

**HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2009**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

The special meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Haderlein (student representative Tommy Dobrez). Roll call was taken with Commissioners Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen), Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson), Johnson (student representative Sam Heart), Camin (student representative Douglas Blakely) and Haderlein (student representative Tommy Dobrez) present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas (student representative Danny Kopas), Superintendent of Recreation Doug Boehm (student representatives Courtney Hughes & Idara Eno), Superintendent of Finance & Administration Renae Ross (student representative Douglas Blakely), Superintendent of Coyote Run Dave Ward (student representatives Taylor Martin & Stephanie Asaukas), Coyote Run Manager/Golf Professional Brian Smith, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Keith Gorczyca (student representative Clara Deck), Irons Oaks Manager Tracey Anderson (student representative Rose Richards), Secretary Cathi Hurtubise, residents Paul & Deb Hart, Tom Dobrez, Tony Blakely, Luella Odwyer and an additional seventeen visitors who did not sign the guest list.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – Superintendent of Coyote Run Dave Ward (student representatives Taylor Martin & Stephanie Asaukas) introduced Wiley, a Border Collie, who controls geese at the golf course. Ward (student representatives Taylor Martin & Stephanie Asaukas) explained that Border Collies are a breed of dogs developed on the border of England and Scotland used primarily for herding sheep. They are effective for goose control because of their intense predatory gaze and their stalking instinct. Border Collies are considered one of the smartest breeds of dogs and are relentless workers. Wiley was trained by Coyote Run staff. Wiley lives with Ward and comes to work daily. Wiley patrols the course three to four times each day. Wiley has been very effective. Currently, there are no geese on the golf course and no known goose nests.

A guest from the audience asked if Wiley gets paid. Ward replied that Wiley does not get paid but gets three meals each day and lots of love and attention.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Display of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance

A report from the Superintendent of Finance & Administration recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the display of the proposed fiscal year 2009-10 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for not less than thirty days beginning May 12, 2009 and to set the Public Hearing date for June 16, 2009.

Commissioner Bertram moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Camin seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Bertram, Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein. Nays: none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS – None

DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. Summer Lessons at Coyote Run

A report from the Coyote Run Manager/Golf Professional Brian Smith on lessons offered this summer at Coyote Run.

Commissioner Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen) asked how many people can register for Family Fundamentals and what the minimum age requirement is for School of Golf. Smith replied family lessons are typically eight parent/child pairs for a total of sixteen people. However, due to the high interest for the first session an additional instructor was added to accommodate enrollment of twenty-two people. Ages sixteen and older can register for the School of Golf

Commissioner Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson) asked when golf programs start and how many kids participated last year. Smith replied the spring session started in May with the exception of Junior Golf which starts June 16th. Over one hundred kids registered for lessons last year.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart) asked if there are plans to program the golf simulator during the summer months and who does Smith think will win the US Open. Smith replied that attempts will be made to send groups to the Racquet Club on rainy days. Smith thinks Tiger Woods will win.

Commissioner Camin (student representative Douglas Blakely) asked how many people will participate in lessons this year. Smith replied that approximately one hundred people take lessons each week.

Commissioner Haderlein (student representative Tommy Dobrez) asked what the cost is for the Teen Golf Development Program. Smith replied the fee is approximately \$80 for residents and \$120 for non-residents. In addition, during the two week session students can play unlimited golf Monday through Friday during the afternoon for an additional \$50.00.

b. Environmental Policy

A report from the Irons Oaks Manager Tracey Anderson on the Environmental Policy.

Commissioner Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen) asked what green programs will be offered, if worms are needed for composting, if the

use of Styrofoam products will be eliminated and if there is a place to recycle paper and phone books. Anderson replied two programs offered this spring were composting and native plant use and worms are not needed at this time. Anderson said one of the park districts goals is to make sure proper materials are used however many businesses the district currently deals with don't use recyclable materials. Staff plans to educate these businesses with the park districts policy. Anderson said there are recycle bins at all facilities.

Commissioner Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson) asked how the park district plans to help the environment and to please explain the shoe recycling program at the Racquet & Fitness Club. Anderson distributed *Easy Ways to "Green Up"* flyers suggesting students implement some of the ideas at home. Anderson said park district plans include turning off lights when leaving a room, printing on both sides of paper, installing electric hand dryers to eliminate hand towels and using sinks and toilets with sensors that automatically turn on and off the water. Director Kopas (student representative Danny Kopas) said that each person turning in a pair of shoes at the Club will receive \$10 off the registration fee for the 2009 HF Summer Circuit Races.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart) questioned if plans were developed to promote the policy in the community. Superintendent Ward replied that the green committee is currently creating a marketing and community education plan.

Commissioner Camin (student representative Douglas Blakely) asked what schools can do to be more environmentally friendly. Director Kopas suggested sharing the *Easy Ways to "Green Up"* flyer with the schools. Anderson suggested teaching students to recycle garbage, encouraging students to re-use scratch paper and turning lights off when leaving a room.

c. Aquatic Update

A report from the Superintendent of Recreation on the 2009 outdoor aquatic season.

