

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 6, 2007**

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2007, at 5:00 p.m., in the Park District Board meeting room. Present were Commissioners Bollman, LaDouceur, Hutchison and Jeske. Commissioner Panzer was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 2, 2007

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2007, board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Jeske; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

John Staley requested two items be added to the agenda under "For Action", as item C, permission to bid park and golf maintenance equipment and item D, support of playground.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison to approve adding the above two items to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

Representatives from the Wahoos swimming organization addressed the Board to make a suggestion about the proposed new wellness center.

They would like the Board to consider the aquatics issue in the proposed wellness center. They are concerned about a "home" in the future and would like to see the feasibility study take a look at a place for aquatics to locate. A 25 yard, 50 meter pool and diving tank is what they are requesting be put into the feasibility study.

Commissioner Hutchison thanked the group for the information. The Board is looking more at a family recreation center and not an athletics center in this proposal.

The group was assured the IBIS group, who is doing the feasibility study, would be given the information presented.

FOR DISCUSSION

DOG PARK PRESENTATION

Nancy Joyner and Shari Reitmeier, proponents for a dog park in the City, addressed the Board. They are anxious to find a location for a dog park and would like the Park District's help in locating a spot, as well as setting up a fund through the Park District to accept donations toward the dog park.

Commissioner Bollman stated the Greenway would be a good place for the location, but the Greenway is property of the City and use of the Greenway is not the Park District's decision. Commissioner Bollman stated he feels a dog park is needed, and it will be interesting to see how the one at the Humane Society is used and accepted. If that turns out to be a good thing, perhaps citizens of Grand Forks will accept a dog park location within the City.

The Commissioners agreed they would like to form a committee to determine a location. The committee should consist of representatives from the Park District, the Roaming Paws group and the City Council.

In addition, the Park District could set up a way to accept donations for a dog park.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison to have the Park District accept donations and hold in the expendable trust fund, and to appoint two board members, two Park District Staff members to a committee to work toward finding a location, as well as ask the Council to appoint a councilperson to serve on the committee. Seconded by Commissioner Jeske; motion carried.

LINCOLN CLUBHOUSE RENTAL POLICY

John stated the Park District has received several requests to use the Lincoln Golf Clubhouse for parties, grooms dinners, etc.

Commissioner Hutchison stated the revenue part looks good, but what are the costs and is there a demand?

John stated the demand is out there, but the question is: is it worth it?

Commissioner Hutchison felt the Park District should venture into this very slowly, and try it in the off season.

Commissioner Jeske felt the use fee should be higher.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Brandy Chaffee presented the plan to the Board:

This plan is unifying all entities of the Park District.

The website really needs to be updated and she is in the process of doing that. Our website gets over 1,000 hits a day.

She presented the marketing objectives and has developed a master calendar for advertising.

Last year \$125,000.00 was spent on advertising and marketing. This year she hopes to spend the advertising money more wisely.

The banner ad that appears in the HERALD each Monday, three times a month, is saving \$10,000.00 in advertising dollars and is part of the branding concept.

FOR ACTION

GREENWAY PARKLAND LEASE

The final draft of the lease with the City was presented to the Board. The only change made was the date the Park District would be responsible for the sledding hill from May 31 to March 31.

This is a one year contract, renewable each year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison to approve the contract, with the date change to March 31, 2007. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried with Commissioner Bollman dissenting.

PERMISSION TO BID COMPUTER UPGRADE

Colette explained the Park District would like to negotiate with Network Center on the upgrade. They carry the hardware equipment needed and that Vermont Systems recommends. It is compatible with Vermont Systems.

There are three finance options: Install the complete package with money down, and finance out of C & B; install complete package with money down, and finance with a commercial loan; or install in two phases, one in 2007 and one in 2008 and finance out of C & B each year.

Commissioner Hutchison stated he's in favor of dealing with vendors in town, but it makes sense to call others out of town for a price as well.

He is in favor of doing the upgrade in phases. If on-line registration doesn't happen this fall, it wouldn't be so bad. He does feel the website should be updated.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to negotiate out phases one and two of the upgrade at the cost of \$52,300.00. Seconded by Commissioner Jeske; motion carried.

PERMISSION TO BID PARK AND GOLF MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

Equipment has been budgeted for King's Walk, Lincoln, Kraft Field and the Parks Department. Equipment bids will be awarded in March and/or April.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hutchison for permission to bid park and golf maintenance equipment. Seconded by Commissioner LaDouceur; motion carried.

BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND

Bill Palmiscno requests permission from the Board to accept the boundless playground at the Sertoma Park site, should the playground be awarded.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to accept the playground at the proposed site, should it be awarded. Seconded by Commissioner Hutchison; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR JANUARY

A motion was made by Commissioner LaDouceur to approve the bills for January in the amount of \$411,191.14. Seconded by Commissioner Hutchison; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

Bill Palmiscno reported coming events for February and March, including the EDC tournament at Purpur, Ice Show, and Bantam B2 Tournament.

The indoor arenas are scheduled to close March 26, 27 & April 2.

Center Court reports membership at the end of January at 1502.

Steve Mullally reported numbers using the outdoor rinks are declining and maybe it is time to look at streamlining the outdoor rinks system.

He also reports a handicapped seating area has been constructed at Purpur Arena.

Forestry reports 711 streets trees pruned in January.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Commissioner Hutchison inquired of the Dutch elm disease problem and the numbers occurring.

Commissioner LaDouceur expressed concern for the concessions for the Bantam B2 tournament in March. Bill Palmiscno assured him there will be plenty of concessions.

Commissioner LaDouceur also stated the handicapped seating at Purpur is a great idea.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Jeske to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Hutchison; motion carried.

John Staley, Clerk

Jim Bollman, President

