

**HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

The committee meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Johnson. Roll call was taken with Commissioners Collins, Haderlein, Bertram and Johnson present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Superintendent of Parks and Planning Doug Boehm and Superintendent of Recreation Tracey Anderson. Commissioner Nevins was absent.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – None

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

a. Dolphin Lake Clubhouse Updates

Director Kopas discussed upgrading the Dolphin Lake Clubhouse with the Board. Kopas said the budget includes \$70,000 for improvements. After several discussions and tours of the building staff thought additional upgrades should be considered in addition to cosmetic changes. Staff met with an architect for a walk through of the building and was pleased with the many suggestions for improvement. Kopas said that an architect may be hired in the future to develop conceptual plans that could be phased in over time.

Commissioner Bertram expressed concern with investing money in the building if there is a possibility of new development for that site in the future. Staff suggested that rentals of the clubhouse could be increased if improvements were made and that the improvements could possibly put an end to the thought of building something new.

The Board agreed that Kopas should meet with additional architects and present the information to the Board at a later date.

b. Lions Pool Slide

Director Kopas said with the Village of Homewood financing the Auditorium roof project over three years there will be approximately \$60,000 in the budget available for another project. The slide tower at Lions Pool was discussed as a possible project. Kopas said an engineer is hired yearly to inspect the tower and each year additional bracing and replacing of old parts is needed. Kopas also said that the slide is over twenty years old and will need to be replaced soon. With that in mind, staff requested quotes for replacement of both the slide and tower. Three companies submitted pricing with The Mason Corporation offering several options that were less costly than the others.

Superintendent Boehm shared with the Board pictures of slides and towers from the various companies. Commissioners liked the equipment and pricing from The Mason Corporation.

Staff will continue to research The Mason Corporation with a possible visit to the nearest site where their equipment is installed.

Kopas will check with the Village of Homewood to verify the status on the Auditorium roof and to insure the park district will not be charged the full amount this year.

c. Long Term Finance Plan

Director Kopas presented a spreadsheet to the Board showing the park district's debt outlook for the next 22 years. After analyzing information and the potential restructure of bonds there could be approximately \$3 million for new projects in 2-3 years. Projects discussed were additions to Lions Pool, completing many medium sized projects or completing one large project and several medium. Kopas suggested using the Master Plan results for guidance.

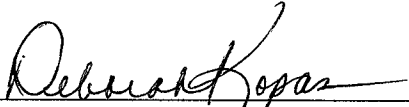
Commissioners were hesitant to issue new debt in this economy. Commissioners agreed to continue discussions over the next few months. Kopas made the suggestion of inviting Speer Financial representative Dave Phillips to a future board meeting to further discuss the topic.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT & COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Director Kopas:

- Discussed the sunrise service on September 11th at Patriots Park. The service will start about 6:15 a.m.
- Student Government Day is October 11th. Commissioners asked that staff proceed with plans but not schedule an evening meeting.
- Letters were mailed to area restaurants regarding Northwoods Restaurant.

ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Haderlein moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Commissioner Bertram seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.



Deborah Kopas, Secretary