Commissioner Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen) asked what is the Virginia Graeme Baker Act, how long does it take to fill Lions Pool and what will be some of the healthy choices at the concession stand. Boehm (student representatives Courtney Hughes & Idara Eno) said the Act requires pools and spas to be fitted with certain equipment that is intended to prevent death or injury caused by entrapment. The pools take up to 2 ½ days to fill with water and fruits and vegetables will be added to the concession menu.

Commissioner Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson) asked what date the pools open and how many pool passes have been sold so far.

Boehm (student representatives Courtney Hughes & Idara Eno) replied Lions Pool opens May 23rd. To date, 111 pool passes have been purchased.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart) questioned if lifeguards have been secured for the summer and will the slide at Lions Pool be ready for opening day. Boehm (student representatives Courtney Hughes & Idara Eno) replied yes to both questions.

Commissioner Camin (student representative Douglas Blakely) asked what date the pools open and close for the season, if the fee for pool passes increased and does the park district think healthy foods will be successful. Boehm (student representatives Courtney Hughes & Idara Eno) replied the season is from May 23rd through September 7th, pool pass fees did not increase and staff hopes that healthy foods will be popular choice for patrons.

d. Picnic Table Contest

A report from the Superintendent of Finance & Administration on the employee picnic table decorating contest. A slide show of the painted picnic tables was presented.

Commissioner Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen) asked if commissioners could participate the next time there is a contest. Superintendent Ross (student representative Douglas Blakely) replied yes.

Commissioner Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson) asked how Park Pride Day went. Ross (student representative Douglas Blakely) replied the day was a success.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart) questioned if there will be other picnic table contests this year. Ross (student representative Douglas Blakely) replied no.

Commissioner Haderlein (student representative Tommy Dobrez) asked if the picnic tables were for sale. Ross (student representative Douglas Blakely) replied no, the tables will remain at the parks.

e. Park Pride Day

A report from the Superintendent of Parks and Planning on Park Pride Day.

Commissioner Bertram (student representative Hannah Bohlen) asked how many hotdogs were served on Park Pride Day. Boehm replied 400 hotdogs were served.

Commissioner Nevins (student representative Nicole Stevenson) questioned if there were more volunteers this year. Gorczyca (student representative Clara Deck) replied yes.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart) asked if the park district has a list of those who volunteered. Gorczyca (student representative Clara Deck) replied yes, there were sign up sheets at all parks.

Commissioner Camin (student representative Douglas Blakely) said he volunteered at Dolphin Lake along with approximately thirty other people. Fun was had by all!

Commissioner Haderlein (student representative Tommy Dobrez) questioned who picks the menu for Park Pride. Director Kopas replied that Administrative Assistant Pam Melnyk plans the menu.

NEW BUSINESS – None

DIRECTORS REPORT & COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Director Kopas (student representative Danny Kopas):

- Grandpa's Garage Sale was held last weekend at Lions Club parking lot. The sale was a huge success.
- The 34th Annual Ice Show was May 15-17th. This year the theme was World Tour.
- H-F High School started gym classes today at Coyote Run.
- Irons Oaks Native Plant Sale will be held Saturday, May 16th, in the Vollmer Road parking lot. Many varieties of native plants will be sold and experts will be on hand to help customers decide which plants are right for the conditions of their garden.
- The first race of the new summer running circuit is May 30th at Apollo Park. The rest of the circuit includes races on July 4th and September 12th. Participants will get a discounted rate if registered for all of the races.
- The new *Choices* book was delivered to homes within the last ten days. Registrations are coming in for summer programs.
- All of our summer employees have been hired for this year.
- Beginning next week board meetings will be changed to the summer schedule with meetings starting at 8:00 p.m. This schedule allows commissioners and staff to participate in evening activities & sports with their families before coming to the meetings.

Commissioner Bertram:

- Had a great time at Grandpa's Garage Sale.
- Mentioned the green team at HF High School is building a rain garden and may contact the park district for help with plants.

Commissioner Nevins:

- Enjoyed the team building exercises today.

Commissioner Johnson (student representative Sam Heart):

- Asked how the search is going for the manager position at the Racquet & Fitness Club. Director Kopas replied she has conducted fourteen interviews. Second interviews will be done next week.

Commissioner Camin:

- Commented that it is nice to see all the parents at the meeting tonight.

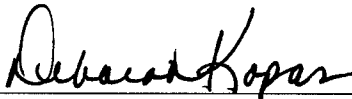
Commissioner Haderlein:

- Commented that it was a great day and is happy to see everyone here tonight.

Director Kopas thanked Irons Oaks Manager Anderson for facilitating the team building exercises.

Students commented on Student Government Day.

ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Nevins moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Commissioner Bertram seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.



Deborah Kopas, Secretary