

**HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009**

The meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Haderlein. Roll call was taken with Commissioners Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Attorney Matt Lulich, Superintendent of Recreation Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Renae Ross, Superintendent of Parks and Planning Keith Gorczyca, Racquet & Fitness Club Manager Jay Kelly, Superintendent of Coyote Run Dave Ward, Coyote Run Manager/Pro Brian Smith, Administrative Assistant Pam Melnyk, Secretary Cathi Hurtubise and Leisure Services Committee Member Dallas Collins. Commissioner Bertram arrived at 7:32 p.m. Irons Oaks Manager Tracey Anderson and Adventure Center Coordinator Deb Stanfield arrived at 8:15 p.m.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – A revised agenda was presented with item 7b Independence Park added to Discussion Topics.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – None

CONSENT AGENDA –

- a. Personnel Policy Manual Update
A report from the Executive Director recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the change to the Personnel Policy Manual as presented.
- b. Toro 580D Refurbish
A report from the Superintendent of Parks and Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the refurbish of the Toro 580D by Reinders, Inc. in the amount of \$5,274.94.

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

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. Kids Kourt Fees
Commissioner Camin moved to approve the increase in Kids Kourt annual fees as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Bertram, Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein. Nays: none. Motion approved. Commissioner Bertram moved to approve the Drop In and Punch Card fees as presented. Commissioner Nevins seconded the

motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Bertram, Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein. Nays: none. Motion approved.

DISCUSSION TOPICS –

a. Flossmoor Hills Tennis Courts

Director Kopas said the tennis courts at Flossmoor Hills School are in bad shape. Kopas has made repeated attempts to meet with the Superintendent of School District 161 to discuss the issue but has been unsuccessful. Kopas has left several messages informing the Superintendent the park district is planning the budget and would like to include funds for repair or removal of the courts.

Kopas said the tennis courts were built in a concrete bowl with a drain in the middle. Original plans were to offer ice-skating on the courts during the winter months. Because of this set-up, tennis coaches do not like to teach on the courts. It was also noted that the courts are not being used by the public.

Kopas said it would be too costly to rebuild the courts. The approximate cost to resurface the courts is \$10,000 and \$5,000 to remove them. Discussion followed on what could be done with the property if the courts were removed.

Commissioner Haderlein offered to contact the School Board President to discuss the issue.

Kopas also mentioned receiving a call from Western Avenue School regarding replacement of the school playground. Kopas informed the school that the park district contributes one third of the cost which historically has been \$5,000. Kopas asked the school to submit playground costs by February 20th so that funds can be included in the budget. To date, the school has not contacted Kopas.

Kopas expressed concerned with the number of playgrounds in both school district's that might need replacement. Kopas would like to obtain the school district's master plan for playgrounds.

Following discussion, Commissioners agreed that contact needs to be made with the school district to further discuss the tennis courts. Kopas will include funds in the budget for both the tennis courts and playground at Western Avenue School.

b. Independence Park

Kopas said that in 2005 plans were developed to improve Independence Park in 2006. In 2006, the Village of Homewood requested the park district not implement the plans because the Village was working on a possible land exchange with a developer. Kopas received a call from the Village last

week advising the park district to go ahead with the development plans. Kopas said the park is not in the TIF district nor does the Village have funds to contribute to the project. Superintendent Gorczyca has estimated the current cost of the project at \$80,000.

Commissioners expressed concern with the cost and agreed not to include the project in the 2009-10 budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Commissioner Nevins moved to approve the Minutes of January 6, 2009 and January 20, 2009. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS – Commissioners were pleased to receive the claims list electronically. Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the Claims List in the amount of \$452,151.04. Commissioner Bertram seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Bertram, Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein. Nays: none. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2009 – Commissioner Camin questioned why the Racquet Club revenue was lower than the budgeted amount. Superintendent Ross said with annual membership deferred over twelve months only 1/12th of the income is allocated monthly. Commissioner Johnson congratulated Ice Arena staff on increased revenue for the month. Johnson asked why salaries were significantly higher than the budgeted amount. Superintendent Ross replied allocation was off due to the month of January having three payrolls.

