

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
April 21, 2011

The Board of Park Commissioners held their regular meeting on April 21, 2011 in the Tom Baker meeting room of the City/County Building. President Beattie called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien and DeForest were present. President Beattie asked the Board to consider moving one of the announcements from item nine up on the agenda since a guest was present for that item. Commissioner O'Brien moved approval of the agenda with the change as noted. Commissioner DeForest seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner DeForest moved approval of the March 24, 2011 Board meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

President Beattie opened the public hearing on the 2011-01 Improvement District and asked for comments in favor of the improvement district. Hearing none, he then asked for comments opposed to the 2011-01 Improvement District. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

Moving forward with special announcements, Director Neu asked Dave Schollars, Human Resource and Community Relations Manager, from Tesoro to appear before the Board. Tesoro initially provided a \$50,000 contribution to the Fill the Lanes Campaign for the BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center. They are now contributing an additional \$50,000 to the campaign. In return, they will receive naming rights of the wellness center component of the facility and will work with Park District staff to grow their corporate wellness program for their employees, employee's families, and retirees. Mr. Schollars thanked the Board for this opportunity to partner with the Park District and the BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center.

Director Neu reviewed the Boston Drive development/land purchase item that was tabled at the March meeting and presented the Board with the various options associated with this item. Commissioner DeForest moved to proceed with the development of approximately 260 feet of road with access into the future Meadow Village development along with street lights and water line installation. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner DeForest moved approval to purchase an additional four acres of land on the west side of Boston Drive to create a continuous greenway from Burleigh Avenue to the future Santa Fe Avenue. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioner DeForest. Nays: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, and President Beattie. The motion failed.

Commissioner Jeske moved to amend the 2011-01 Improvement District and add the development of Boston Drive as Unit Six. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the

voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner DeForest moved to approve the 2011 Resolution Determining Sufficiency of Petition Recreation Facilities Improvement District No. 2011-01. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Dave Mayer from Kadrmas Lee and Jackson reviewed the bids received for fencing and dugouts on fields five and six at the Scheels Sports Complex. Upon review of the bids, staff recommends approval of the low bid submitted by Dakota Fence for chain link fencing on fields five and six, backstops and alternate one – block dugouts in the amount of \$104,877.60. Commissioner Schwartz moved approval of the bid as recommended. Commissioner Jeske seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Assistant Director Bina reviewed the bids received for new playground equipment, installation, and wood fiber surfacing for the Meddy Bear playground at Jaycee Park. Staff recommends approving the low bid that met all specifications provided by My Turn Playsystems and Playcraft in the amount of \$25,930. Commissioner DeForest moved approval of the bid as recommended. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Director Neu informed the Board that at the Bismarck Community Bowl Authority meeting held on March 9th, a motion was made, seconded and approved to change the Bowl's managing partner from the Park District to BSC with a transition period beginning in June 2011 and full transition by August 1, 2011. This discussion was based on the development of the Bowl improvement plans and who might be best suited to manage the facility in the future and its day to day operations with the future improvements in mind. Staff requests the Board to accept this notification. Commissioner Jeske moved to accept the notification by the Bowl Authority to transition operating management of the Bowl to Bismarck State College. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Staff also requests approval to transfer identified Park District equipment presently at the Bowl for use and operation by BSC who would then be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the equipment. The items are as follows: Two sets of five row bleachers, four soccer goals cages, two freezers, five and ten gallon water jugs, one Cushman workhorse, two well-used golf cars and six player benches. Commissioner O'Brien moved approval to leave the identified equipment at the Bowl for use by BSC in managing the Bowl. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Director Neu reviewed an agreement for the Hoop It Up three-on-three basketball tournament proposed to be held during Prairie Rose State Games. Commissioner Jeske moved approval of

the agreement as presented. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Commissioner O'Brien moved approval of bills with checks 167956 to 168145 and 325644 to 326464. Commissioner DeForest seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Director Neu informed the Board that the BSC Aquatic and Wellness Center will host the 2012 Paralympics National Time Trials for swimming in April 2012.

Mike Wald, Recreation Manager, provided the Board with information about the 25th anniversary Prairie Rose State Games to be held in Bismarck – Mandan July 8-10, 2011.

Commissioner Schwartz moved to table item number ten, Discussion of Division Leadership Development and Organizational Changes. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

Director Neu addressed the Board with the following statement:

“President Beattie and Commissioners,

With professional consideration and respect for you as President, the Board, past Board members and staff in the closing of this chapter of my career after 23 years of service to the District and 35 years to the profession of public parks and recreation, I write this letter to formally submit my resignation effective June 30, 2011 as Director of the Bismarck Park District.

My time with Bismarck Parks and Recreation has been a rewarding and gratifying service experience that afforded many great opportunities. Opportunities to work with a dedicated, passionate and professional staff and professionals in the field committed to public service; to have served with many publically minded and community orientated citizens board members who saw the big picture to make Bismarck a better place to live, work and play; to create with the diverse interest and citizen groups who dedicated their time, talents and resources to the betterment of facilities and programs for Bismarck residents and visitors; and to represent this District and community at the state, regional and national level as well as the world, with an event such as the World Curling Championships.

This service has not been about the events, facilities or recognitions. There has not been a scorecard. It has been about providing with the help of many, those things you cannot touch, the intangibles of leisure experiences and believing the results last a life time. See it. Feel it. Trust it.

I thank the community, the staff, you as this collective board and the boards of the past for all the opportunities to serve and make a little difference in the lives of those who chose to participate in many ways.

Steven M. Neu CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation”

Commissioner O'Brien moved to hold a special Board meeting after May 10th for the Board to look at options to fill Director Neu's position. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion and the voting went as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Jeske, Schwartz, O'Brien, DeForest and President Beattie. The nays being none, the motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be on May 19, 2011 at 5:15 pm in the Tom Baker meeting room. President Beattie adjourned the meeting at 6:21 pm.