



COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 18, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by Vice President David Tanzyus at 6:30 PM, June 18, 2013 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: Mark Achenbach, Mary Ann Bitzer, Patrick Collins, and David Tanzyus.

Staff present included Executive Director Terry Wilson, Superintendent of Parks Kevin Brown, Arlington Golf Manager Mark Marcuzzo, Assistant Golf Pro Chad Robbins, Golf Course Superintendent Kyle Smith, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent Kelsey Smith, Special Events Coordinator Shelly Crehan, Marketing and Communications Coordinator Elizabeth Davis, Program Coordinator Kelsey Rundle, Aquatic Supervisor Karl Schmidt and Administrative Assistant Susan Zaber. Attorney David Gerber was also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Sparks addressed the Board regarding the resignation of Commissioner Andrew Carruthers and the notification posted by CARD for the vacated position. He stated he would submit his letter of interest packet for the position. He referred to previous positions he submitted applications for, to include the Executive Director and interim commissioner positions. He outlined his wishes for CARD and stated:

- The overseeing of CARD should not be about politics.
- Remember the money provided to oversee the operations of CARD come from the tax payer.
- Do not borrow or spend more than what is allotted by the tax payers.

He stated as one of the five commissioners he would insist to impose fiscal responsibility by efficiently operating on a true balanced budget. He stated waiting a month to publicly respond to things discussed at a meeting is a trying experience. He thanked the Board and stated he looked forward to serving as a commissioner, and submitted his letter of interest packet to Executive Director Terry Wilson.

Rod Spears stated about two years ago when Andrew Carruthers and David Tanzyus were elected to the Board, they invited him to the meeting where the Arlington land purchase for \$400,000 was to be discussed. He stated he attended every meeting for about a year and a half, and was happy to see the transition of the Board, based on what he saw when he first starting coming and the way things were being done. He stated he wasn't pro CARD for a long time, but was that night. He stated that having said that he was disappointed in the Board. He stated the reason was when the people worked hard to change the Board, the organization, and the members and those that had not effectively run the organization; they had a hope that what they were doing was changing the Board in a way that met their goals and objectives for what the

Board should be. He stated at the top of the list was honesty, integrity, and an effort to do what was right no matter the issue discussed, so that everyone there knew it was in their heart to do the right thing. He stated he was disappointed in the way the Board was handling the process to fill the vacated commissioner position. He stated he was told by Jim Sparks that a date of June 28th had been set for people to submit their desire to fill the commissioner spot that was left by Andrew Carruthers. He stated the rumor that came to him was that his friends on the Board went into a back, smoke-filled room and came to a solution that no one knew about. . He stated that was not the way to do it and not the way the people wanted them to do it. He stated it was about honesty and integrity and doing things right. He stated if the Board was standing where he was standing and viewed what had been done, they would view it the same way because the reason they were where they were was because they were the type of people the people thought would do what the people envisioned. He asked the Board to do the right thing and stated what they were doing was not the right thing, and if they were on the other side they would say what they were doing was not the right way to do it.

Dominic Baima addressed the Board regarding the resolution that was to be discussed and acted on for the use of park district facilities by commissioners. He stated he wanted to give the Board some things to think about before they made their decision. He stated he understood why the Board would see the use of park facilities for free could be seen as compensation, but he felt the only way for the Board to effectively represent the citizens of the District was to use and become familiar with the facilities. He stated it appeared the Board only viewed the District as a budget and a golf course, and it seemed they were failing to see all the other parts of CARD and the wonderful benefits that CARD had to offer. He reference how he felt when a Board member was on the premises at Splash City when he worked there, and stated he feared if the commissioners were charged to use the facilities there would be less connection between the Board and what was actually going on outside of the meetings. He challenged the Board to attend a program, use the facilities, and enjoy what CARD had to offer. He asked the Board that when they were considering what to do about the provisions of how they use the facilities to think about how they used or did not use them currently, and figure out how to make the provisions improve the Board's interaction with the facilities. He brought to the Board's attention statements made by management of Splash City on a Facebook page, which he stated were illegal and should they have followed through with them could have resulted in legal actions against CARD.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Mary Ann Bitzer, seconded by Patrick Collins to approve the consent agenda to include May 2013 Regular and Closed session minutes, the Treasurer's report for May 2013, and the Claims and Accounts list in the amount of \$447,802.58. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A motion was made by Mark Achenbach, seconded by Patrick Collins to nominate David Tanzyus as President. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Mary Ann Bitzer to nominate Patrick Collins as Vice President. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Patrick Collins to nominate Mark Achenbach as Treasurer. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS:

Terry Wilson read from staff reports and stated:

