



Oak Brook Park District

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 10, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Room 2 & 3

1) CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND ROLL CALL

President O'Brien opened the regular meeting of the Oak Brook Park District at 6:32 p.m. in the Family Recreation Center, Rooms 2 and 3. Commissioners Trombetta, Carson, Truedson, and President O'Brien answered, "present". Commissioner Knitter was absent. Also present were Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Barb Gosselar, Park District Attorney; Nancy Strathdee, Director of Finance & Human Resources; Cathy Fallon, Director of Recreation; Norm Russell, Director of Parks and Facility Services; and Mary Tansey, Corporate Relations.

2) APPROVAL OF October 10, 2011 AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Trombetta made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Truedson to approve the October 10, 2011 agenda.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.

3) OPEN FORUM

President O'Brien introduced Konrad Korth as the new swim coach to the board. It was noted that 96 kids have joined the swim team and the program is a tremendous success.

Michael Rott, 105 Parkview Drive, Northlake, addressed the board regarding the proposed expansion of the disc golf course. He inquired about the layout of the proposed course addition and when it would take place.

Ms. Kosey said the Master Plan does not show the exact course but rather the general area it would be located. She also said that the project is currently slated to be completed in Phase II of the Master Plan pending board approval.

Mr. Rott said he is affiliated with a panel of professional disc golf players who would like to offer their input on the course configuration. The board welcomed Mr. Rott's and his associates' input.

President O'Brien noted that the disc golf expansion project may happen sooner rather than later depending on budget constraints.

President O'Brien thanked Mr. Rott for his input.

John R. Magnuson, 17W728 Butterfield Road, Oakbrook Terrace addressed the board. He said he is a volunteer with Young Life – a ministry group serving junior high and high school aged abled and special needs children. Mr. Magnuson suggested wiffle ball courts be built as it is an effective family activity

that is inexpensive to offer. He also noted he has been a member for some time at the fitness and aquatic centers and said the facilities are fantastic, but there are problems with the staff. He said the staff is not well trained and offered instances where staff had been rude and non-attentive to him and other patrons.

President O'Brien thanked Mr. Magnuson for his input.

Ray Cesca, an Oak Brook resident, addressed the board and stated that he believes the Master Plan is fantastic. He said he is in favor of the proposed winter sports projects and suggested that the Park District sponsor more race events for walking and running. Mr. Cesca noted that his wife is concerned about the outdoor concerts and would like to see them geared toward classical and contemporary music rather than heavy metal or rock. He also suggested that paddle tennis be added to the Master Plan stating that it is a very popular sport in North Shore communities.

Ms. Kosey said Park District staff considered paddle tennis as a possible project for the Master Plan, but found that not only does Hinsdale already offer the sport, but also that it is very expensive to build and requires a large amount of space.

After no one else wished to address the board, President O'Brien thanked those that spoke for their input and open form was closed.

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Approval of September 12, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to approve the September 12, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Carson, Trombetta, Truedson and President O'Brien

Nays: None

5) APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING September 30, 2011

Motion: Commissioner Trombetta made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Truedson to approve the financial statement ending September 30, 2011.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Carson, Trombetta, Truedson and President O'Brien

Nays: None

6) APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

a) Approval of Warrant No. 532

Motion: Commissioner made a motion Trombetta, seconded by Commissioner Truedson to approve warrant No. 532.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Carson, Trombetta, Truedson and President O'Brien

Nays: None

7) COMMUNICATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

a) Board of Commissioners to share communications

President O'Brien presented a letter from William Schwalbach asking the Oak Brook Park District to not raise real estate taxes.

There were no other communications shared by the board.

b) Tennis Center Business Plan Presentation by Alin Pop, Tennis Center Manager

Alin Pop addressed the board and presented his business plan for the Tennis Center.

Mr. Pop reviewed the overall revenue and expense projections.

The board asked various questions including how much has to be spent on the Tennis Center to ensure that it continues to meet current standards.

Mr. Pop said that the Tennis Center would require \$500,000 initially for the needed renovations and then \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year to ensure that it continues to meet the desired standards.

There was a long discussion regarding various ways to generate revenue and possible groups to contact that may be interested in using the facility.

The board will review the plan and offer their questions and comments at the November meeting.

8) STAFF RECOGNITION

a) Konrad Korth, New Swim Team Coach

Recognition of Mr. Korth was done under open forum.

9) REPORTS:

a) Executive Director

Laure Kosey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District records.

Commissioner Carson stated that giving each employee a hard copy of the policy manual is a waste of paper. She said it should be sent electronically to each staff person who can sign and return a hard copy of the acknowledgment signature page.

Barb Gosselar said she would need to research whether it is advisable or not to provide a paper copy to all staff.

Ms. Kosey said it is her recommendation that each staff be given a hard copy of the manual. She acknowledged that it requires a large amount of paper, but is necessary to protect the Park District from a legal standpoint.

Commissioner Trombetta asked for clarification regarding the changes made to the policy.

b) Finance & Human Resources Director

Nancy Strathdee presented her report, which can be found in the Park District records.

President O'Brien directed Nancy Strathdee to make an appointment with the auditor and Commissioner Trombetta to review the management letter before the next board meeting. The auditor will make his/her presentation of the audit at next month's meeting.

c) Director of Recreation

Cathy Fallon presented her report, which can be found in the Park District records.

There were no questions regarding Ms. Fallon's report.

d) Director of Parks & Facility Services

Norm Russell presented his report, which can be found in the Park District records.

