

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
January 18, 2011

Board President Libby Baker called the regular meeting of the Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. The President led the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll was called. Commissioners present: Libby Baker, Vicki Paddock, Russ Johnson, Michelle Klemz and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Jeff Reinhard, Supt. of Parks; Lisa Sheppard, Supt. of Recreation; Mike Szpylman, Supt. of Business; Jennifer Gilbert, Marketing & Public Relations Manager, and Suzanne Gage, Administrative Assistant. Please refer to the attendance record for other visitors.

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes of December 21, 2010 as presented was made by Vicki Paddock and seconded by Jim Goshorn. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the executive session meeting minutes of December 21, 2010 as presented was made by Vicki Paddock and seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the vouchers list dated 1/12/11 in the amount of \$458,362.54 and the supplemental vouchers list dated 1/18/11 in the amount of \$21,502.95 was made by Jim Goshorn and seconded by Russ Johnson. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The financial and treasurer's reports were reviewed.

Visitors' comments: The Director introduced Barbara deNekker and Emily Hutter representing the "Tobacco Free Lake County" program of the Lake County Health Department. They co-sponsor the Lake County chapter of a statewide youth group for high school students called "Reality Illinois". About 15 students representing many Lake County high schools were in attendance at the board meeting. Barbara stated that they are working on an advocacy project to learn about the structure of park districts and how to make the community a better place and to become involved citizens. They meet monthly to talk about advocacy and what it takes to make a change in the community. The group will return in April to make a presentation to the Park Board about tobacco-free parks. They recently did a Park cleanup and will have a table at Frosty Fest to get feedback from residents on tobacco-free parks.

Tom Monico, developer of the proposed Thomas Place Gurnee, made a presentation to the Board. He is requesting a lower developer donation due to the nature of the development. The project is a senior independent living project of 100 units, located north of the corner of Washington and Hunt Club Roads. It will be restricted to 55 and older as well as to those whose income is less than or equal to 60% of the area's median income. Mr. Monico explained that the complex will add fewer residents than the open space formula estimates because of the nature of the development. The Park District formula predicts 1.862 residents per unit. Their review shows 1.26 residents per unit, based on actual data they have collected from their identical developments in Glenview and Fox Lake. The average resident's age is normally mid-70's. They are asking for a recalculation based on their impact on park facilities. They will also provide seven acres of open space, a fully equipped exercise facility, and numerous activities. The Director recommends giving a 25% credit and the Board agreed, contingent upon the developer providing proof of age restriction as well as income restrictions. (See action items)

Jeff Reinhard presented the Parks Department report. At Gages Lake pool they searched for the leak but have not found it. The next opportunity to investigate the problem will be in June. Virginia Graeme Baker improvements have been completed at this pool. All ice rinks are in excellent condition. Construction of the Hunt Club washroom facility continues. Siding has been done. The roof is on and electric has been installed. It will be completed by spring soccer season. No further work has been done at Betty Russell Park because of the weather.

Jeff presented a PowerPoint slide show of the design for Betty Russell Park playground renovation. The plan includes a 5-12 structure from Columbia Cascade, a 5-12 structure from Landscape Structures and a new concept for the 2-5 playground. The goal is to complete the project by June 30. Residents of the neighborhood will be invited to give feedback on the plan in the next month. The staff will resume work on the new Pentagode area once the weather improves, possibly in March. A re-dedication will be held upon completion of the playground.

Lisa Sheppard reviewed the Recreation Department report. There are 527 participants in youth basketball and games have begun. The studio dance recital session has begun and there are 306 students. It includes both new students and previous students taking multiple classes. The musical theater program begun last year is also doing well. Frosty Fest is this Friday night. Lisa described alternate activities that are planned due to the weather.

The volunteer report was reviewed. Total volunteer hours for 2010 were 22,647 youth and adults. Linda does an excellent job dealing with teens as well as seniors. About 50 volunteers will be involved with Frosty Fest. Jim Goshorn asked if there are any national statistics on volunteer hours per park district. Lisa will look into it.

Gages Lake pool participation continues to increase. The fitness center promotion is going on right now and new memberships are at the same level as last year. The aquatic center renewal mailing has gone out to anyone who purchased a pass in the last 10 years. CARE numbers are the highest ever at all three sites. The new cycle classes are becoming more popular, since being introduced in September.

Mike Szpylman presented the Business Department report. The budget process is moving along. Winter registration is going well. The AEK upgrade went smoothly so that we have the most up to date version. It is very much needed and appreciated by staff. Accounting and payroll is working on W-2's and 1099's. The front desk staff has been taking part in the fitness promotion. Aquatic center pass applications are coming in.

Marketing/Public Relations Manager Jennifer Gilbert was excused from the meeting. Her written report was reviewed. There were no questions. Commissioner Goshorn noted that the sponsorships were great to see.

Director Kuruvilla presented her report. She made note of 2010's major accomplishments, stating that it was a great year and we are working on goals and objectives for the next fiscal year.

The proposed 3-year capital projects plan was discussed. Susie stated that the Board should let the staff know if we are on track. The District has approximately \$230,000 each year for capital projects. Since our playgrounds are aging, the plan is to replace one playground each year. Jim Goshorn suggested adding to the Viking skate park. Jeff Reinhard said that it is included in the \$25,000 set aside under general park improvements. Staff is working on a plan to add a piece of skate park equipment. He will bring it to the board for approval either in February or March and incorporate it in the budget.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to accept the lowest responsible bid from Hagg Press, Inc., Elgin, Illinois for the printing of four program brochures, one supplemental brochure and one four-color insert in the amount of \$55,269. Motion seconded by Russ Johnson. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Russ Johnson to approve the Identity Protection Policy as presented. Motion seconded by Jim Goshorn. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to give a 25% credit to the developer of Thomas Place Gurnee, a senior independent living project, with the conditions of providing proof of age and income restrictions. Motion seconded by Jim Goshorn. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Klemz, Johnson, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

In other business, the Director noted:

Vernon Hills Park District is hosting an Illinois Association of Park Districts legislative breakfast on February 14 at 8:30am. Board members were asked to let the Director know if they want to attend.

President Baker asked if there was any information on the PARC grant for Vineyard Park. It was filed by the deadline but no agency has heard anything yet.

A motion to adjourn was made by Michelle Klemz and seconded by Jim Goshorn. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Libby A. Baker, President

James G. Goshorn, Secretary