- The rainy weather and cool temperatures resulted in a shaky start for Splash City and had impacted play at the ball fields and the golf course.
- The Miner's Institute transfer was complete with the clearing of the deed and agreed upon funds provided to the MIF.
- New equipment ordered was beginning to come in, to include the Wide Area mower.
- Working on getting ball fields at the Jaycee Sport Complex where they needed to be, so that by next season the District could host tournaments and generate more revenue from the fields.
- Willoughby was up and running and later in the meeting he would discuss bids for the drive, and other items related to the budget.
- Shared a picture of the Schnuck Park dam, which was provided to him by resident Don Heyden, and he stated the dam broke the previous evening.
- Regarding the recent Splash City spot light broadcasted on KMOV regarding car break-ins in the area, he stated there was one break-in at Splash City.
- Mary Ann Bitzer asked about Pleasant Ridge and whether the trees were going to be replaced. Terry Wilson stated the company that provided the trees was bankrupt and the trees would not be replaced. Elizabeth Davis mentioned a grant being offered by the Rotary Club for trees and shrubs, etc.
- Mary Ann Bitzer asked if there were three phases planned for Pleasant Ridge and Elizabeth Davie stated there were five phases. Mary Ann clarified the District had done one phase and asked if that was going to be a part of future planning. Terry Wilson stated yes if there was money to be found.
- Mark Achenbach inquired about a plan for a bridge to get to the back half of the park where there was currently a dead end road. Mary Ann referred to reports provided to the Board in the past. Mark stated he thought it was important to find the money to build the bridge, otherwise the back half of the park was empty land. Terry stated it was not forgotten, but grant money was not what it used to be.

A motion was made by Patrick Collins, seconded by Mary Ann Bitzer to accept staff reports. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Regarding the Arlington property exchange David Gerber stated there was some disagreement regarding indemnity language between him and the property owner, and he was trying to come up with a concept that would be satisfactory to the District and resolve the property owner's

issues. He stated instead of doing the drainage easement in the deeds back and forth, as was originally set-up, he was going to do a separate document and get it to Mr. Borage for review.

Regarding a resolution outlining District by-laws David Gerber stated at the last meeting there was discussion about rules and procedures put together by the previous Executive Director. He stated the Board was going to look at what was put together and outline what they liked and did not like. David Gerber stated he had not received any feedback and did not think Terry Wilson had received any either. It was stated by Board members that they did not have a copy of what David was referring to and David stated a copy would be sent to the Board prior to the next meeting. There was discussion clarifying the need for the by-laws and what was required by First Collinsville Bank. David Tanzyus stated since the Board did not have what was needed to take action, agenda item VIII.C. was stricken as an action item.

A copy of Resolution 13-6, outlining provisions for use of the Park District by the commissioners was distributed to the Board. A motion was made by Mark Achenbach, seconded by David Tanzyus to adopt Resolution 13-6, A Resolution Use of Park District Facilities by Commissioners.

- Mark Achenbach addressed public comments made by Dominic Baima and stated he agreed with most of what Dominic had stated and it was important that the commissioners show-up and use the facilities. He stated on one hand Dominic's perspective had to be honored, but the commissioners had to be careful that the general residents at large did not see the commissioners as taking some kind of debt from serving on the committee. He stated being a good community member was serving and giving back to the community. He stated there was a cost to using the facilities and it was good for the commissioners to understand how that cost limits the use by the residents.
- Mary Ann Bitzer stated she agreed with Dominic and it was important to be present as much as possible throughout the year at the parks, events, and facilities. She stated she did not understand why this was being discussed, because it was obvious to her that the commissioners needed to be around to see whether they were doing a good job, where improvements were needed, etc. She stated she was an elected official and asked if she had the right to see their facilities. She stated she wanted to see her facilities without having to pay to do so. David Tanzyus stated Mary Ann could see the facilities and provided an example of a visit he made to Pleasant Ridge, and stated for the cost facilities she could make arrangements with Terry Wilson to see Splash City, etc.
- Mark Achenbach stated he thought they were doing something that wasn't required and he thought the state law said unless the Board passed something that said the commissioners could use the facilities for free, they could not. David Gerber explained in the park district handbook there was an ordinance for the Board to pass to allow for the free use of facilities by the commissioners.
- Patrick Collins asked about the value of the resolution, since the commissioners could not get free things without action being taken. Mark Achenbach stated he thought it was important because it set a mile post for what the Board believed, and that although the law stated they didn't have to, it happened in the past, and it was for them, the employees and the public to believe it was worthwhile.

Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were Achenbach and Tanzyus. Those voting NAY were Bitzer and Collins. Motion did not pass. Mark Achenbach stated he wanted to make one thing clear that it was state law the commissioners could not use the facilities for free. David Tanzyus stated yes.

