

Regular Meeting Minutes of the  
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners  
January 15, 2013

President Goshorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. He asked for a roll call. Commissioners present: Vicki Paddock, Gerry Crews, Libby Baker, Jim Goshorn and Michelle Klemz. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Jeff Reinhard, Supt. of Parks; Lisa Sheppard, Supt. of Recreation; Michael Szpylman, Supt. of Business; Jennifer Gilbert, Marketing/PR Manager; Eric Hornig, representing Hitchcock Design Group and Suzanne Gage, Administrative Assistant. There were no visitors.

A motion to accept the regular meeting minutes of December 18, 2012 was made by Gerry Crews and seconded by Libby Baker. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Baker, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the executive meeting minutes of December 18, 2012 was made by Michelle Klemz and seconded by Libby Baker. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Baker, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the vouchers list dated 1/10/13 in the amount of \$456,000.95 and the supplemental vouchers list dated 1/15/13 in the amount of \$17,934.24 was made by Libby Baker and seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Baker, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The financial and treasurer's reports were reviewed. There was follow up discussion on whether funds could be invested in longer term bonds to receive a better interest rate. The Director indicated that she would look into it further and advise the Board next month on options.

There were no visitor comments.

The Director introduced Eric Hornig, from Hitchcock Design Group, who presented a plan for redesign of Ravinia Park. It includes features such as a "gateway plaza" entry, additional parking spaces, two half court basketball courts, a tennis court, an additional small shelter, a baggo court, a boardwalk with gazebo (or shelter) overlooking the wetlands, some fitness stations along the trail, as well as new playground equipment. The Board asked questions and gave their feedback on the plan. There was discussion on safety issues with the baseball backstop and its proximity to the playground behind it. Permeable paving was suggested for the parking lot. Solar security lighting was also proposed. Application will be made for an OSLAD grant that would match funds up to \$400,000. The cost estimate currently is \$921,000. A meeting must be held with the neighbors to get feedback and then grant applications are due July 1. At that point the Board would commit to the project through resolution. Once a grant is approved, the District has two years to complete the project.

Jeff Reinhard reviewed the Parks Department report. He reported that staff is working in the woods at Hunt Club Park and have done an awesome job. They will also work on Pembroke Woods. They have also been working at O'Plaine Park clearing brush near the pathways. Board suggested posting on our website an explanation of the philosophy of forest maintenance and why it is beneficial and also posting before and after photos. Jeff noted that both ice rinks are available at Betty Russell Park and at Christine Thompson Park right now.

Lisa Sheppard reviewed the Recreation Department report. Winter break was very busy with many activities including open gym, days off activities and the fitness center. Studio dance participation is up. Frosty Fest will be held this Friday night. Gages Lake pool rentals have doubled since last year. Fitness memberships are up by 30 compared to this time last year. CARE successfully moved from Gurnee Grade to River Trail School. The quarterly volunteer report was reviewed. Lisa noted that Linda is doing an excellent job and we are still the preferred venue for high school students to volunteer. It was suggested that the number of volunteer hours be posted on the website.

Mike Szpylman presented the Business Department report. We have gone live with aquatic center renewals through RecTrac and WebTrac. 277 passes have been sold since last Friday. Customers are reporting that it is very easy to navigate the purchase of their pass. The new chart of accounts has been finalized today for the financial software changeover to Incode.

Jennifer Gilbert reviewed the Marketing report. She reported that fitness center marketing is going very well. Membership trials are being redeemed through the GPD postcard and through the community calendar. The pool and camp guide is out and will be sent home via school distribution this week. It is also available on line. Jennifer recently attended the Smoke Free Illinois five year anniversary. A number of park districts were represented. Staff has not received any negative feedback on its tobacco free policy.

Susie Kuruvilla reviewed her Director's report. The 2012 accomplishments list was discussed. The Board congratulated everyone on another excellent year.

#### ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

In other business:

The Director noted that the Library's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is this Sunday.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to enter executive session at 8:22 p.m. to discuss:

- A. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

Motion was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Klemz, Paddock, Goshorn and Baker. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried. Susie Kuruvilla, Jeff Reinhard, Lisa Sheppard, Mike Szpylman, Jennifer Gilbert and Suzanne Gage were authorized to attend the closed session.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to return to open session at 8:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Vicki Paddock. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicki Paddock and seconded by Gerry Crews. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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James G. Goshorn, President

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Michelle Klemz, Secretary