

**Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the
Posen Park District Board of Commissioners
On Thursday August 5, 2010 at 7:00PM
At the Offices of the Park District on 143rd & Campbell**

Opening:

President Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Upon roll call, the following Commissioners answered present: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez. Commissioner Murphy was absent. (Commissioner Murphy arrived at 7:26pm.) President Whitcomb led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Revisions To The Agenda: None.

Citizens To Be Heard: None

Approval of Minutes:

President Whitcomb presented the minutes of the July 15th 2010 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting for approval. The Board reviewed the minutes. Commissioner Lopez moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Chmielak. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None, Absent: Murphy. Motion carried.

President Whitcomb presented the Executive Session Minutes of July 15, 2010 and made the motion that they be approved and closed to the public at this time. Commissioner Chmielak seconded the motion. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None, Absent: Murphy. Motion carried.

President Whitcomb presented the minutes of the July 22nd 2010 Special Meeting for approval. The Board reviewed the minutes. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None, Absent: Murphy. Motion carried.

Approval of Ordinances/Agreements:

President Whitcomb made the third reading of the Bylaws Ordinance for the public, and gave a brief explanation of its contents. Commissioner Whitcomb moved to approve the Bylaws Ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None, Absent: Murphy. Motion carried.

President Whitcomb presented the Posen/SWSRA Memorandum of Understanding for approval. He explained that this defined the responsibilities of both parties under the KaBOOM! agreement and serves to absolve SWSRA of liability for any aspect of the project and subsequent to the project. Commissioner Chmielak moved to approve the Memorandum as presented, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None, Absent: Murphy. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

The Finance Report was bypassed as Commissioner Murphy was still enroute.

Maintenance: Commissioner Chmielak (Commissioner Murphy arrived at 7:26pm).

Commissioner Chmielak reported on the work completed since the last meeting, and also stated that we need to consider hiring more workers as soon as we are financially able. Modifications will be made to the reinstalled glider to modify the swing, the second glider is repainted and needs to be reassembled and reinstalled. Circle Tractor came out to try and teach us how to use the tractor. The needed parts were acquired and the tractor is fixed and operational. We will be utilizing the lawnmower feature shortly. The distributor from Little Tykes has been contacted to order swing parts so we can submit for the reimbursement. An assessment of the condition of the bleachers has begun so we can assess which need to be reassembled and whether we scrap these and buy new ones when we need them. The Kubota grasshopper is working out well, the small John Deere needs a new part and is on hold until more funds become available. The tractor has been made operational for a cost of about 20 dollars for parts. The newer Grasshopper is running well, but will need blades changed. The older Grasshopper needs more oil and that purchase is being held off on. The border at Commissioners' Park has been installed, a combination of timbers we had in reserve and corrugated plastic on the fence, which saved a significant amount of money. We need a number of small tools as ours are in bad shape. Several residents have also approached us about a dog park which will be considered at a later date. We will need more stakes for our additional timbers remaining, which we can use around other existing equipment. With the issues in drainage in the parks, we may need to look into landscaping to control flooding by creating water retention areas for during serious wet periods. Commissioner Chmielak has stated a need for more manpower, to which Commissioner Whitcomb responded it will be addressed once more funds are available.

Finance: Commissioner Murphy

Commissioner Murphy presented the Treasurer's Report and Bills Statement for Approval. Commissioner Chmielak moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Statement as presented, seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Roll Call as follows: Ayes: Whitcomb, Murphy, Chmielak, Lopez, Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board briefly discussed the payment to S & J Construction for the work at Commissioners' Park. Commissioner Murphy expressed the desire to approach the owner about installment payments instead of paying the entire amount at this time due to finances. President Whitcomb stated he did not think this was a good idea and the expense has been approved so since the money is there it should be paid. Commissioner Murphy expressed his belief that the company would be open to accepting payments as common business practice. Commissioner Lopez expressed that perhaps they might be open to taking the payments. Commissioner Chmielak stated if you have the money to pay, you pay, and we have the money. President Whitcomb stated that Commissioner Murphy was welcome to try if the rest of the Board was willing, but that he was certain that the idea would be nixed by the owner.

Recreation: Commissioner Lopez

Dedication/Picnic In The Park: Commissioner Lopez reported that the event went off as scheduled and that the Dedication turned out well. Unfortunately, attendance was low, but it will take time to build up attendance and that will come with holding more events and programs.

Other: The newsletter came out and was dispersed over two weekends. Volunteers were thanked for their time in helping translate and disperse the newsletter to the community. Commissioner Lopez also inquired about what the thinking was behind details for a concert in the park as a fundraiser, as well as opening the concession stand on a few weekends to see what happens. The Board discussed this idea, including making it a free event versus charging admission, opening the concession stand, a possible silent auction, getting one or more bands free or at reduced price among other ideas.

Policy: Commissioner Whitcomb

Park District Literature: President Whitcomb stated he is holding off on purchasing the literature for now saving money for the all in one printer as he still has the printout of ILCS and can do internet research if needed for policy questions.