In regard to the planned tree and shrub plantings, President O'Brien suggested that staff make note of all plantings, their location and species for future reference.

e) Corporate Relations

Mary Tansey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District records.

There were no questions regarding Ms. Tansey's report.

10) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Soccer Goal Safety and Education Policy

Motion: Commissioner Trombetta made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Truedson to approve the soccer goal safety and education policy.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Carson, Trombetta, Truedson and President O'Brien

Nays: None

b) Personnel Policy Manual

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Carson to approve the personnel policy manual (as presented).

There was no discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Carson, Trombetta, Truedson and President O'Brien

Nays: None

c) Master Plan

Laure Kosey presented the board with updates regarding the Master Plan including changes to project costs and community feedback received at the recent open house event.

Ms. Kosey reviewed each of the projects planned for Phase I, changes made in cost and construction, and feedback received from the recent open house.

President O'Brien said he wants to see documentation outlining sponsors and programming for these proposed projects.

Ms. Kosey said in regard to the proposed soccer field, she and staff are seeking a grant from the U.S. Soccer Federation to provide the turf.

In regard to the restroom facility project, Ms. Kosey proposed that the restrooms be built on the back of the maintenance facility. She said the plumbing would be installed when the maintenance building is constructed in Phase I, with the bathrooms being completed in Phase II.

An added project to the Master Plan calls for connecting the paths within Central Park in an effort to make them more usable.

Another added project proposed is to have fitness stations constructed in various areas of Central Park. She said this project was seen favorably by those who attended the Open House.

Other smaller projects in Phase I were discussed, and information regarding each one can be found in the meeting records.

Ms. Kosey said the Synthetic Soccer Field if completed in Phase I could approximately generate \$100,000.00 per year.

There was discussion regarding the proposed Tennis Center renovations including the addition of windows, paint and the renovation of the racquet ball courts. The racquet ball renovation included the possibility of having a physical therapy company using three of the renovated courts and the remaining court being used for storage.

Ms. Kosey said it is planned to spend \$3,000,000.00 in Phase I and she would like to keep the cost of the proposed maintenance building to \$500,000.00.

In regard to the splash pad, Ms. Kosey said staff is looking for sponsorships and donations to help fund the project. She said having this attraction is a good way to increase summer aquatic memberships.

Commissioner Truedson said he is still concerned that the Splash Pad will not generate enough revenue to justify the cost.

Ms. Kosey said it is her recommendation that the Park District move forward with the Splash Pad project noting that splash pad designs have greatly improved since the current one was installed.

In regard to offering bocci ball, Ms. Kosey said the Park District may want to reconsider as a new business, Pinstripes, is coming to town and will be offering this sport at its indoor facility.

Ms. Kosey said she is not looking to issue more bonds for Phase II, and that Phase III is just too far out to pinpoint projects, but noted that we still must be prepared.

Commissioner Carson said she would like to see estimates for each project and that these numbers would decide what is done. She also said she is in favor of keeping bocci ball in the Master Plan.

Ms. Kosey asked if the board would offer approval if Phase I came in at \$3,000,000.00.

The board concurred that they still want to consider the projects.

Ms. Kosey noted that Phase III is ten years out and that is when bonds would be issued again.

Commissioner Trombetta said he wants to consider needs vs. wants. He said the current plan does not include any needs. The Commissioner said if the Plan consists of too many wants and not enough needs, then residents may not see this in a favorable light. He said the Park District should not just be spending money for the sake of spending money.

Ms. Kosey asked Commissioner Trombetta what he feels are unnecessary wants. The Commissioner said the Splash Pad and venues for concerts.

President O'Brien said he wants to see hard costs for the projects as well as projected programming and revenue outlined for each phase. By doing this, he said it may show that the Park District should move a project into Phase I if it is projected to generate considerable income. He also said that he would like to see roadway improvements included in the Plan.

Ms. Kosey said other than needing to hire two additional lifeguards for the splash pad; the proposed projects would not add additional costs to the Park District budget.

In regard to the existing parking lots at CPW and the Tennis Center, Norm Russell said he has pending estimates for repaving.

Commissioner Truedson said he is concerned about the HVAC system at the Aquatic Center. He said it is his understanding that the system is on its last leg and wonders whether this should not be included in the Master Plan.

President O'Brien said the HVAC system repair and replacement is a capital project and therefore, should not be included in the Master Plan.

Commissioner Truedson said the Master Plan should include maintaining what we already have. He said it is important to do due diligence and to maintain the Park District's assets.

Ms. Kosey was directed to re-present the five-year capital projects plan at next month's meeting to answer the board's questions.

Commissioner Trombetta said the Park District must take better care of what it already has and must staff the Aquatic Center better.

In regard to Mr. Magnuson's concerns addressed in open forum, Ms. Kosey said she has had several conversations with Mr. Magnuson regarding the incident he spoke of and that it involves one specific employee.

It was the consensus of the board, with the exception of Commissioner Trombetta, to continue to proceed with the Master Plan.

Ms. Kosey said she will speak with the consultants tomorrow and give them the board's suggestions and concerns.

11) NEW BUSINESS

a) None

12) NEXT REGULAR MEETING: November 14, 2011

President O'Brien announced the November regular meeting time and date.

Commissioner Trombetta suggested holding a separate meeting for the Master Plan.

President O'Brien directed Ms. Kosey to wait on setting a separate meeting to discuss the Master Plan until firm numbers are obtained and grant money is sought.

13) ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Trombetta made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Carson to adjourn at the hour of 7:53 p.m.

There was no discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.