

Minutes  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Community Park District of La Grange Park  
July 13, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

President Boyd called the meeting to order in room 101 of the Recreation Center, 1501 Barnsdale Road, La Grange Park, IL at 6:31 p.m. Other Commissioners present were Bob Corte, Jeff Kilrea, and Tim Ogden. Also present was Executive Director Aleks Briedis, Maintenance Supervisor Martin Healy, Superintendent of Recreation Dean Carrara, Office Manager Peggy Ronovsky, Recreation Supervisor Darla Goudeau, and Financial Coordinator Phil Mesi.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PARK DISTRICT MISSION

President Boyd recited as follows: The Community Park District of La Grange Park shall offer high quality, affordable and accessible park and recreation facilities, programs and services in a financially responsible manner.

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Under New Business, item C, Engagement Letter and Receipt of Retainer from Slutzky & Blumenthal was added to the agenda. Presentations under New Business was moved to Agenda item 6, Recognition of Visitors.

5. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Ogden made a motion; seconded by Commissioner Kilrea to approve the June 8, 2015 regular meeting minutes as amended. MOTION CARRIED. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Paul Kash of AYSO and Susan Friend of SEASPAR were in attendance.

Paul Kash presented a check donation in the amount of \$1,500.00 to the Board and Park District staff for usage of the fields. He discussed the background of AYSO, explaining there are 2,500 children that play in the league, and that about 500-600 of those players are from La Grange Park. AYSO has been using Robinhood Park, Yena Park, and Memorial Park which is less park usage than other villages, largely because of the size of our parks. They have been using Memorial Park more because of the new advanced teams. Mr. Kash was hoping this donation will help cover the costs of the wear and tear of the fields. AYSO feels the relationship with La Grange Park Little League has improved within the past couple of years. He also mentioned that other park districts are beginning to charge AYSO user fees for park usage.

Susan Friend of SEASPAR discussed basic program highlights to the Board and staff. She explained the newest sport with SEASPAR is powerlifting, where there are currently five participants. All five powerlifters went to the state competition and each placed. In total, the five participants brought home 13 out of 15 medals. Another exciting event was one of the basketball teams had the opportunity to play during a time out at a Chicago Bulls game at the United Center. This is the first year that the self sustaining program, Eagles, has had their own separate camp brochure. SEASPAR participated in the Eyes for the Skies fest in Lisle, which included a wheelchair accessible hot air balloon ride for participants. The Lemont Park District joined SEASPAR on May 1st, which brings a wealth of facilities for participants to use. Participants were also able to see the Stanley Cup when it visited the Lemont Park District. Susan passed around pictures of the Wonders Facility. She stated that Executive Director Aleks Briedis has been very involved with SEASPAR even with the short time he has been at the District and thanked him for that. She briefly discussed year to date profits. Member contributions as of June 1, 2015 composed of about 59% of operational costs. The District's required contribution amount decreased \$3000 from the previous year. In general, SEASPAR and the District have a good, strong, open relationship and they appreciate all of the support they receive. Recreation Supervisor Darla Goudeau asked if SEASPAR works with the hearing impaired. Susan stated that they do. President Boyd stated SEASPAR is a fabulous organization and is happy to be involved and that the organization is very important to the Community Park District of LaGrange Park.

## 7. STAFF REPORTS

### A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A written report provided prior to the meeting was introduced by Executive Director Aleks Briedis. In addition to his report, he informed the Board that he has received a lot of phone calls and emails regarding the removal of the drinking fountains at the parks. He informed the residents that called and emailed that the Board decided years ago not to replace the broken fountains. Director Briedis will be going downtown to meet with Stephanie Milito of Cook County and other County staff to discuss the Beach Oak property. He also found out the Railroad will have their attorney in attendance, along with Rick Tarulis via phone conference. Commissioner Ogden asked if there will be a resolution at this meeting and Director Briedis assured that the District will be getting the property. The meeting is to discuss the timing and order of how to divide the parcel to give the tracks to the railroad. He informed the Board that in about 3 weeks we should have the purchase certificate and then we will be able to petition the courts to get the tax deed. He gave an update on the hockey nets that were placed at Yena park by request of resident Anthony Kaliterna. Unfortunately, two separate nets have been placed and both have been taken from the park and not returned. Commissioner Corte asked if AYSO uses Stone Monroe and Superintendent of Recreation Carrara said it's only used for practices. Director Briedis also included details of the police report in his weekly report.

## B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

A written report provided prior to the meeting was introduced by Maintenance Supervisor Martin Healy. Adding to the police report, he said there was quite a bit of graffiti at Beach Oak Park that included deep carvings on the equipment. There was also graffiti at Hanesworth Park, but it wasn't as bad. He said between the two locations, it took a total of five man hours to remove it. President Boyd asked if there were any problems with fireworks over the Fourth of July and he said there was a lot of clean up, especially at Robinhood, but no damage. President Boyd said when she went passed the Veterans Memorial, there was tree/leaf debris in the drains. Maintenance Supervisor stated it was most likely already cleaned up by now.

