

Tri-Township Park District
Commissioners Meeting
May 23, 2001



Because of the large number of people in the audience, President Loethen moved the meeting to the #1 pavilion in the park.

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 by President Loethen.

Roll call:

Present were commissioners Ball, Beck, Loethen, Moore, Simpson, Wiesemeyer, and Wright. Also present were directors Greenfield and Fuesting and bookkeeper Roady. Roll call was followed by a moment of silence.

Review of communications:

The Jarvis Senior Citizens asked for the Park to replace a can opener, coffee maker, and microwave in the Wiesemeyer Center. They are to be reimbursed for the coffee maker and can opener for \$32.96 (Ball/Wright 7-0). Wright is to purchase a new microwave for no more than \$300 (Simpson/Beck 7-0).

Jackie Robertson wrote the Board with a list of suggested improvements for the park. Loethen has responded to her letter.

A request by the Troy's Olde Fashioned 4th of July Committee to use the park for their annual 4th of July celebration was approved (Simpson/Beck).

Also noted were announcements about two upcoming IAPD events, but no interest in attending was shown by the commissioners.

Old business:

Myron Thompson, CPA, presented the audit for the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2000. He summarized the information the audit contains and answered questions from the board. Simpson is to review the document and sign it if he approves. Loethen asked why the audit is so late in being completed. Thompson explained that they had received the last of the information they needed in January of 2001 but had some internal office problems that prevented them from finishing timely. H explained that there is no penalty for the audit being late.

Loethen explained that we will be seeking a new auditor for our next audit.

Roady reported that he has sent packets of information to two auditors in order to get estimates of fees from them as directed by the board at our last meeting.

It was decided to continue working on the matching grant with a grant writer from the IAPD for a fee not to exceed \$3,000 (Wright/Wiesemeyer 7-0). This grant application is due July 1, 2001.

Loethen presented a summary of the activity of the Multipurpose Building Fund. The board established this fund after years ago after a court case had determined that the money from the old "Swimming Pool Fund" could be used by the park for a recreation building. About \$25,000 had original been deposited into that account. Over the years the board would sometimes deposit surplus funds at the end of the fiscal year into this fund to help it grow. Also periodically money would be withdrawn from this fund as needed by the board. During the last fiscal year all of the funds were transferred to the general checking account to help pay for



expenses associated with the proposed Recplex. The register for this account from April 1998 to present is attached to these minutes.

Loethen read the letter written to Ballard*King requesting a \$15,000 refund. He also read the letter written to Ward, Dresham & Reinhardt, Inc. asking for \$40,000 refund. Commissioners Ball, Loethen, Moore, Wiesemeyer, and Wright signed both of these letters. Copies are attached to these minutes.

It was decided to join the Illinois Treasurers Investment Pool. Roady is to meet with the finance committee to make plans for this (Wright/Simpson).

Loethen requested that Beck work on a liability release from to be signed by park volunteers.

Insurance:

Beck reported that our insurance carrier has proposed more than a 25% increase in our premiums. He is to look into the appraisal on park property and to investigate the options of raising our deductible.

Grounds:

The pirate ship has been ordered.

It was decided to have Louie Meier farm the 32 acres on a 2/3 – 1/3 basis. Meier will reimburse the park for one half of the fertilizer bill we previously paid (Wiesemeyer/Wright).

Loethen is to get firm bids on the expense of getting two junction boxes in the park buried.

It was decided to write a letter to the Governor's Committee to request that they stop our request for consideration for funding for the extension of Riggin Road (Wright/Ball).

B & H Mechanical has bid \$3,485 to upgrade the toilets referred to as the "bunker toilets" in the park. Moore is to seek more bids.

Ray Hicks reported on the work of the FOCUS Group as they help in our matching grant application. They have prepared a needed survey form to be distributed to people in the district. These forms are to be used if the grant writer for the IAPD approves them. The group's expenses should not exceed \$300 (Ball/Wright 7-0).

Athletics:

Ball is to talk with Ameritech to get his name removed from the TBSL phone bill.

The problem with the lights on the fields was again discussed. The board was told that it will cost about \$11,000 for the materials to correct the problem. This cost does not include labor.

Special events:

Wright reported that the Troy Community Band will be performing at the Memorial Day Celebration and at the 4th of July Picnic. They also hope to play on some Sunday evenings.

Greenfield updated the board on the Cancer Walk plans.

Personnel and safety:

No report.

Beautification:

Wiesemeyer reported that it could take up to two months for the Troy Historical Society to re-erect the log cabin.

It was also reported that the 4H group has been maintaining the plants around the Wiesemeyer Center.

Public Information Officer:

Wiesemeyer will work to clarify this roll.

New business:

Loethen wants to start sending thank you notes to volunteers. Wright volunteered to furnish the cards for this.

The office locks are to be re-keyed by Sam's Locksmith Shop for an amount not to exceed \$100 (Simpson/Moore 7-0).

It was decided that each group that has a special interest in the park should have a contact person on the board. Currently the following groups have been identified and their contact person is written in parentheses: Seniors(Wright), Lions Club(Loethen), Friends of the Park(Moore), and Scouts(Simpson).

Loethen had requested a straw vote concerning the Troy City Council meeting and our pending land purchase from the City but the item was tabled.

Committees:

Work on the budget is progressing. New rental rates for the park were adopted and attached to these minutes (Ball/Wiesemeyer). It was also decided to levy 0.005 tax rate for park roads.

Discussion concerning the funding of the new football program followed. Loethen noted that currently \$68,000 of equipment is being considered as a grant expense. He questioned why this expense had been submitted as a grant expense. Beck explained that the previous board had agreed to this action.

Beck asked for the floor. At that time he explained some concerns he was having. He asked Loethen if to his knowledge the State's Attorney has been asked about any possible illegal activities by Beck and acquisitions for the football program. Loethen indicated he had no knowledge about this. At that time Ball interrupted the questioning to get the discussion back on football.

Wright asked how we could monitor the use of all that park equipment by children. Beck explained the method his board had designed to protect park equipment.

Beck asked Loethen if he had a problem with the football program. Loethen responded that he did not have a problem with the program, but he wanted to see responsible spending. Beck said that the program had been approved by the past board for \$60,000. He reiterated that the past board had agreed to attempt to use grant funds for this.

Loethen stated competitive bids had been required for such a purchase. Beck then produced copies of the bids he had used. He then questioned whether the TBSL and Soccer League sought competitive bids before they made similar purchases. Ball replied that these two groups spent money that they had raised themselves while the football league had not and therefore was under greater scrutiny.

Ball suggested that the football league might turn over a portion of their registrations fees for the next two to three years to repay the money spent up front for equipment to start the

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program. Fuesting said that that had been discussed during the formation of the program but had a longer pay back period in mind. Beck said that he did not know if this was possible.

Discussion followed concerning the amount to be paid back depending upon the program receiving grants funds or not. Some confusion followed. This matter will be looked at further at our next meeting.

Ball asked why if \$60,000 had been approved, was there \$68,000 of equipment on tentative order.

Beck asked to allow his football board to speak at our next meeting. Loethen said they would be put on the agenda.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:32 pm (Simpson/Wright).