

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING  
MAY 14, 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 Waxman, Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, 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, and resident Barney Ruttenberg

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein, seconded by Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, to adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of Section 2(c)(1) – the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline of the District including legal counsel for the District; Section 2(c)5 – the purchase or lease of real estate including discussion on whether a certain parcel of property should be acquired; Section 2(c)6 – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District; Section 2(c)11 – litigation against or on behalf of the District or where the District finds that an action is probable or imminent; Section 2(c)21 – the discussion of minutes lawfully closed under the Act, whether for the purposes of approval of said minutes or for conducting the semi-annual review of the minutes as set forth in Section 2.06 of the Act; Section 2(c)29 – for discussions between internal or external auditors and the Board.

**Roll Call:**

**Aye:** Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, Commissioner Waxman, Vice President Kaplan, President Meyers

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

Meeting was adjourned into Closed Session at 6:05 p.m.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 6:40 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA** - None

**ROSEWOOD BEACH COVENANT**

Executive Director McElroy explained that on January 14, 2013, the City Council approved an Ordinance that permitted the Park District to go forward with the Rosewood Beach improvements. The improvements are to be constructed within the City's "Lake Michigan Protection Overlay Zone". She said the permit for the improvements is conditioned upon the execution and recordation by the owner of this Restrictive Covenant against the property. The covenant is designed to insure that the owner intends to maintain the property as planned. The Park District reserves the right to demolish or remove improvements with the requirements set forth in the Zoning Code.

Regarding the project, Ms. McElroy noted that a grant of \$26,000 was received from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation for using geothermal heating and cooling. She said that there is a tight timeline both for the Army Corps and the Park District, regarding the GLFER project, and it is extremely important to stay within the budget of \$7.8 million. It is also very important that the project will cause no negative impact to littoral drift after it is built.

Ms. McElroy said that the plan going forward is to sign a partner agreement with the USACE which states that the Park District will provide 35% of cost for the project. Project plans will be available for review at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, and a meeting for the community will also be scheduled in July. Recreation components will go out for bid in late June or July, and are currently in the 50% construction drawing phase.

Commissioners were in favor of placing approval of the Restrictive Covenant on the May 29<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Agenda.

**CENTRAL PARK STAIRS**

Director Stumpf explained that the insurance policy has been reviewed and PDRMA has been contacted regarding the coverage the District would hold on the Central Park bluff staircase, if and when constructed. The coverage would be equal to that of any other structure built on District property to the amount of \$1,000,000,000 per occurrence. However, land lost in a sudden and catastrophic bluff failure would not be included.

It was unknown if the stairway failure in 2007 was reported, but President Meyers stressed that any structural problems on Park District property should immediately be reported to PDRMA.

**IMRF RESOLUTION 13-5**

Director Becker stated that the Park District was randomly selected to be audited by IMRF in February, 2013, and one procedural deficiency was identified. The Park District has a history of including taxable allowances as earnings for IMRF members and, therefore, a resolution must be on file stating this fact.

**SIGNATORY RESOLUTION 13-6**

Director Becker explained that frequently, the Finance office is unable to take advantage of investment opportunities because they are subject to the Park Board's approval. The principal concern of the financial institution can be eliminated by providing blanket authority for any two of the designed individuals to sign on behalf of the Board. The individuals are: Board Commissioners, Executive Director, Finance Director, and the Accounting Manager. After each such decision is made, the Board will be able to ratify the decision at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

After a short discussion, Commissioners felt that there should be Board involvement in any investment opportunity, and a signature should be obtained from either the President or a member of the Finance Committee before any investment is made. Director Becker said he would change the Resolution to reflect this and present it for approval at the May 29<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

**CLOVERDALE PARK – CELLULAR SITE**

Director Stumpf said that a site plan and lease draft has been received from AT&T Mobility Corporation, on behalf of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, for installation of an 80 foot monopole antenna at Cloverdale Park, to improve cellular phone service. The plan proposes replacement of the existing wood 47 foot emergency services siren pole installed by the City of Highland Park in 2006. The petitioner would pay \$21,000 per year for rent with a 1.5% annual increase for a period of thirty years.

A discussion ensued and Commissioners did not feel a monopole belonged in a park and that it would be an eyesore. They were not in favor of pursuing it further.

**SENIOR AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Director Donahue said that staff is seeking approval from the Board to begin the formation of both Senior and Youth Advisory Committees. Currently, the District does not have advisory groups that represent these demographics. She said the Youth Advisory Committee would cover fifth through seventh graders, and staff and students would meet to discuss a group name. Regarding Seniors, a survey about their current facility would be sent out in June and results would be reviewed.

Commissioners were in favor of moving forward with the formation of the Senior and Youth Program Advisory Committees.

**REVIEW OF APRIL VOUCHERS**

Commissioners reviewed information provided on the May Vouchers and were in favor of placing the item on the May 29, 2013 Board Meeting Agenda.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein, seconded by Vice President Kaplan, and approved by unanimous voice vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liza McElroy, Secretary