

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 7/19/16

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: John Hemingway, Jim Bloom, Pat Sowers, Valencia Pettigrew & Steve Horrell

Attorney Joe O'Donnell

Staff Present: Ray Peterson, Rachel Lenz, student intern Ciara Marlow

Media and others: 5

6:15 – President Hemingway declared the meeting open.

**2. Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Sowers seconded the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays).

**3. Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements** – Commissioner Horrell stated that his name had been omitted from the attendance list. Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sowers. The motion passed (5 ayes - 0 nays). On behalf of the Finance Committee Treasurer Bloom recommended approval of the June financial statements and July bills and transfers. The motion was approved on roll call vote (5 ayes - 0 nays).

**4. Public Comment** – None

**5. President's report** - Hemingway reported he had participated in some additional informal meetings with the Risinger firm regarding the Community First development project. These meetings dealt with building design concepts and space allocations. Hemingway commented that several adjustments have been made to better serve the Macomb Park District potential use of the facility. He informed the board that he would again meet with them tomorrow in preparation for a formal meeting with all partners on the 25<sup>th</sup>. President Hemingway pointed out that Commissioners should have e-mailed copies as well as hard copies of a legal opinion from the law firm of Ancel / Glink regarding changes to the salary compensation law. He stated that Peterson has discussed the impact with the members of the Finance Committee because this legislation will have significant impact on the district. Hemingway said that Peterson would address more about the issue during the director's report but wanted to emphasize the importance.

**8. Director's report** – Peterson acknowledged the increased involvement of the Macomb Park District in the 2016 Heritage Days festival. In addition to a booth in Chandler Park, the district was represented in the parade, had free activities for children and hosted an event for children on stage Saturday. He thank Superintendent Lenz for her work and commitment to the event. Peterson reported that the recent Ball Fore Moonlight and After Glow were successful again generating over \$1000 in receipts.

Upcoming events include the July 22<sup>nd</sup> showing of Star Wars the Force Awakens at Veterans Park. There will a costume contest before the film with the grand prize being tickets to the Chicago Comic-Con. Peterson informed the Commissioners that the district will be hosting the Chamber After Hours on August 17 at Veterans Park to show off our development thus far. He encouraged Board Members to attend to help represent the district. Peterson mentioned that while the Fall Music Festival is more than a month away the registrations for the bean bag contest has opened and he encouraged any interested parties to get registered soon.

Peterson explained that the recent legislation regulating salary pay mentioned by President Hemingway will have a genuine impact on the district operations and budgeting. He explained that the staff and Finance Committee will

continue attempting to identify expenditures there is not sufficient historical data to accurately project the budget figures. Each successive year should provide more accurate information but it important for the board to understand the first couple of years with these changes will be very challenging. Peterson updated the board regarding the Veterans Park Construction project. The shelter is nearly complete, the foundation, electrical, plumbing and floor of the restroom / concession building are completed. The first pay request from the contractor was received today and following review and conformation money will be transferred from savings to make that payment, expected to be slightly over \$400,000.

**7. Committee reports** – Treasurer Bloom reported on the current status of accounts. He stated that the district is within the overall budget there are some areas of variation that will be monitored over next few months. Bloom said that there appears to be not continued need for internal borrowing now that the first tax distribution has been received.

**8. Report regarding Glenwood Pool** - Peterson reported that Glenwood pool opened on July 6 which was considerably delay from the initial projections for this season. Complications in the repair process caused the delay but the repairs appear to be successful and the new chlorination system is functioning better than expected. The final bills have not been received as of yet but hopefully will be close to the original bid figure. There were some additional work done however there were also portions that required less than expected to possibly offset the impact to the net amount. Attendance has been typical approximately 75 - 80 average with a peak of 200 thus far.

**9. Report on Executive Director Search** - Hemingway reported that he had not been able to meet with Cindy Timmerman of the Illinois Association of Park Districts for additional information therefore the only thing to report at this time is that the Job Announcement advertisement will begin next Monday (25<sup>th</sup>)

**10. Distribution & discussion on policy regulating unmanned aerial systems - Hemingway** - President Hemingway reviewed the draft policy and explained the need for such regulation. He asked Commissioners to contact him with input and opinion as he expects to have a policy ready for consideration at the August meeting. Commissioner Bloom indicated that the activity is a legitimate recreation pursuit and he hoped there may be a way to establish parameters for the activity to take place but also protect the public and property. He suggested a specific area and or times could be created at the discretion of the Executive Director.

**11. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items** - President Hemingway reported that he had been approached by a representative of the Macomb Area Leisure Foundation regarding a possible proposal to turn over the operation and control of the foundation to members of the Macomb Park District Board of Commissioners. He had conferred with park district attorney O'Donnell regarding the procedure, benefits and implications of doing this with both the MALF and the Everly Trust governing Everly Park. Hemingway asked if there was opposition for him and Peterson to attend an upcoming Macomb Area Leisure Foundation meeting to hear the exact proposal and repeat back to the Commissioners. With no exception expressed Hemingway stated that he hoped to be able to have a proposal for the August meeting.

6:57 Meeting adjourned on motion from Bloom, second by Sowers.

Respectfully submitted

Ray Peterson, Secretary  
Macomb Park District