## C. SUPERINTENDENT OF RECREATION

A written report provided prior to the meeting was introduced by Superintendent of Recreation Dean Carrara. He said this has been the worst summer he has ever had because of all the rain we've had. So many classes, camps, and leagues have been cancelled or need makeups. The annual White Sox game was last Tuesday and it was really cold but everyone had a nice time. The brochure went to the printer today. President Boyd asked why the Senior Club is losing money and both Superintendent of Recreation Carrara and Executive Director Briedis stated that Senior Clubs are not expected to make a profit.

## D. RECREATION SUPERVISOR

A written report provided prior to the meeting by Recreation Supervisor Darla Goudeau. She said she is hoping that this Wednesday it will not rain as the cover band is ABBA. Market Day has closed but Ready Teddy has already found another company for the holiday fundraiser. The Board asked about enrollment for preschool and Darla said she would like to see higher numbers and is anticipating an enrollment surge in the near future.

## E. MARKETING SUPERVISOR

A written report provided prior to the meeting by Marketing Supervisor Dave Romito was introduced by Executive Director Briedis. There were no questions or comments. President Boyd thanked Marketing Supervisor Romito for making sure the concert series was in the Village's e-briefs.

## F. OFFICE MANAGER

A written report provided prior to the meeting was introduced by Office Manager Peggy Ronovsky. She brought sample shirts for the Board to look at. Currently it was men sizes only and the women sizes will arrive shortly. She asked if the Board could write down the size shirt they want before the end of the meeting so she can place the order. There are two different styles/colors of shirts and was thinking to have the Board have one style and the staff have the other style to differentiate at events. Staff and Board uniforms are funded through PDRMA's award program, which we receive for scoring well on the safety audit.

G. SAFETY COORDINATOR

A written report provided prior to the meeting by Safety Coordinator Megan Jadron was introduced by Executive Director Aleks Briedis. There were no questions or comments.

H. FINANCIAL COORDINATOR

Financial statements provided prior to the meeting for the month ending June 30, 2015 were introduced by Financial Consultant Phil Mesi. He informed the Board that they are in the preliminary portion of the audit and will have it ready for the August meeting. Commissioner Kilrea asked if it is possible to make check payments electronically. Both Office Manager Ronovsky and Financial Coordinator Mesi said it can be done, but needs to be updated in the policy. Recommendation was made to talk to attorney Rick Tarulis to make sure we can do electronic checks over paper checks.

8. APPROVE MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Kilrea; seconded by Commissioner Corte to approve the monthly disbursements in the amount of \$143,713.81. MOTION CARRIED. There was no further discussion and the motion passed 4-0 by roll call vote.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ON MEMORIAL PARK PROJECTS

There are no updates at this time.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. AYSO PRESENTATION – PAUL KASH

This item was discussed during Recognition of Visitors.

B. SEASPAR PRESENTATION – SUSAN FRIEND

This item was discussed during Recognition of Visitors.

C. ENGAGEMENT LETTER AND RECEIPT OF RETAINER

Attorney Rick Tarulis recommended Slutzky & Blumenthal to petition the court for the tax deed for the Beach Oak parcel. This firm specifically focuses on tax deeds and has worked with Cook County previously. Ballpark for the overall cost is somewhere between \$1500 and \$4000 spread over the next three to five years. We are currently obtaining prices for the Phase 1 Environment Study. President Boyd asked if the Railroad will contribute towards the cost, and Director Briedis said he didn't think so.

Commissioner Ogden made the motion to hire Slutzky & Blumenthal; seconded by Commissioner Corte to approve the engagement letter and hiring to handle the tax deed regarding the property of Beach Oak property. MOTION CARRIED. There was no further discussion and the motion passed 4-0 by roll call vote.

## 11. OPEN FORUM

### A. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Susan Friend agrees that the rain has been a pill. She also added SEASPAR received a donation from Claredon Hills Lions Club and were able to purchase a new bus.

### B. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

There were no comments from the Commissioners.

### C. COMMENTS FROM PRESIDENT

President Boyd sent letters to all members of the Veterans Committee thanking them for their service and informing them that the committee has been disbanded. In regards to a conversation during last week, she invited Elk Grove Village friends to this week's concert as it is a great band playing ABBA music. She thanked everyone for working on the agenda this month. In regards to user fees with AYSO, we hope that we never have to go there. She also hopes AYSO continues with a yearly donation.

## 12. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act under Section 2 (c)(21) to discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06

A motion was made by Commissioner Kilrea; seconded by Commissioner Ogden to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m. There was no further discussion and motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## 13. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING & ROLL CALL

President Boyd reconvened the open meeting at 7:50 p.m. Other Commissioners present were Jeff Kilrea, Bob Corte, and Tim Ogden. Also present was Executive Director Aleks Briedis.

## 14. EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Kilrea; seconded by Commissioner Corte not to release any executive session minutes that were reviewed. There was no further discussion and motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## 15. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Corte; seconded by Commissioner Kilrea to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:52 p.m. There was no further discussion and motion passed unanimously by voice vote.