

**PARK RIDGE RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT**

Board of Park Commissioners  
Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 Sibley Avenue

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 18, 2010

7:30 p.m.

**COMMISSIONERS**

**PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** Jim O'Brien, President  
Rick Biagi  
Richard Brandt  
David Herman  
Marty Maloney  
Mary Wynn Ryan  
Stephen Vile

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ray Ochromowicz, Executive Director  
Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance  
Bill Neumann, Superintendent of Dev. & Operations  
Lori Lovell Knouse, Superintendent of Recreation (7:47 p.m.)  
Kathie Hahn, Manager of Marketing & Public Relations  
Maryanne Lucarz, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Thomas G. Hoffman, Park District Attorney  
See Sign-in Sheet

President O'Brien called the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners to order at 7:33 p.m. Assistant Lucarz took roll call.

**CITIZENS PRESENT WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Resident Barbara Burswold asked the Park Board to rethink Paws Park's current policy to limit attendance to resident dogs only. She would like to see a daily pass and for nonresident dogs to attend. Executive Director Ochromowicz said he would look into this request.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President O'Brien moved the Board approve the following minutes:

- A. Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, February 18, 2010
- B. Committee of the Whole Meeting – Thursday, March 4, 2010

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Biagi and passed by a voice vote. Motion carried.

**REPORTS OF PARK OFFICIALS**

*President Report*

President O'Brien moved to adopt Resolution No. 10-3: "The Park Board and staff hereby recognize BILL NEUMANN for his 33+ years of hard work and lasting contribution to the Park Ridge Recreation and Park District." The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maloney and passed by a roll call vote. Motion carried.

***Ayes: Biagi, Brandt, Herman, Maloney, Ryan, Vile, O'Brien. Nays: None.***

President O'Brien proceeded to read Bill Neumann's resolution plaque and then said "On behalf of the Park Ridge Park District, a tree will be planted in your honor for the many years of service to the District and community. The tree type and park location will be of your choice."

*Attorney Report*

No report.

*Executive Director Report*

Executive Director Ochromowicz said he attended the City Council meeting on Monday night with discussion taking place on the water rates. The City Council reversed their earlier decision and went with a flat rate increase.

Executive Director Ochromowicz said Americaneagle did confirm they will sponsor the fireworks. Some discussion ensued on the sponsorship, show presentation and date.

Executive Director Ochromowicz thanked Superintendent Neumann for the character he has shown in the short time working together.

President O'Brien called for the Reports of Committees.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

***Finance Committee***

Commissioner Biagi moved to approve for payment Vouchers in the total amount of \$396,399.73. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maloney and was passed by a roll call vote. Motion carried.

***Ayes: Biagi, Brandt, Herman, Maloney, Ryan, Vile, O'Brien. Nays: None.***

***Monthly Reports by Funds***

Commissioner Biagi asked for a follow-up on the investments. Superintendent Berman said she will be setting up a meeting in April to talk to an outside person to discuss investments.

***Written Finance Report***

Some discussion ensued on the rent payment from the City of Park Ridge as per the 2004 TIF agreement.

President O'Brien called for the report from the Recreation Committee.

***Recreation Committee***

***Written Recreation Report***

Commissioner Vile reviewed the report. Superintendent Knouse said Assistant Lucarz has the complimentary ice show tickets. President O'Brien complimented Oakton staff on the Ice Breaker Classic event. Commissioner Biagi asked about the discoloration of the ice at the beginning of the season. Superintendent Knouse said the repair will not happen until the August melt and repaint.

President O'Brien called for the report from the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

***Buildings and Grounds Committee***

***Written Development & Operations Report***

There was no discussion.

President O'Brien called for the report from the Policy and Procedures Committee.

### ***Policy and Procedures Committee***

Commissioner Herman said at past meetings Commissioner Brandt brought up an issue on outside clubs working on gardens in the parks system. Executive Director Ochromowicz suggested that if a club would like to volunteer to work on park grounds they would have to enter into a written agreement with the District which would state their responsibilities and standard of care the District expects and if the club becomes delinquent in their standard of care the District has the right to take over the maintenance. Commissioner Brandt said he would like to see this become a policy. After some discussion, Executive Director said this will be an administrative procedure not a policy.

