

**Vernon Hills Park District
Minutes of the Re-Scheduled Regular Board Meeting
October 22, 2008 – 6:00 pm**

1. **Call to Order.** The re-scheduled regular meeting of the Vernon Hills Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Doerhoefer at 6:07 pm at the Laschen Community Center, 294 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** President Doerhoefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call.** Present: Commissioners Ballowe, Meline, Sente, and Doerhoefer. Absent: Commissioner Peterson. Staff –Larry DeGraaf, Marla Pineiro, Orin Main, Tom Ritter, and Cheryl Baron.
4. **Bond Issue Notification Act Hearing – Intent to Sell \$884,000 General Obligation Park Bonds (Limited Tax).** Complete minutes attached. At 6:08 pm President Doerhoefer opened the public hearing to receive comments on the proposal to sell limited tax general obligation park bonds in an amount not to exceed \$884,000 General Obligation Park Bonds (Limited Tax), Series 2008 (the “Bonds”) for the purpose of refunding of a portion of the District’s outstanding 1998 General Obligation Park Bonds (alternate Revenue Source) and for the purpose of paying the cost of various capital projects approved by the Park Board, as well paying the expenses incident to the issuance of the bonds and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto. There being no questions, motion by Commissioner Meline to adjourn the Hearing. Second by Commissioner Ballowe.
Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Meline, Ballowe and Doerhoefer.
Absent & Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson
Nays: None Motion Carries
5. **Omnibus Vote Agenda**
 - A. **Minutes of the Re-Scheduled Regular Meeting of September 17, 2008**
 - B. **Payables (less Grainger) & Payroll through October 22, 2008 in the amount of \$442,040.06.** Motion by Commissioner Ballowe to approve items A & B of the Omnibus Vote Agenda. Second by Commissioner Sente.
Ayes: Commissioners Meline, Sente, Ballowe, and Doerhoefer
Absent & Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson
Nays: None Motion carries
6. **Welcome to Visitors and Guests - Public Comment Period** – No visitors or guests present.
7. **Financial Reports for the Period Ending Sept 30, 2008** - Financial reports were accepted for file and audit.
8. **Reports/Communication**
 - A. **Executive Director – Larry DeGraaf** – Report attached. An action list as a result of the Commissioner Park Tours has been created. A status report will be provided to the Board in the Supt. of Parks Board report until all action items are complete. Three Board positions will be up for election April 2009. One Board position is for a 2 year term and two Board positions are for 6 year terms. Forms are available at the Laschen Community Center.
 - B. **Finance & HR Superintendent – Marla Pineiro** – Report attached.
 - C. **Recreation Superintendent – Tom Ritter** – Report attached.

D. Parks Superintendent – Orin Main – Report attached. Commissioner Sente inquired if Westwood residents had comments on the improvements completed at Westwood Park. Executive Director DeGraaf explained that positive feedback was received through the Westwood HOA Umbrella Board. Executive Director DeGraaf will contact the Westwood Board to plan a park re-opening event for the near future.

E. Communications Manager – Cheryl Baron – Report attached.

F. Commissioner/Committee Reports and Communications –

1) Park District/Village Liaison Committee – Commissioner Sente – Commissioner Sente stated that she did not have a report but that a meeting will take place October 27th.

2) Park District Environmental Committee Liaison – Commissioner Sente – Commissioner Sente requested environmental action items to be presented by Marty Walsh quarterly to update the Board on progress made by the Environmental Committee and for an environmental line item to be listed on the 09/10 budget.

3) Park District/Hawthorn School District 73 Liaison Committee – Commissioner Meline – Commissioner Meline reported that he will act as a liaison for District 73’s special programs and continue to attend regular District 73 Board meetings.

G. Board Correspondence – President Doerhoefer proudly displayed the District’s latest award from the NRPA awarding the District for being a finalist in the Gold Medal Award competition.

