

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2013**

The Workshop Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Highland Park, was held in the Board Room at the West Ridge Center, 636 Ridge Road, Highland Park, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Meyers.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, Commissioner Ruttenberg, Vice President Kaplan, President Meyers

**Staff Present:** Executive Director McElroy, Director Becker, Director Stumpf, Director Baker, Director Behlow, Director Donahue, Asst. Director Malartsik, Asst. Director Romes, and Recording Secretary Jendreas

**Guests:** Attorney Rob Bush, resident Terry Grossberg, Jerry Aulisio from the AT Group, Dave Olson and Rick Nielsen from WB Olson, and Andy Tinucci from David Woodhouse Architects, LLC.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Vice President Kaplan said that he invited resident Terry Grossberg to the meeting tonight to describe an interesting idea to the Board.

Mr. Grossberg explained that *HP Forward* is a local organization dedicated to making the world a better place one random act of kindness at a time. He said its Vision Statement is to see the City of Highland Park going out of their way to show kindness to others, and to see that kindness spread to neighboring towns. He thought perhaps the Park District could incorporate this idea into some of its programs.

Commissioners all felt that this was a wonderful, positive program, and Director McElroy said she will talk to staff about the idea of incorporating *HP Forward* into the District's theme weeks.

**REVIEW OF AT GROUP AND WB OLSON CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES**

Executive Director McElroy explained that the Rosewood Project is now firmly in the design development stage and, after Board discussion and direction, construction drawings will be initiated with intent to go to bid later this summer.

Jerry Aulio, of the AT Group, gave an update on the status of the Project and reviewed the Master Project Budget. He explained that budget increases were due to soils and bridge abutment issues, geothermal heating/cooling system, one year construction delay, and the revetment addition (stone wall in front of the buildings used to absorb wave impact).

Dave Olson, from WB Olson, said there is a 5% contingency built into the construction budget in the event of any cost overruns.

President Meyers asked if items such as the south stair finishes that could be identified as alternates to the project, and Mr. Aulio said they could be. President Meyers asked for a comparison cost for new stairs versus repairing the stairs.

Mr. Tinucci suggested demolishing the stairs and replacing them entirely. Mr. Olson estimated the cost to replace the stairs could be anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Commissioner Bernstein expressed his concerns that the project has increased from the original budget figures. He questioned protection of the buildings. He also questioned additional charges for utility work and additional consulting fees and asked why these were not anticipated. He felt the plaza, in the upper parking lot, was an important part of the project.

President Meyers said that the value engineering issues are negligible in the budget and account for about a 12% increase. He asked Commissioners to consider the revetment as a separate issue, because it is possible that some of the cost could come off the Army Corps project.

Mr. Aulio said it was important to move forward to determine where money can be saved on the project, and then consultant fees will be reduced accordingly.

Commissioners were in favor of moving forward, and keeping the revetment a separate issue, but they were very concerned about the total project cost. All agreed and further review will take place.

Jerry Aulio, Dave Olson, Rick Nielsen, and Andy Tinucci exited the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

President Meyers called for a recess at 7:27 p.m. He called the meeting back to order at 7:32 p.m.

## **BOARD ORIENTATION**

Attorney Rob Bush reviewed portions of the Board Orientation Manual. He said the Board's current policy of running meetings is working just fine and should be continued. As concerns arise in the future, he will come back to address them. Attorney Bush explained the importance of the Open Meetings Act and said the Board is a legislative body which has authority over the Park District. He said no one Commissioner can act separately, and the Board always acts as a group.

Attorney Bush explained the new technology, which covered emails and texts, and said any type of correspondence regarding Park District business can be FOIAed. It was suggested that any correspondence regarding Park District business, should be sent via Park District email or by telephone.

Attorney Bush also spent time discussing the roles of the officers of the Board and Board responsibilities and relationships.

### **REVIEW OF JUNE VOUCHERS**

Commissioner Bernstein said he reviewed the June Vouchers and had no concerns. Commissioners were in favor of placing the item on the June 25, 2013 Board Meeting Agenda.

### **OPEN TO PUBLIC TO ADDRESS BOARD** - None

### **CLOSED SESSION**

President Meyers announced that the Closed Session would be continued to the end of the Special Meeting immediately following this Workshop Meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Kaplan, seconded by Commissioner Bernstein, and approved by unanimous voice vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liza McElroy, Secretary