There were about 50 families that attended the concert. The next concerts in the series will be held July 31 featuring the 70s music and August 28 featuring the 80s music. All proceeds will go to the S.M.I.L.E fund.

The Drive-In Movie will be held July 24 at Highland Park High School Parking lot. The cost is \$15 per car. Participants will tune their radio to get the sound of the movie right in their own car. All proceeds will go to the S.M.I.L.E fund.

Commissioner Bernstein thanked the volunteers who were in the dunk tank. Commissioner Waxman stated that this year's parade was the best ever. Commissioner Weiss stated that the Firecracker 4 race was fabulous. President Werhane congratulated the staff and thanked them for all of their hard work in making the events a success.

COMMISSIONER/COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS

Commissioner Bernstein stated that camp was great and was the best year yet! Staff did a fabulous job. Commissioner Rosenbaum commended the staff for the excellent customer service they provide and the maintenance of all facilities. President Werhane mentioned that at the July 9 birthday celebration at West Ridge, five grandmothers approached him. They expressed their appreciation for having camps held right here in Highland Park – in their own backyard.

Executive Director McElroy stated that the events make you appreciate what we do. Hats off to the camp counselors and staff for the great job they do. She gave a brief summary of the meeting that she and Director Swan had with the City, the School District and the Library. They discussed joint purchasing (such as paper, fuel, etc.), services (no duplication of programs) and land (get a better understanding of who has what). There is a land meeting scheduled for early August. Executive Director McElroy gave a brief follow-up about health insurance for part-time staff. She stated that Director Swan and Manager Carlo had met with insurance brokers and staff in small groups. After investigating the

Board Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2009

options, the District is not able to provide anything financially at this time but is willing to bring in brokers to help meet the needs of the part-time employees.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion to adjourn meeting at 6:43 p.m. by Commissioner Bernstein, second by Commission Waxman.

Secretary