

Vernon Hills Park District
Minutes of the Special Park Board Meeting
May 26, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order.** The Special Meeting of the Vernon Hills Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Doerhoefer at 7:35 p.m. at the Laschen Community Center, 294 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills.
2. **Roll Call.** Present: Commissioners Ballowe, Meline, Kessler, Robbins and Doerhoefer. Staff – Jeff Fougousse, Marla Pineiro and Orin Main.

3. **New Business**

A. Master Plan updates

This is the first of two public meetings regarding updating the Master Plan for the Vernon Hills Park District.

1. **Aspen South Project** – There was discussion regarding what improvements should be done on the property. The 2008 plan was to add a soccer field, ballfield, turnabout, 2-play areas, bathroom, storage area and a skate park at a cost of \$1.3M. Hawthorn School District 73 was in agreement with the plan but they currently do not have the funds to contribute to the project. There was also discussion regarding a potential walk path around the south perimeter of the park connecting to the path at the far east end of the park.
2. **Deerpath Center** – Due to the cost of operating the Deerpath Center the Park District is looking into the possibility of selling the property. The Christ Lutheran Church is very interested in purchasing the property.
3. **5 acre site** – This open area along Deerpath Road is used for lacrosse and soccer. Due to the limited parking there is not much that can be done with the property. There was discussion about potentially berming along Deerpath Road to provide aesthetic value. In addition, discussion also took place about adding a walk path which would start at the north east end of Evergreen Lake running along the western shore of all the property owners of Evergreen Lake. As well, extending a path in Deerpath Park along the Seavey Ditch from the Kids Castle location going north up to ballfield 1 & 2 hugging along the Seavey Ditch was discussed.
4. **Sullivan Community Center Improvements** – Executive Director Fougousse presented drawings of a proposed renovation. The improvements presented are 25,000 square feet totaling \$5M. Plans include a new gym, indoor track, improved fitness room and class operations, entry and control desk and staff connectivity. The consensus of the Board was that they liked the plan on a size perspective but felt that more conclusive studies on the actual need are required. Options A, B & C of the architectural perspectives presented a few years ago were also discussed.
5. **Park Maintenance Facility** – The direction the Board gave Executive Director Fougousse was to look for an existing facility in either Corporate Woods or Arbor Court. The facility should have a minimum of 15,000 square feet and a maximum of 20,000 square feet. The Board gave the go ahead to look for an existing facility as a priority as opposed to building a new site.
6. **Ballfield/Tennis Court Lights** – There was discussion that the priority is to work with the Vernon Hills High School to put lights at their tennis courts in lieu of Deerpath Park. The idea of adding ballfield lights to Deerpath fields 1 & 2 was tabled.

7. **Sullivan Woods Path / Lake Charles Path** – The Board asked Executive Director Fougrousse to layout a cost estimate for the current plans. Further discussion was tabled until the June 23, 2011 Master Plan Meeting.
8. **Family Aquatic Center Splash Pad** – Discussion was tabled until the June 23, 2011 Master Plan Meeting.

4. Adjournment

Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Special Meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Jeff Fougrousse, Park Board Secretary

David Doerhoefer, Park Board President