

MINUTES OF A WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK HELD THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009 AT 5:00 P.M., AT WEST RIDGE CENTER IN THE CONFERENCE 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 Baker, Superintendent Coutts, Manager Carlo, Manager Huegel, Manager Schulewitz, Manager Meyer, Manager Smith, Supervisor Naatz, Supervisor Lebak and Office Coordinator Mitchell

## **WORKSHOP SESSION**

The Workshop session was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **CENTRAL PARK UPDATE**

Director Stumpf gave a presentation about the bluff movement. One incidence of the bluff movement has occurred at Central Park, causing unstable and unsafe conditions and loss of sections of the recently rebuilt staircase. He discussed the options the District has for devising a plan of action.

### **COMMUNITY ATTITUDE AND INTEREST SURVEY**

Executive Director McElroy stated that the District hasn't done a community survey in a long time and that a survey is usually done every five to seven years. She discussed the process of the survey and recommends securing Leisure Vision to conduct the survey. The survey process would take four months starting in August and the total cost is \$22,500. Leisure Vision recommends mailing out 4,000 surveys in order to guarantee a return of 800 responses. Executive Director McElroy stated that the survey would help with the strategic planning for the future of the District and to see what type of programs the community likes and wants to see. She recommends that a Survey Task Force be created. The Task Force would include Executive Director McElroy, Manager Meyer, Manager Huegel and two representatives from the Park Board. Commissioners Waxman and Rosenbaum agreed to participate on the Survey Task Force. There was discussion on how the survey would be delivered and what type of questions would be asked.

### **PARK FOUNDATION DISCUSSION**

Executive Director McElroy discussed incorporating a park foundation to provide an alternative means for financial support of Park District programs, parks and facilities. The Glenview Park Foundation was used as an example of a park foundation. Staff recommends that a special task force be created to study the mechanics of creating a foundation. The Task Force members would include Executive Director McElroy, Director Stumpf, Director Swan and two representatives from the Park Board. Commissioner Waxman asked if Executive Director McElroy had any background information on Glenview's Foundation and Commissioner Bernstein suggested talking with District 112 and seeing what they are doing with their foundation. Executive Director McElroy will work with staff to draft and develop by-laws and look into filing for 501C(3).

**ROSEWOOD BEACH DISCUSSION**

Director Stumpf stated that the capital bill has been passed meaning the District will be receiving the \$250,000 state grant. The OSLAD grant is submitted with the awarded projects being announced in January. Director Stumpf suggested making a commitment to completion of design and construction of the 'Lakefront Pavilion' as we cannot deny the \$250,000 grant. There was discussion on the beach pavilion and the plans for renovations.

**COMMISSIONER/COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS**

Commissioner Bernstein asked Manager Schulewitz about the meeting with the Wind Soccer group. Manager Schulewitz stated they gave their end of season report. The program participation numbers fluctuate, they don't cut any Highland Park children from the team and there are more renegade teams looking for fields on which to play. There are very minimal complaints from the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, motion to adjourn meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Motion Carried

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Secretary