### ***Environmental Impact Task Force Meeting Update***

Commissioner Herman gave a brief update on the brainstorming collaboration, between the Task Force, School Districts and City.

### ***Approval of Environmental Impact Task Force Member***

Commissioner Herman moved to approve Mark Menarik and Stephanie Purcell to serve as members of the Environmental Impact Task Force. The motion was seconded by President O'Brien and passed by a roll call vote. Motion carried.

***Ayes: Biagi, Brandt, Herman, Maloney, Ryan, Vile, O'Brien. Nays: None.***

### ***Personnel Policy Manual – Sick Leave Policy Amendment***

Commissioner Herman moved that the third paragraph of Section 6 (Sick Leave) Chapter V of the Personnel Policy Manual of the Park Ridge Recreation and Park District be amended to read as follows: "Sick leave may be used by an employee for his or her own actual illness, injury or disability due to pregnancy or childbirth or to tend to an illness or injury of an immediate family member (child, parent, grandparent, or in the discretion of the employee's immediate supervisor, in-law) and may not be used to obtain additional vacation time. Abuse of sick leave privileges is sufficient cause for dismissal." The motion was seconded by Commissioner Biagi and passed by a roll call vote.

***Ayes: Biagi, Brandt, Herman, Maloney, Ryan, Vile, O'Brien. Nays: None.***

### ***Committee Meetings***

Commissioner Herman moved that until further action of the Board of Park Commissioners to the contrary, the President be authorized to cancel any regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting if in his sole discretion, after consultation with the Executive Director, the proposed agenda for such meeting does not warrant holding such meeting, and upon the giving of email notice of such cancellation to the other members of the Park Board not less than 48 hours prior to the commencement time of the meeting to be cancelled and to any media which has made a current annual request for notice of meetings of the Park District." President O'Brien seconded the motion. After a lengthy discussion, the motion failed by a roll call vote. Motion failed.

***Ayes: Herman, Maloney, O'Brien. Nays: Biagi, Brandt, Ryan, Vile.***

### ***Environmental Impact Task Force and Advisory Councils Guidelines – Amendment***

Commissioner Herman moved that the second paragraph of the Task Force and Advisory Council Guidelines, number "VI. MEETINGS" be amended to replace the words "Based on prior meeting minutes and input from Council/Task Force members, Board members, and staff, the Chairperson shall prepare an agenda for upcoming meetings and shall present this to the Park Board for review and discussion at a Board or Committee meeting prior to the scheduled Advisory Council/Task Force meeting." with the words "The Chairperson shall be responsible for preparing an agenda for the meetings." President O'Brien seconded the motion. Some discussion ensued. The motion was passed by a roll call vote. Motion carried.

***Ayes: Biagi, Brandt, Herman, Maloney, Ryan, Vile, O'Brien. Nays: None.***

President O'Brien called for the report from the Personnel Committee.

***Personnel Committee***

No report.

President O'Brien called for the report from the Intergovernmental Committee.

***Intergovernmental Committee***

No report.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Ryan said she would like to bring back the issue of having a walking track pass. Commissioner Ryan moved to approve the walking track only punch pass 20 walks for \$20 for residents only subject to their presenting proof of residency. At this point, Attorney Hoffman said this is coming up under "New Business" and it is not a specific agenda item which means you are limited to consideration which is discussion. A very lengthy discussion ensued on the costs, residency only usage, track usage; exceptions and enforcement.

Commissioner Brandt asked if the District has a marketing department. Executive Director Ochromowicz said yes. Commissioner Brandt said there is competition out there in regards to fitness centers and wondered how the District advertises and promotes. Manager Hahn said the District advertises and promotes through the brochure, website, media advertising, and facility promotions. Discussion ensued.

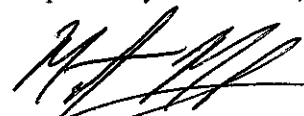
Commissioner Vile said he is going to try to revive the Oakton Citizens Advisory Council and believes public input is needed for the future of Oakton Pool. Commissioner Maloney gave a brief overview of Oakton Advisory Council's past focus. Some discussion ensued.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:31 p.m., President O'Brien moved to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maloney and passed by a voice vote. Motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Marty Maloney  
Secretary

Recorded By: Maryanne Lucarz, Administrative Assistant