COMMUNICATIONS

- IMRF Update
- PDRMA 2008 Loss Control Award
- Legislative Breakfast

DIRECTORS REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Director Kopas:

- A legislative breakfast is scheduled for Monday, March 9th at Tinley Park Park District.
- The golf course opens one month from today.
- The Safety Luncheon is March 11th.
- WiFi has been installed at the Irwin Center and the Racquet Club.
- Staff is working on new contracts for the Ice Arena.
- The spring *Choices* brochure was mailed to residents last week.
- The theatre production *Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* was held over the weekend with rave reviews.
- Seventy-four employees attended Sunday's staff meeting at the Racquet Club.
- Learning Tree Open House is February 25th.
- Visited the Wiffle Fest Facebook page.

- The Extra Innings report showing twenty children enrolled in the School District 153 Kindergarten program is a nice testament to the work that Melissa has done.

Commissioner Bertram:

- Pleased with receiving the PDRMA 2008 Loss Control Award.

Commissioner Nevins:

- Enjoyed the theatre production *Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*.
- Attended an IMRF presentation at the library. Seven legislators also attended. Topics included the possibility of eliminating the tax cap for pensions and the employer's contribution rate increases.
- Pleased that the green committee is working on the green policy.
- Happy to see energy efficient lighting at the Ice Arena.
- Commented positively on profits made in the pro-shop at the Racquet Club.
- Impressed that fifty teens attended the Friday Night Get Together.
- Inquired if the Irons Oaks remodeling project is on target for completion. Superintendent Gorczyca replied yes.

Commissioner Johnson:

- Asked if outdoor ice will be made again. Superintendent Gorczyca replied no. Commissioners commented it was a wonderful season.
- Inquired about the ceiling in the Ice Arena. Superintendent Boehm said repair of the ceiling had been in the budget however due to unforeseen expenses the decision was made to re-evaluate the project. Staff is hoping to repair the ceiling in-house.
- Congratulated Supervisor Fisk on a great job with Daddy Daughter Date Night.

Commissioner Camin:

- Asked how many people attended Daddy Daughter Date Night. Kopas replied 381.
- Pleased that the usage hours on the golf simulator has increased.
- A record was set at conference this year with 4,900 participants and 320 exhibitors.
- Attended the Joint Legislative Committee meeting.

Commissioner Haderlein:

- Enjoyed the *Dear Neighbors* letter in the spring *Choices* brochure.

Director Kopas:

- Budget meetings this year have been particularly challenging. With the increase in IMRF employer contribution rates and the expected tax revenue staff have been looking at what areas the public might still be willing to spend money on to increase revenue. Participation has increased in Extra Innings and camps offered during school breaks. This increase can most likely be contributed to

both parents working and needing childcare. Another area being looked at is sport programs designed specifically for seventh and eighth grade students who are interested in making high school teams and ultimately receiving college scholarships. Staff continues to work on building these concepts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – At 8:36 p.m., Commissioner Nevins moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of 2(c)(6) discussion of the setting of a price for the sale or lease of property owned by the District. Commissioner Bertram seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Bertram, Nevins, Johnson, Camin and Haderlein. Nays: none. Motion approved.

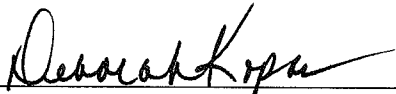
Meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

Manager Anderson and Adventure Center Coordinator Stanfield updated the Board on actions taken at the Olympia Fields Park District Board Meeting. The Olympia Fields Park Board is requiring a public hearing be held on the proposed cell tower. The Board has requested representatives from Olympia Fields Park District, Homewood-Flossmoor Park District, Irons Oaks and T-Mobile be in attendance. A public hearing notice will be published in the Olympia Fields edition of the SouthtownStar.

Attorney Lulich said he will contact T-Mobile regarding a few changes to the agreement. Lulich hopes to bring the agreement to the March 17th board meeting for approval.

Kopas informed the Board that Anderson presented the preliminary budget to the Olympia Fields Park Board.

ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Nevins moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. Commissioner Camin seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.



Deborah Kopas, Secretary