

Minutes

February 18, 2010

Minutes of a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Oakbrook Terrace Park District, 1S325 Ardmore Avenue, Oakbrook Terrace, DuPage County, Illinois.

CALL TO ORDER

President Sweitzer called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call: Dan Flanagan, William Cizek, Maryann Neffke, Susan Lugo, Roger Sweitzer.

Commissioners absent from the meeting: None.

Others present: Deanne Gust; Laura Barron, Director of Parks and Recreation; Liane Knight, Nature Center Superintendent; Larry White, Parks Superintendent; Lauri Bauer, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to discuss the budget for the 2010/11 fiscal year.

Director Barron reviewed the process for the evening and began with a discussion of goals and accomplishments for department heads followed by changes to the budget from one year to the next.

Director Barron pledged last year that staff would work very hard to ensure that the District is working toward a balanced budget. Director Barron reported on the history of the financial aspects of the District.

Commissioner Cizek asked about the impact of the levy on the District's revenues which Director Barron explained. Discussion continued with a discussion of the special recreation fund.

NATURE CENTER

Ms. Knight reviewed the Nature Center goals for the upcoming year. Attendance at the Nature Center was then reviewed as well as a review of budget cuts which were made.

Ms. Knight went on to review the proposed expenses for the upcoming year including an expansion of the gift shop. Ms. Knight explained the marketing value of some of the Nature Center's exhibits, including the three bears and possibly the shark exhibit. Also presented was an idea for an adoption program.

Ms. Knight explained the backpack program which allows children to learn about different areas in the nature arena. There is a bird cage which was donated. It is anticipated that a bird might be donated to the Nature Center this spring.

Spring Celebration is coming up on May 1st. Wild Wednesdays will be back this summer after approximately 3,000 attendees last year. Fall Open House was also very popular.

Ms. Knight reviewed the capital expenditures for the Nature Center for the upcoming budget year.

PARKS

Mr. White addressed the parks department budget for the upcoming year. Mr. White spoke of changes to the fertilizer schedule which will be implemented.

Utilization of Dorothy Drennan was addressed with several items being suggested.

Ball field maintenance was the next topic of discussion. Mr. White discussed adding the sand clay mix to make the ball fields look good for the upcoming spring and summer seasons.

It was determined that summer maintenance workers should have District t-shirts.

The waterfall maintenance will be done by District staff as Mr. White was not satisfied with the work which was done by an outside vendor last year.

Vehicles are reviewed for maintenance needs on a monthly basis. The dump truck needs front tires.

Under capital, the ball field gator should be replaced. The gator would not start at the end of the season last year. The equipment replacement schedule prepared last year was addressed. To update the shop, Mr. White would like to purchase a torch kit. To do more trimming, a telescoping pole with saw blade has been included in the capital budget.

Mr. White finished his presentation with a list of items to be discarded.

CORPORATE

Director Barron addressed the corporate fund items which are included in the budget. The copier leases have been moved to capital. The custodial supply budget has been increased. The state and national conferences have been added but Director Barron understands that these may be removed.

Commissioner Cizek would like to readdress the IAPD membership. He has heard comments on both sides and doesn't want to make a decision that will affect the District down the road.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be February 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

A second Budget Meeting will be March 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. by Commissioner Flanagan, seconded by Commissioner Neffke, and approved by all.

Roger Sweitzer, President

Maryann Neffke, Secretary