

Vernon Hills Park District
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
May 28, 2009 – 6:00 pm

1. **Call to Order.** The regular meeting of the Vernon Hills Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Doerhoefer at 6:02 pm at the Laschen Community Center, 294 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills.
2. **Roll Call.** Present: Commissioners Ballowe, Meline, Peterson, Sente and Doerhoefer. Staff –Marla Pineiro, Tom Ritter, Orin Main, Cheryl Baron and Ruth Horndasch. Others present: Dan Dalziel, 3D Design Studio; former Park District Commissioners Carol Hendricks and Dennis Skidmore; Barbara deNekker of Waukegan, IL; residents: Jack Bakke, Darryl Klem, April Nemrava, Pat Basler, Marilyn Gray and Bruce Robbins.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance.** President Doerhoefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time, President Doerhoefer motioned to appoint Commissioner Sente as Board Secretary Pro Tem. Second by Commissioner Meline.

Ayes: Commissioners Peterson, Sente, Meline, Ballowe and Doerhoefer

Nays: None Motion carries

4. **Oath of Office for Newly Elected Commissioners Jim Ballowe, Michael E. Meline and Bruce Robbins.** Park Board Secretary Pro Tem Sente approached the podium and administered the Oath of Office to Newly Elected Commissioners Ballowe, Meline and Robbins.

Former Commissioner Cynthia T. Peterson approached the podium to publicly thank the Park Board, staff, residents, and former Commissioners and stated that she cherished serving on the Park District for the past 24 years. President Doerhoefer also added that it had been a pleasure to serve with Cynthia on the Park Board and wished her a happy retirement on behalf of the current Park Board.

At this time, President Doerhoefer stated that the agenda order would be changed. Agenda Item 7 would come next followed by Agenda Items 6, then Item 5.

7. **Welcome to Visitors and Guests - Public Comment Period** – Former Commissioners Dennis Skidmore and Carol Hendricks approached the podium and expressed their appreciation to retired Commissioner Cynthia T. Peterson for serving together on the Park Board in previous years while also expressing their gratitude to Cynthia for her hard work, service and dedication to the District. Mr. Skidmore and Ms. Hendricks wished Cynthia a very happy retirement.

6. **Century Park North – 2009 OSLAD Grant – Resident Input** – Dan Dalziel of 3D Design Studio reviewed possible amenities for the enhancements planned at Century Park North. The proposed list includes:

- Restroom, Warming and Day Camp Building
- Fishing Deck and Pier
- (6) Tri-Active Fitness Equipment Stations and Child Fitness Area
- Teen Activity Area
- Sand Volleyball Court
- (2) Bocce, (2) Horseshoes and Seating Area
- (2) Fishing Overlook/Ledges
- 10' Wide Vehicular Bridge
- New Walking Paths
- Shoreline Erosion Control Treatments and Overlook Areas
- Weather Protection Shelter/Picnic Shelter

- New Dugouts (*at the existing ball fields*)
- New Skate Park
- Interactive Water Spray Park in Peterson Park Area of Century Park
- Arboretum/Interpretive Trail within the Island (*promote education/conservation*)
- Cricket Pitch and Practice Area
- Path Connections to the East and West (*Lakeview Pkwy and Indianwood Dr*)
- Additional Large Picnic Shelters and/or Small Shade Structures
- Permanent Baggo Goals for Visitors
- Ice Rink/In-Line Skating Area
- Native Prairie Plants and Wet Prairie Demonstration Area with Interpretive Signs
- Multi-tiered Bird Houses and Osprey Nesting Platforms
- Butterfly Garden
- Half-court Basketball Renovation at the Existing Basketball Court
- Council Ring Seating Area Out on the Point of the Island
- Erosion Control Shoreline Enhancements Along the Island and Shore

Residents expressed concerns regarding parking, placement of proposed skate park, and noise. Residents also expressed their approval and appreciation for the District's continued efficiency in maintaining Park District properties and equipment.

The Park Board briefly discussed the proposed features for the enhancements at the north end of Century Park. The Park Board's consensus is to delete the 10' wide vehicular bridge, skate park, interactive water spray park and ice rink options and to add a tri-court 3 ½ basketball court to the list of amenities to be included in the 2009 OSLAD Grant Application.

5. Omnibus Vote Agenda

- a. **Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 23, 2009**
- b. **Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 7, 2009**
- c. **Payables (less Grainger) & Payroll through May 28, 2009 in the amount of \$478,441.11**

Motion by Commissioner Meline to approve items A, B & C of the Omnibus Vote Agenda. Second by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Meline, Robbins, Sente, Ballowe and Doerhoefer

Nays: None Motion carries

At this time, President Doerhoefer stated that Agenda Item 11.I would be moved up in order.