9. New Business

A. Refinancing Park District Debt – Mesirow Financial

Supt. Pineiro outlined the three refinancing options offered by Mesirow Financial for the Board to consider. Motion by Commissioner Sente to continue with the annual rollover bond another year and reconsider other re-financing options in one year. Second by Commissioner Ballowe.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Ballowe, Meline and Doerhoefer

Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

B. 2009 Board Meeting Dates

Executive Director DeGraaf provided the Board with a proposed 2009 Board Meeting Schedule.

Motion by Commissioner Ballowe to approve the 2009 Board Meeting Schedule. Second by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Ballowe, Meline, Sente and Doerhoefer

Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

C. Proposed Resolution 7-08 and Affiliate Agreement with the VH Cougars Youth Athletic Association

Executive Director DeGraaf outlined the most recent information regarding the transfer of the Park District run baseball/softball program to the VHCYAA. The Board briefly discussed proposed Resolution 7-08 and Affiliate Agreement with the VH Cougars Youth Athletic Association after President Doerhoefer outlined the VHCYAA intentions to move forward as discussed with the transfer of the program during the previous night’s meeting where President Doerhoefer attended. Athletic Supervisor Joe Bruntmyer was appointed the liaison between the Park District and the VHCYAA.

Motion by Commissioner Ballowe to approve Resolution 7-08 Affiliate Agreement with the VH Cougar Youth Athletic Association. Second by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Meline, Sente, Ballowe and Doerhoefer

Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

D. FlowRider Planning and Budget

Executive Director DeGraaf explained to the Board that the FlowRider could possibly be attained financially in 2 to 3 years. Executive Director DeGraaf will provide the Board more detailed financial information and will update the Capital Improvement Projects list to reflect the inclusion of the FlowRider. Commissioner Sente requested that the possible FlowRider addition to the Family Aquatic Center be placed on the community survey. The Board’s consensus is to move forward with investigating the addition of a FlowRider at the Family Aquatic Center.

E. Backyard Grille End-of-Season Report

Supt. Ritter gave the Board an end of season report for the Backyard Grill. Commissioner Meline requested an attendance graph that reflects sales/temperature. Commissioner Sente asked if a satisfaction survey was done. Supt. Ritter stated that pass holders completed the survey. Commissioner Sente requested that future Board reports include a summary of survey results at the end of the season.

F. 2009-2010 Preschool Fees and Budget

Supt. Ritter provided the Board with an overview of the proposed 2009-2010 Preschool Fees and Budget. Motion by Commissioner Ballowe to approve the 2009-2010 Preschool Fees and Budget. Second by Commissioner Meline.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Meline, Ballowe and Doerhoefer
Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

G. Planning Consultant Agreement

Executive Director DeGraaf outlined the agreement for the District’s strategic plan offered by Pros Consulting. Motion by Commissioner Sente to approve the Strategic Plan agreement offered by Pros Consulting, subject to attorney review and adding the focus group in an amount not to exceed \$29,825.00. Second by Commissioner Ballowe.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Ballowe, Meline and Doerhoefer
Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

H. Sullivan Center Wetland

Executive Director DeGraaf gave the Board a brief summary of the Village’s request to mitigate the District’s portion of the wetland north of the Sullivan Community Center. Motion by Commissioner Meline to approve mitigating the District’s 0.75 acre wetland site north of the Sullivan Community Center in the amount of \$97,312. Second by Commissioner Sente.

Ayes: Commissioners Sente, Ballowe, Meline and Doerhoefer
Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

I. W.W. Grainger Invoices Payable

Motion by Commissioner Sente to approve W.W. Grainger invoices in the amount of \$1,162.27. Second by Commissioner Meline.

Ayes: Ballowe, Meline and Sente Abstention: Commissioner Doerhoefer
Absent and Not Voting: Commissioner Peterson Nays: None Motion carries.

10. President Doerhoefer stated that there would be no Closed Session

11. Adjournment

Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Larry A. DeGraaf, Board Secretary