

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2008**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Regular Meeting on August 11, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. with President Andersen presiding.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Callahan, McCauley, Vorderer, Wallace and Andersen

Absent: None

A quorum was present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board began Executive Session for the discussion of personnel, real estate and litigation. At 7:00 p.m., the Board left Executive Session.

**RE-CONVENE:**

The Board re-convened at 7:03 p.m. for the Regular Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Board Meeting of July 14, 2008**

Vorderer motioned, Callahan seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All – Nay: None.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Volunteer of the Month, John Siakotos**

Andersen recognized Mr. Siakotos as volunteer of the month for his commitment to the Park District and community and presented him with a plaque for his service. Mr. Siakotos has been instrumental in numerous events that the Park District hosts each year, many of which would not be possible without the support of Mr. Siakotos and the Freshline Foods family.

**Special Olympic Summer Games Athletes**

Andersen reported that the Summer Games Team competed on June 13-15, and Oak Lawn Park District swimmers, runners and gymnasts brought home many honors: 31 gold medals, 18 silver medals, and 11 bronze medals. The athletes were presented with Certificates of Achievement. Andersen noted that other young Olympic athletes are competing half way around the world right now, and we are just as proud of this team that competed in our state as we are of them.

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Callahan moved, McCauley seconded to approve payables of \$496,240.32 for the period of July 14, 2008 to August 11, 2008.

Voting: Aye: All – Nay: None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**District 123 Lease**

Andersen said the lease is for property (blacktop tot lot and tennis courts) at the Brandt School site, and it is a renewal of an existing lease that expired. District 123 has gives us the same terms, conditions and use area for the same \$1 that was agreed to in the past, on a 10-year lease.

Callahan motioned, Wallace seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All – Nay: None.

**LEGAL:** None

**APPROVAL OF BIDS OVER \$10,000:**

**Pavilion Roof**

Callahan said that since all the bids came in over budget, he motioned that the Board reject the bids and have staff look at a different method of possibly fixing the roof. Wallace seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All – Nay: None.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Andersen read a note from Greg Mirowski of the Oak Lawn Ice Arena staff thanking us for flowers and keeping him in our thoughts and prayers.

He reported that former State Representative Maureen Murphy passed away today. She was a long-time Evergreen Park resident who represented Oak Lawn and had been suffering with cancer. Andersen asked to keep Jack and the family in our prayers.

He also sadly reported that Jeanne Larson (wife of former Park District Commissioner and Director Marty Larson) was diagnosed with an incurable disease and has less than a month to live. The disease progressed very quickly. He asked that their family be kept in our prayers. The family has had a lot of heartache, having lost their grandson last year to a brain tumor.

**MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR:**

Kelly said Seussical was an enjoyable production, especially for anyone having grown up with Dr. Seuss. It was a very clever, talented and upbeat production.

Day camps have ended, and it was a fantastic summer. Some new events were introduced at camps, including the SĀJAI wise kid's anti-obesity program--new from the NRPA, and No Child Left Inside; and they had a positive impact on the children attending camps.

Pools are winding down, too. Centennial Pool closed, Memorial is closing next weekend, and Central Pool will remain open a few more weeks.

Kelly asked Joel Craig to report on cameras in the parks, as we were fortunate to receive a grant from the Parks Foundation to install a camera in one of our parks. Craig reported on a newspaper article about how the Worth Park District leased cameras for three years with intent to purchase from Andromeda Technology Solutions. Craig met with the vendor, and they will prepare a proposal for Lawn Manor Park. Andersen noted the Park Foundation was gracious to give us a grant for this and a few other items, and they are researching one other request.

**MATTERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Callahan asked to send a letter thanking Oak Lawn Baseball for allowing the Park District's Special Recreation Department to use its facility for a few all-star games while we were redoing our field. They were very gracious and even brought umpires and others for the games. They were a tremendous help.

The Special Recreation Department did another scuba dive, this time at night at Centennial Pool. It was a special event. Tonight, the new Special Recreation bus took a group to Navy Pier; and it is such a successful program, they needed two buses. Callahan said that the people we are helping truly appreciate it. We have a great staff and volunteers, and it is wonderful to see that we provide these services. Callahan thanked all for their support and noted how it positively affects someone's life.

Callahan added that the parks are looking good.

Wallace thanked the Parks Foundation for its generous grant and said it is such a help with our tight financial situation. She applauded the Board and staff for considering possible ways to save money, such as the video camera idea to lease with the option to buy, and again tonight with the roofing situation and looking for ways to stay within budget. Taxpayers are feeling the crunch too, and she thinks they will appreciate seeing us cutting corners in order to save money.

McCauley had the pleasure to attend one of the summer concerts. Staff worked with the Village to offer joint summer concerts and movies in the Village Green. It was a spectacular Sunday night with all the people. She congratulated staff on the idea, and noted what a tremendous effort it is to bring two government bodies together and provide more opportunities for all residents.

McCauley displayed the Fall Program Guide and noted that fall is close behind. She thanked Kelly and her staff for producing this amazing book that offers something for every resident of every age and interest. McCauley noted that an enormous amount of work has gone into making this happen.

McCauley congratulated Mary and her fiancé and wished them a wonderful wedding day and continued happiness.

Vorderer also congratulated Mary on her upcoming wedding.

Vorderer added to Callahan's comments about the Special Recreation Program and the Olympians who were here tonight. He recalled that at one time our attorney mentioned that if the Park District existed just to provide those programs, it was well-spent money. Nobody can argue that; and when you see the enthusiasm of the kids, Vorderer said he is happy to pay his tax dollars just for that purpose.

Vorderer is pleased that we are moving forward on the security cameras, as it is the future of security. He understands we have not had many incidents of criminal damage in the past few months, but the cameras will help the Park District in the future so it can spend its funds on better things. He asked Craig if the cameras are live or take pictures only when there is motion. Craig is looking at both options. One will sense motion, but can be programmed for sensitivity and number of pictures taken when motion is detected. The other option is a continual digital camera. Vorderer believes some of the damage occurs during daytime hours, and if a motion-sensing device is set for evening hours, it will provide some security but miss a period of time when damage occurs.

Vorderer noted that pool attendance was 15,456 visitors to date this season. Pools cost a lot of money to operate, and he is glad that so many people are using them. Kelly said it was one of the heaviest attended summers with lots of sunny days that drew people to the pools.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Andersen asked for a brief Executive Session for discussion of personnel.

**ADJOURN:**

Callahan motioned, Vorderer seconded to move to Executive Session, and to adjourn afterward.

Voting: Aye: All – Nay: None.

Meeting ended at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Don Andersen, President



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Cindy Pender, Recording Secretary