11. I. Tobacco-Free Park Discussion

The Board briefly discussed ways to prohibit the use of tobacco products in District parks. The consensus of the Board is to implement a partial no-smoking policy to be implemented at playgrounds, ballfields and the skate park. Barb DeNekker of Reality Illinois approached the podium to reiterate the importance of a tobacco-free policy for parks. President Doerhoefer instructed Supt. Pineiro to draft a smoke-free ordinance for playgrounds, ballfields and the skate park to be discussed further at the regular board meeting of June 25, 2009.

- 8. Financial Reports for the Period Ending April 31, 2009** - Financial reports were accepted for file and audit. Supt. Pineiro added that upon the request of Commissioner Robbins financial reports will include monthly budget amounts and a balance sheet.

9. Reports/Communication

- A. Interim Executive Director/Finance & HR Superintendent – Marla Pineiro** – Report attached.

B. Recreation Superintendent – Tom Ritter – Report attached. Supt. Ritter added that the Park District will be working with School District 73 to run/coordinate new programs after school hours at the District 73 schools.

C. Parks Superintendent – Orin Main – Report attached.

D. Communications Manager – Cheryl Baron – Report attached.

E. Commissioner/Committee Reports and Communications –

1) Park District/Village Liaison Committee – Commissioner Sente – No report. Will propose a meeting date with the Village once Jeff Fougerousse starts as the new Executive Director of the District.

2) Park District/Hawthorn School District 73 Liaison Committee – Commissioner Meline – No report. Once Jeff Fougerousse starts as the new Executive Director, will plan to attend a meeting together.

F. Board Correspondence – President Doerhoefer stated that a letter from the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service was received complementing the District for erecting the migratory bird educational display at the Sullivan Community Center. Reality IL also sent a photograph thank you note to each Park Board member for allowing the group to present their Tobacco Free presentation at the last regular Park Board meeting.

10. Unfinished and Continuing Business

A. Shoreline Stabilization Proposal – 3D Design

President Doerhoefer stated that the shoreline stabilization area proposed for this year was discussed under Item 6 of New Business and reiterated that proposed changes to the shoreline stabilization area will take place to minimize the damage to the North End of Century Park where planned enhancements will take place.

11. New Business

A. Election of Board President

Motion by Commissioner Sente to nominate Commissioner Ballowe for Park Board President. Second by Commissioner Doerhoefer. Nomination accepted by Commissioner Ballowe.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Robbins, Ballowe, Meline, and Doerhoefer.

Nays: None Motion carries.

B. Election of Board Vice-President

Motion by Commissioner Meline to nominate Commissioner Sente as the Vice-President of the Vernon Hills Park Board. Second by Commissioner Doerhoefer. Nomination accepted by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Ballowe, Meline, Robbins, and Doerhoefer

Nays: None Motion carries.

C. Appointment of Board Secretary

Commissioner Meline was appointed by President Ballowe as Park Board Secretary. Commissioner Meline accepted the appointment.

D. Appointment of Board Treasurer

Interim Director/Supt. Finance and Human Resource Manager Pineiro was appointed by President Ballowe as Park Board Treasurer. Interim Director/Supt. Finance Pineiro accepted the appointment.

E. Appointment of Board Attorney

Friedman and Holtz was appointed Park Board Attorney by President Ballowe.

F. Appointment of Village/Park District Committee Liaison

Commissioner Doerhoefer and Commissioner Sente were appointed to the Village/Park District Liaison Committee. Discussion. Commissioner Doerhoefer suggested that President Ballowe should hold that position. President Ballowe accepted the suggestion by Commissioner Doerhoefer to hold the position on the Village/Park District Liaison Committee. Commissioners Ballowe and Sente accepted the appointment.

G. Appointment of Hawthorn District 73 Liaison

Commissioner Meline was appointed by President Ballowe as the Hawthorn District 73 Liaison. Commissioner Meline accepted the appointment.

H. Appointment of Environmental Committee Liaison

President Ballowe stated that the liaison appointment to the Environmental Committee would be tabled until new Executive Director Fougerousse begins employment at the District to reassess the role.

J. Select Date for PROS Consulting Survey Presentation

The consensus of the Board is to hold a Special Board Meeting with PROS Consulting on June 17th, 2009 at 8:00pm at the Larry Laschen Community Center.

K. Select Special Meeting Date 2009/2010 Budget Workshop

The consensus of the Board is to hold a Special Board Meeting on June 4th, 2009 at 8:00pm at the Larry Laschen Community Center to hold the 2009/2010 Budget Workshop.

L. Select Date for Park Dedication – Cynthia T. Peterson Park

Agenda Item 11. L has been tabled until the next regular Park Board meeting on June 25th, 2009.

M. W.W. Grainger Invoices Payable

Motion by Commissioner Meline to approve the W.W. Grainger invoices in the amount of \$416.25. Second by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Ballowe, Meline, Robbins, and Sente. Abstention: Commissioner Doerhoefer

Nays: None Motion carries.

12. Adjournment

Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm.

Michael E. Meline, Park Board Secretary