

SUGAR GROVE PARK DISTRICT
Monday, July 13, 2009
6:00PM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting was called to order by President Kevin Johnson at 6:05PM.

Roll call was taken:

President Kevin Johnson	Present
Commissioner Mike Bachio	Present
Commissioner Steven Becker	Present
Commissioner Sean Carmody	Present
Commissioner Ochsenschlager	Absent
Executive Director Greg Repede	Present

Others Present:

Bryan Angelletti, Resident of Windsor West Subdivision
Karen Pritchard, Superintendent of Recreation
John Clayton, Superintendent of Parks
Ginny Pavesich, Recording Secretary

2. Public to Address the Board

None

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the Executive Session – June 8, 2009

Commissioner Bachio made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session, June 8, 2009. Commissioner Becker seconded and the motion passed.

B. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Becker made a motion to approve the June 8, 2009 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting. Commissioner Carmody seconded and the motion passed.

4. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Bachio made a motion to approve the June 2009 Treasurer's Report and Disbursements totaling \$88,599.68. Commissioner Becker seconded. Roll call vote was taken:

President Johnson	Aye
Commissioner Bachio	Aye
Commissioner Becker	Aye

Commissioner Carmody	Aye
Commissioner Ochsenschlager	Absent

Motion passed 4-0

5. Unfinished Business

A. Hampstead Park Acquisition

The Executive Director explained that the Windsor West HOA is interested in the Park District taking ownership of Hampstead Park, which is a neighborhood park with open space, a playground and natural areas. The existing prairie areas are around the bike path, and the Park District would not be interested in maintaining this current situation. The Village of Sugar Grove insists on some prairie remaining and has approved the proposed plan. Improvements would be necessary to bring the park up to the standards of the Park District. The HOA has contracted for improvements, and will fund these improvements. The proposed shape of the green space could be used for informal play and the rectangular shape would lend itself to walkways which create buffers for burning. The burning would be done by the Park District and the Fire Department.

While the Park District may indicate interest in owning Hampstead Park, a vote of the Park District Board would need to take place to change the ownership. The Village would also need to approve this change of ownership.

Superintendent Clayton stated it would take time to establish the prairie areas, and Director Repede added that the HOA has a two or three year contract to get the changes/improvements accomplished. Director Repede stated that if the Park District chooses to move forward with ownership, the Park District would notify the HOA of that, and a time table for transfer of the park from the Village to the Park District could be determined. President Johnson suggested that the change in ownership could occur after the HOA contract for improvements is completed.

The Park District expressed its interest in moving forward, but it would not be official until the Park District Board would vote to accept the park.

President Johnson posed the question regarding what position the Park District will take, in the long term, in regard to possible ownership of other HOA parks. The following comments were made in response:

There are not many existing usable HOA parks, which would meet the standards of the Park District; the Park District should make sure there is a use for an HOA park, before it becomes a Park District park.

Bryan Angeletti, resident of Windsor West, shared with the Board that the HOA is willing to help out as much as possible to work with the Park District to make improvements and avoid problem maintenance of Hampstead Park. Mr. Angeletti also shared that the HOA knows that Hampstead is not what it should have been and it is the HOA's intention to use Hampstead Park as an example for other HOA parks.

President Johnson indicated that the Park District is open to the idea and uniqueness of this situation and is interested in it being done well.

B. Master Plan Adoption

Commissioner Becker made a motion to approve the Master Plan; Commissioner Carmody seconded and the motion passed unanimously. President Johnson stated that copies of the Plan would be available to the Chamber, the Village and to others who request it. Executive Director Repede stated that the Plan will also be posted to the Park District's website for residents to reference and/or print out.

6. New Business

A. Election of Officers – Set Date

Executive Director Repede stated that last year, the election of officers took place in the month of October; prior to last year, the annual election of officers was earlier in the year. He requested the preference of the Board for the election, and the Commissioners okayed October 2009 for the annual election of officers.

B. FVSRA Governance

Executive Director Repede reported that Fox Valley Special Recreation Association (FVSRA) completed a long-range plan which included the study and review of the structure of governance of the Association. Prior to the newest three agencies joining FVSRA, it had two representatives from 3 park districts and 3 representatives from the Fox Valley Park District. With the addition of three new districts (Sugar Grove, Oswegoland, and South Elgin Parks & Recreation) the FVSRA Board has become a very large board. A special FVSRA committee, after surveying board members and studying the issue, has recommended one representative from each member agency be on the FVSRA Board. Member District Boards are being asked for input regarding this recommendation, before FVSRA moves forward to rewrite its Joint Agreement, which would need complete approval by its Board, rather than a majority vote. Director Repede also reported that the FVSRA committee recommended no new districts be added to FVSRA. The Sugar Grove Park District Board agreed with the recommendations of the FVSRA special committee.

C. School Athletic Fields

Executive Director Repede shared the following information regarding the fields at the middle school:

Some fields will be used by high school; tennis courts are going in; small stadium track going in. The school district has an area they are not intending to development and could be available for Park District use; school district plans to grade and seed the area this fall. The school district sees it as open space. If the Park District were to develop it, there would be a long term lease with the school district having interest in using the area for physical education classes.

Possible Park District use of this area could be for a softball field for 11 and 12 year olds, a 13 or 12U baseball field, or a smaller field designed for younger players. Size of the area in relationship to the size of field(s) was discussed as

well as possibility of lighting. There was discussion regarding the grading and seeding of the area. Commissioner Bachio suggested determining the greatest need of the Park District, and putting together a plan and a timeline. President Johnson directed staff to move forward with investigating these ideas and to also check the drainage slope. Director Repede said he would also look into possible donations from ComEd for materials/labor, and possible grants available.

7. Meeting Adjournment

Commissioner Bachio made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Carmody seconded. President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:16pm.