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COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Mary Ann Bitzer at 7:00 P.M., August 16, 2011 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Following the Pledge of Allegiance the roll call was called with the following commissioners answering present: Mary Ann Bitzer, Spike Bryant, David Tanzyus and Andrew Carruthers. Commissioner Joan Burke was absent.

Staff present included executive director Mark Badasch, park superintendent Kevin Brown, recreation superintendent Rick Robbins, aquatic supervisor Stephanie Whittington, marketing and communications coordinator Elizabeth Davis, golf course manager/pro Mark Marcuzzo, golf course superintendent Bob Lovatto and administrative assistant Susan Zaber.

Commissioner Joan Burke arrived and was seated at 7:06 pm.

Public Input

Rod Spears addressed the board regarding the purpose for CARD, the Arlington property purchase, the 2009-2010 audit, the golf course and golf course equipment.

Mike Macek addressed the board regarding Arlington Greens, the Arlington property purchase and the Arlington Wetland.

Ron Jedda addressed the board regarding the letter from Mary Ann Bitzer in the BND, questionable land purchases, accepting an appraisal from sellers of property, the land purchase contract and conditions at Woodland Park.

Lisa Ciampoli addressed the board regarding all parties being respectful of others, slowing down land purchasing.

Harold Sims addressed the board regarding the Miner's Institute project, tearing the building down, the cost estimates, a flow chart and who is the responsible person.

Phil Astrauskas addressed the board regarding thanking the board members and the media, paying \$18 less in taxes to CARD than to the city, the golf course, Tara property, Arlington property purchase, Miner's Institute, giving employee raises, that property assessments are down and that the board should step down.

WHERE THE BENEFITS OF PARKS AND RECREATION ARE ENDLESS!

Chris Guy, representing State Representative Dwight Kay, addressed the board advising that the Representative has received many calls regarding CARD and past decisions. He requested that the board consider the unemployed and the level of taxes going forward.

Larry Gullede addressed the board regarding spending practices, listening to the taxpayers, the level of bonded indebtedness, the amount of bonds due in 2016, the plan for Miner's and the plan for paying off bonds.

Rod Schmidt addressed the board with a 20 year comparison of taxing entities, the tax levy for 2011, the township tax level.

Mark Achenbach addressed the board regarding not spending any more on the Miner's project, CARD doesn't need a theater, formation of a Museum District and assistance that has been given to the Collinsville Historical Museum.

Jeanne Lomax addressed the board regarding the need to purchase the property on Vivian, next to Willoughby Farm, and the price paid.

Pastor David Amsden addressed the board regarding his view that small decisions may have taken CARD off course, slow down, involve taxpayers more, try to get everyone on the same page.

Sally Killian addressed the board regarding the general economy, stopping spending, using private donors for the Miner's project.

Phil Astrauskas, Jr. addressed the board regarding the Tara Lane property rental being too cheap, the recession and that he favors eliminating CARD.

A motion was made by Tanzyus, seconded by Bryant, that the Minutes of the Regular meetings held July 19, 2011 be approved with the following corrections and placed on file. Corrections: 1) the Pledge of Allegiance was not said at the meeting, and; 2) in the fourth paragraph, commissioners Carruthers and Tanzyus were opposed due to the lack of an appraisal, the cost and questions about the need for this purchase. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tanzyus, seconded by Carruthers, that the Minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting and tour of Miner's Institute held August 2, 2011 at the Miner's Institute be approved and placed on file. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tanzyus, seconded by Carruthers, that the Treasurers Report for July, 2011 be approved as printed and placed on file for audit. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Tanzyus, seconded by Carruthers, that the list of claims and accounts totaling \$251,634.35 be approved for payment. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

Following completion of staff reports, a motion was made by Burke, seconded by Tanzyus, that staff reports be accepted. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

Discussion Items

The commissioners were advised that attorney Gerber will be preparing an update to the 1993 ordinance regarding addressing the board at meetings and the board policy covering video and audio recording of meetings. The purpose is to bring both together in one document that will be up-to-date.

The board reviewed the proposed Policy on Land Acquisition prepared at the board's request. Mr. Carruthers advised that, after talking with attorney Gerber, he was satisfied that the policy addresses his areas of concern.

Mr. Badasch reviewed the need for board approval of the Operation & Maintenance Plan for the Arlington Wetland property. This is a requirement of the EPA 319 grant which both CARD and the County have to adopt in order for the grant to be released. The oversight responsibilities will be carried out by the Southwestern Illinois R, C & D, a long time partner and resource in other natural resource projects.

A discussion of the Miner's Institute Rehabilitation Project took place. Commissioner Carruthers stated his view that the project should not go forward without more private funding committed and a written funding plan.

Board members were advised that the sellers of the Arlington property have agreed, through their attorney, to extend the closing date on the property to allow us to obtain our own appraisal.

The board was provided with the Preliminary Design Options for a future pedestrian bridge connecting Pleasant Ridge Park with the MCT Schoolhouse Bike Trail, per the park master plan. However, discussion of design preferences to pursue was delayed at the request of Mr. Badasch.

Mr. Badasch reviewed a website content survey that he and Elizabeth Davis had conducted, visiting other public agency internet websites to see what information was being posted. The results were included in the board packet and covered twenty-eight public entities, twelve of which were other park districts. From this survey, it appears that CARD posts more information in the form of notices, agendas, minutes, budget and levy than most of the agencies.

Action Items

A motion was made by Carruthers, seconded by Tanzyus, that **Resolution Number 11-2, COLLINSVILL AREA RECREATION DISTRICT LAND ACQUISITION POLICY**, be adopted. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Bryant, seconded by Carruthers, that The Operation & Maintenance Agreement with the Southwestern Illinois R, C & D covering the Arlington Wetland be approved. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Carruthers, seconded by Tanzyus, that spending on future work on the Miner's Institute Rehabilitation be suspended until a written funding plan has been

developed and approved by the board. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

Other Business

Mr. Badasch advised that we are in the process of obtaining the final site plan of the Glidden Park City Water Improvement Project so that we can begin laying out the skateboarding area.

Mr. Badasch advised that he had not heard back from the commissioners on a briefing meeting with financial advisor Jeff Schuppel. Commissioner Tanzyus had been out of town. Mr. Badasch will resend the information to all.

Efforts are continuing to set up a time for Peter Murphy of the Illinois Association of Park Districts to meet with the board.

No further business coming before the Commissioners, a motion was made by Carruthers, seconded by Tanzyus, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll being called, those voting aye were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Burke, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted nay. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Badasch, Secretary

Date