

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2014
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Plainfield Township Park District, was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at the Heritage Professional Center, 24023 W. Lockport Street, Plainfield.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE

President Hurtado called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ludemann, Newton, Silosky, Steinys, Hurtado

Absent: None

Staff members present: Booth, Calabrese, Coldwater, Crisman, Nugent, Matt Campbell

President Hurtado asked Commissioner Ludemann to lead the pledge to the flag. There were approximately 60 people in the audience.

APPROVE AGENDA

Moved by Newton that the board approve the agenda. Seconded by Steinys. Commissioner Ludemann asked if Public Comments could be moved up to be Item VI., after Commissioner Comments. Commissioner Newton withdrew his motion. Commissioner Steinys withdrew his motion. Moved by Newton that the board approve the amended agenda with Public Comments being Item VI. Seconded by Silosky. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- Commissioner Silosky said that she met with Mary Ludemann and Matt Campbell this week and one item in the discussion that kept coming up was moving forward and not looking back. Ms. Silosky said that if the term limits for officers passes tonight it means that a new president could be elected in May and she wants to make it clear that she does not want to be the board president.
- Commissioner Ludemann thanked everyone for coming. Ms. Ludemann said a search committee was formed to hire a new director. Ms. Ludemann said the search committee met and that she is the chairperson. Ms. Ludemann said the other committee members are Commissioner Silosky, Matt Campbell, Gene Coldwater and Greg Bott and that hopefully after this meeting we will be able to begin moving forward with the search.
- Commissioner Newton said Rob Ayres has been asking for information for the PSA bill from last year and hasn't been able to obtain the necessary back up to his request. Mr. Newton asked staff to fill his request.
- Commissioner Steinys said that it was brought to his attention that there was an official Park Board meeting at the library on February 14 and asked the other commissioners if they were aware of the meeting. Mr. Hurtado said that he heard the same thing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Paul Fay said that he entered into community service when he was in 3rd grade and talked about his community service experiences. Mr. Fay said that he hopes moving forward that the board and staff consider the same action, public service.
- Jayme Alwood said we can't move forward without looking back at the past 10 months. Mr. Alwood read a list of headlines that have appeared during the past 10 months. Mr. Alwood said that even though a letter to the editor by Mr. Hurtado referenced him as making racist comments that never occurred.

- Ernie Knight said he and Matt Starr were planning to serve the Resolution of No Confidence that was passed by the Plainfield Township Board to the board but Mr. Starr is not here yet. Mr. Knight said the community does not trust the board and the board has done nothing to fix it. Mr. Knight said everyone knows where this board stands on ethics and transparency. Mr. Knight said a simple way to go forward would be for the board majority to step down. Mr. Knight said it doesn't matter who the board president is and if the board as it exits remains they will never gain the public trust.
- Vicky Polito said she appreciates Commissioner Silosky speaking with Mr. Campbell about changing the term limits but that was a directive from the last meeting so all she was doing was something that was supposed to be done. Ms. Polito addressed the comment about a meeting held on February and told Commissioner Steinys if he has something to say just say it and don't beat around the bush. Ms. Polito told Commissioner Silosky the reason that people are getting in the board members faces is because they care about the District.
- Brenda Morse commented on item 6 in the public comment policy and said that different language should have been used in the policy. Ms. Morse told Ms. Silosky she sent a letter to her home address and is still waiting for a response from her. Ms. Morse said the policy should have a date on it.
- Michelle Kelly said that from the agenda it appears that the board is trying to go in the right direction and move forward. Ms. Kelly said she is concerned because the actions of the board are not following the ideas being presented on the agenda with the ethics commission, etc. Ms. Kelly said there are 3 ballot questions in the upcoming election and the public should be told why the questions are on the ballot and what the district plans on doing with the answers. Ms. Kelly said she has no idea what Doug Booth does and thinks he should be fired. Ms. Kelly said that the purchasing policy being presented already exists and just because the president doesn't know how to follow it doesn't mean that it doesn't exist.
- Margie Bonuchi said the majority of the board will not be able to get public support back on their side. Ms. Bonuchi said the majority should make the right decision and get off of the board.
- Joe Bostjancic said that he retired from the Plainfield Park District about one year ago was proud to have worked for the Plainfield Park District and what was accomplished over the years for the community it served. Mr. Bostjancic said that after seeing what has been done by this board is now ashamed to say he had anything to do with Plainfield Park District. Mr. Bostjancic said that we the people demand the resignations of 3 board members and asked all those who agree to stand.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Ludemann that the board approve the consent agenda which included minutes of the February 4, 2014 Board of Commissioners Meeting; interim check numbers 88250-88368 with check numbers 88284, 88320 & 88355 voided; bills and claims check numbers 88369-88468 with check numbers 88411, 88427, 88428, 88429, 88430, 88431 & 88432 voided; Treasurer's Report November 2013 and the Treasurer's Report December 2013. Seconded by Steinys. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Finance Department