Regarding the 2013-2014 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Terry Wilson referred to a draft copy previously provided to the Board and highlighted differences from last year's budget compared to this year's budget. Terry stated between last year's budget and this year's budget things had changed, to include: consolidation of funds to one account, salaries applied to appropriate funds, some budgets were lower because of cuts made, etc. He stated he didn't have a full year with the District and deciphering what was done before versus what should not be done, and what needed to be done was fun.

- Mark Achenbach asked about areas where negative balances were projected and where funds would need to be transferred from to make up the differences. He stated the transfers would need to be shown as expenditures from whatever funds they were transferred from to make up the difference. He stated the Board needed to talk about the funds and whether they were willing to spend more money to have larger expenditures than incomes, not including balances being carried forward. He stated next year would be much harder with \$225,000 less. He stated if they were willing to spend more than they took in this year there was less for the following year.
- Terry Wilson stated his reasoning was they had a short window before they were in trouble. He stated they had to create more revenue sources or they were going to go down. He stated his theory was this was the only year they had to put back what the people had not received for 20 years, and that was to fix up facilities that had deteriorated because they would not get that chance again. He stated he would rather try to build up what they had now and sponge later to maintain what they had at a high level than maintaining not so great things at a lower level, because he did not think the people would be happy.
- David Tanzyus asked Terry if his hope was to get assets up to a higher level, in the long run it would be easier to maintain. Terry referred to the Sport Complex and stated they had 12 ball fields at one facility that had been under utilized and over neglected for years. He stated he thought the fields could be a high revenue source for them, but not the state they were in currently. He stated in order for them to fix up that facility to bring people in they had to spend the money. He stated he would rather spend a few bucks now to make more later, because that was when they were going to need it. When asked, Terry stated he thought the District could make \$100,000 in profit. There was discussion about the current league arrangements and CBSL, etc., increasing utilization and revenue generated, and the District's lease with the City of Collinsville.
- Mark asked about the Aquatic fund and stated the revenue projection for the Aquatic fund was down 1.5% from last year. Terry stated Splash City had a weak start this year compared to last year.
- Mark asked about the utilities at Willoughby Farm and referred to the amount of the utility bills. Terry stated the house was finished and would be used for weddings, etc. Mark stated the previous month's bill was approximately \$250 - 350 and the budget projection was approximately \$1000 per month. Terry stated in the past the house was not heated in the winter and the intent was to rent the house out for special events.
- Patrick Collins referred to the Audit fund, and stated the revenue from property taxes was expected to be approximately \$15,000 and expenditures were expected to be around \$16,000. He asked what could be done to make the property taxes on all the funds match at least the expenditures. Mark Achenbach stated the funds could be raised on the Audit fund. Patrick asked what funds they were limited on, and Mark stated they were limited in the General, Recreation, and Museum funds.

- Mark stated the General and Recreation funds were projected to have deficit spending at \$25,000 a piece this year and next year they would be taking in \$112,000 less in each of those funds. He stated his concern was from this year's spending to next year they would need to cut \$137,000 in next year's budget.
- Mark Achenbach asked about debt retirement and asked Terry if he could make sure the monies were put into the appropriate fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mark Achenbach, seconded by Patrick Collins, to adopt Ordinance 13-1: An Ordinance Regulating Wages of Laborers, Mechanics and Other Workers Employed in Any Public Works or by Anyone under Contract for the Collinsville Area Recreation District, Collinsville, IL.

- Patrick Collins asked about the general need for the ordinance. David Gerber stated every year every governmental body had to adopt the ordinance.

Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT:

Terry Wilson stated in reference to public comments made by Mr. Spears, the reason he put the notification of a commissioner vacancy on the CARD website was because when Patrick Collins was put on they had done the same thing. Individuals interested in being a commissioner could send something in and they could look at it to review who the best candidate would be. He stated the reasoning behind the June 28th due date was they hadn't met since Andrew Carruthers left and he thought it would be good to put the date after the June meeting. He stated the intent was to give everyone the opportunity to be a commissioner if they wanted to be a commissioner.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Regarding a closed session, a motion was made by Patrick Collins, seconded by David Tanzyus to go into Closed Session for the purpose discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees and litigation. (5 ILCS 120/2(c) 1/11) Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The Board adjourned to CLOSED SESSION at 7:58 PM.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order in OPEN SESSION by President David Tanzyus, June 18, 2013 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Upon roll being called the following commissioners answered present: Mark Achenbach, Mary Ann Bitzer, Patrick Collins, and David Tanzyus. Staff present included Executive Director Terry Wilson and Administrative Assistant Susan Zaber. Attorney David Gerber was also present.

No further business coming before the commissioners, a motion was made by Mark Achenbach, seconded by Patrick Collins that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Achenbach, Bitzer, Collins, Tanzyus. None voted Nay. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zaber, Recording Secretary

Date