

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT
Administration Center
2000 Belvidere Road
Waukegan, Illinois
March 6, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

President George Bridges called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

President George Bridges
Vice President Janet Kilkelly
Treasurer Patricia Foley
Marc Jones
William Sarocka

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director Greg Petry
Board Attorney George Bridges

III. PUBLIC PORTION

None

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

None

V. REVIEW / DISCUSS / DECIDE

A. Rescind January 10, 2017, Notice relating to Executive Director's Contract

Motion by Commissioner Kilkelly, seconded by Commissioner Foley, to rescind the January 10, 2017, Notice to the Executive Director, of the removal of the automatic renewal provision of his contract. Commissioner Sarocka asked Commissioner Kilkelly to explain what she was trying to accomplish with the motion. He asked her why the letter wasn't made a part of the Board's packet. President Bridges asked if this motion would mean no Notice was given. Attorney Bridges responded it would simply vacate the Notice and restore Mr. Petry's contract to its original status and position. Commissioner Sarocka stated he did not see any reason to change the Board position. Mr. Petry said this Motion would clean up our dispute with the Open Meeting Act (Act).

Commissioner Jones asked Commissioner Kilkelly if the only reason she wanted to rescind the Notice was because of the Act. Commissioner Kilkelly said yes. Commissioner Foley asked Mr. Petry if he

had contacted the Attorney General regarding this matter. Mr. Petry said he had contacted the Attorney General and a number of other lawyers on this matter. President Bridges called for the question on the Motion, ending the debate. On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Kilkelly, Foley

NAY: Jones, Sarocka, Bridges

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion failed.

B. Discuss and Modify Executive Director's Contract

Mr. Petry stated he doesn't want to, but after this meeting he will file an Opening Meetings Violation. He is anticipating that the Board's action will be declared null and void and that his contract will be extended to January 2020. President Bridges asked if there was a Motion.

Motion by Commissioner Foley, seconded by Commissioner Kilkelly, to modify the Executive Director's contract to extend it until 2020. Commissioner Sarocka stated he would rely on the Board's Attorney statements that in past actions this Board has taken similar steps. He further stated while attending the recent IAPD conference he spoke with a number of attorneys about this situation and was advised that our action was proper. There was no further discussion on the Motion. On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Kilkelly, Foley

NAY: Jones, Sarocka, Bridges

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion failed.

C. Discuss Belvidere Park Concepts and Plans

Mr. Petry laid out before the Commissioners the various options for the Belvidere Aquatic Park. He stated the District has between 8.7 million dollars to \$10.4 million dollars available for the project. Commissioner Sarocka asked if the Spray Ground Option #4 would be added to the total cost of the other Options. Mr. Petry said the Spray Ground cost would be added to the other Option's cost.

Commissioner Foley stated the Administrative Building should be replaced and removed from its current location and situated elsewhere because it is not only an eyesore for the Park, but a convoluted building that is completely inadequate for staff, and in need of significant repairs.

Commissioner Jones stated that he supports Option #3, which consists of renovating the bathhouse, replacing the main pool and diving well, replacing the wading pool, and using any unused money to add additional amenities to the Park, similar to the Bowen Park features. Commissioner Jones stated he would not only add the Spray Ground Option, but he would add additional features to heighten and expand this Park. Commissioner Foley asked him what he would do with the Administrative Building. Commissioner Jones stated he is very much aware that they are in need of a new Administrative

Building that is more functional and energy efficient. However, he was more interested in spending the bulk of the funds on hand to renovate the pool and have a larger and more attractive Park.

Commissioner Sarocka stated he views Option #3 as being more budget friendly; one that would require significantly less operating expenses. He stated he agreed with Commissioner Jones that the Rose Administration Building isn't falling down, and that it still has functionality into the near future. He further stated he would rather see the money allocated for this Park spent on improving the aquatics.

President Bridges stated he agreed with Commissioners Jones and Sarocka on their selection of Option #3 for the Belvidere Park Aquatic's. He stated that the renovation of the Administrative Building was not high on his priorities. He stated Belvidere Park must become more family friendly with a huge Spray Ground, pool and picnic tables. He told the Board he grew up diving in the Ganster Pool and he only asked the Commissioners that whatever Option they approve that it include a diving pool because there is no other diving pool in the city.

Mr. Petry summed up the meeting and asked the Commissioners if the \$10.1 million dollar Upper Addition and the \$7.6 million dollar renovation of the Rec Center were being considered. A number of Commissioners responded to remove those proposals from further consideration. Mr. Petry stated the Belvidere Rec Center and the Rose Administration Building will have to be renovated at some point in time and asked to keep them as options for further discussion.

VI. COMMISSIONERS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

None

VII. CLOSED SESSION

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Sarocka moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George Bridges
Secretary