1) 6 Month Budget Review

Maureen Nugent told the board that staff completed the 6 month budget review and a memo with details was included in the board packet. Ms. Nugent said that staff went through each fund and pointed out line items that would be 10% over or under budget.

Director of Recreation

Cheryl Crisman told the board that several staff members and President Hurtado met with Plainfield Sports Facilities Group about a possible public/private partnership for recreational space and was seeking direction from the board on whether or not staff should continue exploring that possibility. The board consensus was for staff to continue meeting and gathering information.

DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Commissioner Newton updated the board on the status of 2 bills.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Seeking a Motion to Approve a Contract with Melrose Pyrotechnics for Fireworks at the Patriotic Picnic

Moved by Steinys that the board approve a contract with Melrose Pyrotechnics for the July 3, 2014 Patriotic Picnic in the amount of \$17,000.00. Seconded by Ludemann. Commissioner Steinys asked how the companies were selected to give quotes. Cheryl Crisman said these are companies that have submitted quotes in the past and they are the larger companies in the area. Commissioner Steinys asked about the shell sizes and how the shows are compared. Ms. Crisman said that she asked each company to quote what the District could get for \$17,000 by stating how many shells and shell sizes we would get for that amount. Wynn Kramer from Melrose Pyrotechnics answered questions in regard to their products and the service we receive from them. Commissioner Newton asked how a company would bid. Cheryl Crisman said that throughout the year she receives phone calls from companies and she adds their name to the list to receive information about the bid. Matt Campbell said this is the first time he's seen the contract and suggested that the motion be to approve subject to attorney review. Commissioner Steinys withdrew his motion. Commissioner Ludemann withdrew her motion. Moved by Newton that the board approve a contract with Melrose Pyrotechnics for the July 3, 2014 Patriotic Picnic in the amount of \$17,000.00 subject to attorney review. Seconded by Ludemann. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

B. Seeking a Motion to Adopt Resolution 2014-02 (A Resolution to Amend the Plainfield Township Park District Board Manual)

Moved by Silosky that the board adopt Resolution 2014-02. Seconded by Ludemann. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

C. Seeking a Motion to Consider Resolution 2014-03 (A Resolution Amending the Plainfield Township Park District Board Manual)

Moved by Steinys that the board approve Resolution 2014-03. Seconded by Ludemann. Commissioner Newton asked what was wrong with the current purchasing policy. Matt Campbell said the way the policy is written now staff doesn't have to get approval from the board for purchases between \$10,000 and \$19,999.99 and now they would. President Hurtado said this would be an extra layer for the board. Mr. Newton said he's at a loss as to why this change is necessary as long as there are people in place who will follow the policy. Roll Call: Ludemann-No, Newton-No, Silosky-No, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion fails.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Future Services with Hitchcock Design Group

Gene Coldwater told the board that Hitchcock Design Group is currently working on two projects for the District and would like to have them finish those projects. Steve Konters, Hitchcock Designs updated the board on the projects he is working on and reviewed the proposal for the scope of services with them. The board discussed whether or not to continue using Hitchcock Design

Group with assistance for the projects identified in the scope of services. The board discussed whether or not to continue retaining Hitchcock Design Services and the consensus was to extend their scope of services for 90 days so they could continue working on the projects they are involved with.