Commissioner Posting: The Board discussed the fact that although the deadline had expired, the position remains open and interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume to a commissioner or mail it in. It was commented that this position, like all others on the Board, will be up for election in April 2011.

Rules Signs & Park Welcome Signs: This will continue to be on the task list until time and money becomes available.

Attorney Report:

Attorney Narko has sent back a copy of the filed stamped Prevailing Wage Ordinance as well as faxed us a stamped filed copy of the front page and revenue estimates statement from the Budget & Appropriations Ordinance. Attorney Narko's bill from July 2009-July 2010 is approximately \$3,800. It will be paid once additional funds will be received.

Superintendent Report: None.

Old Business:

Office Equipment: The computer is installed and working great. President Whitcomb stated he was researching all in one printers and decided it would be better for us production wise to purchase a laser printer. He is fairly certain which one will be purchased, but will do one final check before ordering.

Court Resurfacing: There is a contact that may be able to get us rubber surface matting to redo both courts for free, and we are still looking into other avenues to redo both court areas.

Commissioner's Park Installation: The installation is complete but we need to acquire surfacing material for around the new equipment before we can open it for the kids to play.

Order Additional Timbers, Surface Material, & Ramps: We will order ramps when the money is available, and we have sufficient timbers to cover all needs at this time. There is an avenue to potentially acquire some surface material for free so we may not have to spend that money after all.

KaBOOM! Grant Opportunity: President Whitcomb explained the KaBOOM! opportunity for the public and stated we are slated for one more conference call. This should be the final interview step before we hear if we get the grant or not.

Long Term Planning: The Board briefly stated that we are always looking into the future, and it was decided that each commissioner will bring ideas to the next meeting so we can spend some time formulating plans for the next few years.

New Business:

Potential Fundraising Ideas: Covered earlier in Recreation.

Responsible Bidders Ordinance: President Whitcomb stated he had received a packet on formulating a defined responsible bidders ordinance. This would protect the park district by clearly outlining bid qualifications for companies for projects. He will attempt to draft an ordinance for consideration by the next meeting. It would be an addendum to the Contracts section of the Bylaws.

Police Enforcement Ordinance: President Whitcomb will be contacting Midlothian Park District to find out how they made ordinances enforceable through the local police department so that we can pass a Bylaws Addendum Ordinance to follow suit.

Other Business: None.

Correspondence: IAPD is sending all Commissioners regular material, however they are going off the Cook County Directory which is not listing all current Commissioners.

Open To Public:

Alex Arias asked when we will know the answer from KaBOOM!, which was answered to be in about a week or two. He commented that we have people in town that will help, but that communication with the Hispanic community needs to be improved, whether by adding a Spanish speaking Commissioner and/or going through the church for communication. He asked what the requirements to be a Commissioner. Commissioner Whitcomb stated the basic requirements are you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years old, a registered voter, and be a resident of the District for at least one year. The Board also wants someone who is motivated, will attend meetings, come out for events, work hard, and draw volunteers. You must submit a letter of interest and a resume.

Mary Ericksen suggested holding a flea market as a fundraiser as a simple event where we could also open the concession stand for additional revenue. She also asked if we could put the newsletter in with the Village to save money and improve communication. It was stated that we are trying to establish park district communication as separate from the village. She inquired as to the status of the Superintendent and his return to work. It was stated that as soon as he is medically able to work and cleared to do so he will return to work. She asked about whether we had already purchased the printer, to which it was stated we had only purchased the computer. She asked about the ages of children needed for Design Day, to which it was stated we need children from age 2 or 3 up to beginning of high school. She inquired about the fees for the lawyer, which was responded to be \$115 per hour. The bill is for the whole year because the previous bill was sent prior to Commissioner Whitcomb monitoring the mail. He usually bills in six month installments. She asked if we know where Mr. Jacobs will serve his sentence, to which the Board responded not at this time. She asked if we need a sanitation license to open the concession stand now, to which the Board responded no since we are not physically "cooking" the food, just warming.

Jody Chmielak asked about spreading word for Design Day, to which the Board responded we need to possibly circulate another flyer and/or go through the church bulletin. She asked if the conviction against Mr. Jacobs has led to the Board considering civil suit against him as well. Commissioner Whitcomb responded that this is the first meeting since the conviction, so the Board needs to discuss this first to reach a decision. She also asked if we could contemplate putting in a mini golf course, to which the Board responded we are open to all options.

Karen Klotz suggested putting fundraiser advertisements and communication in the church bulletin to spread the word.

Narcisso Arreaga asked if we would consider a soccer game as a fundraiser and if we would consider opening leagues. The Board responded that this is something we want, and we will listen if approached by people willing to organize some sort of league. He also asked if we would lease the concession stand. The Board responded that the park district would retain the rights to the concession stand due to legalities and sanitation issues.

Executive Session (if needed): None needed.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Chmielak. Voice vote was unanimous, meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.