B. Creation of an Independent Ethics Commission

President Hurtado said information was included in the packets as a sample for the type of commission he would like to see at the District. Commissioner Newton asked Mr. Hurtado why he felt we needed an ethics commission. Mr. Hurtado said because there are so many issues and ethics and not following the board manual he feels that we need a commission to look into them. Mr. Newton said there is already an ethics ordinance in place. The board had a brief discussion on whether the commission was necessary and the consensus was to continue the discussion next month.

C. Creation of a Public Advisory Committee

President Hurtado said he would like to form this committee to get some guidance from the public when they have an idea for a specific program or something to discuss with staff. Commissioner Ludemann said she doesn't feel it is necessary since some board members have an open relationship with the community and feels this is an additional layer. There was no further discussion.

D. Implementation of a Transparency Checklist

President Hurtado said he included information from the Illinois Policy Institute in the packet because he thinks we should follow the items on the checklist and get a policy started. Commissioner Ludemann asked Matt Campbell if he advised that the FOIA responses be taken off the website. Mr. Campbell said that the reason he suggested they be taken down is that some of the FOIA responses disclosed things that shouldn't have been disclosed such as some of the severance agreements that were posted. Mr. Campbell said that if the board wants to post them they certainly can decide to do so. The board consensus was to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Steinys that the board go into executive session to discuss personnel, land acquisition and litigation to reconvene at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Ludemann. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Newton that the board reconvene in open session at 8:05 p.m. Seconded by Ludemann. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

ACTION FOR ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Approval of February 4, 2014 Executive Session Minutes

Moved by Newton that the board approve the February 4, 2014 executive session minutes. Seconded by Steinys. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

B. Seeking a Motion to Consider Resolution 2014-04 (A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Settlement Agreement)

Moved by Newton that the board approve Resolution 2014-04. Seconded by Silosky. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

C. Seeking a Motion to Consider Resolution 2014-05 (A Resolution to Contract with Illinois Association of Park Districts to Conduct a Director Search)

Moved by Silosky that the board approve Resolution 2014-05. Seconded by Steinys. Commissioner Ludemann explained the process IAPD would follow to assist the board in selecting an executive director. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

D. Seeking a Motion to Consider Resolution 2014-06 (A Resolution Amending the Duties of the Executive Director as They Relate to Personnel)

Moved by Newton that the board approve Resolution 2014-06. Seconded by Steinys. Roll Call: Ludemann-No Newton-No, Silosky-No, Steinys-No, Hurtado-Yes. Motion failed.

E. Seeking a Motion to Consider Resolution 2014-07 (A Resolution for a Land Exchange Agreement)

President Hurtado asked for a motion to consider Resolution 2014-07. There was no motion made. Motion fails.

NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Ludemann said that our legal name is Plainfield Township Park District but years ago started using Plainfield Park District. Ms. Ludemann said she is proposing to legally change our name. Mr. Hurtado asked how that works. Matt Campbell said that the statute is straightforward and he can prepare a resolution for the next meeting.
- Commissioner Ludemann asked if the board would consider changing the meetings back to the 2nd Wednesday like it used to be and at the Heritage Center. Mr. Hurtado asked that it be placed on the agenda for next month.
- Commissioner Newton suggested a policy that allows commissioner to petition to place items on the agenda. Mr. Newton said he could put some information together for the next meeting.
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PRESIDENT'S RECAP OF BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

- Staff should continue working with Plainfield Sports Facilities Group
- Continue discussion of forming an independent ethics commission at the meeting next month
- Continue discussion on transparency checklist next month
- Prepare a resolution to legally change the name of the Plainfield Township Park District to Plainfield Park District to be voted on next month
- Prepare a resolution to change the date and location of the board meetings to be voted on next month
- At the April meeting discuss how agenda items are added – Commissioner Newton will gather information

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Steinys that the board adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Newton. Roll Call: Ludemann-Yes, Newton-Yes, Silosky-Yes, Steinys-Yes, Hurtado-Yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendi M. Calabrese, Secretary