

**SAINT CHARLES PARK & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION MEETING HELD**  
**November 3rd, 2010**

The meeting was Called to Order by President Walendy at 6:06 pm in the American Legion Meeting Room at Memorial Hall. Roll Call noted the following present for the meeting:

Park Board - Valerie Lanning, Tom Probst, Tom Smith, Laura Lyon, Mary Ann Ohms, TJ Slattery, John Walendy and Council Liaison Bridget Ohmes present for Roll Call; Kathy Mudrovic, Don Morgan and Laurie Feldman, Council Liaison absent.

Others - Maralee Britton - Director Parks and Recreation, Chris Atkinson - Assistant Director, Jim Phillips - Maintenance Superintendant, Bob Fink - Recreation Coordinator and Mayor Patti York.

Discussion of Parks & Recreation Logo: Atkinson explained and showed the most current renditions of the new park logo options to the board. The consensus was that we should focus on the logo with the three sections, rather than the single larger section. Lyon asked that the sections be simplified or use silhouettes. Example: Baseball and Bat, silhouettes of tree/leaf. Staff said they would continue working with designer on updates. After lengthy discussion no action was taken.

Discussion of 103 acre property: Britton explained the current situation with the property. In summary: City Council removed \$100,000 funding for the park development from the upcoming budget and have no interest in developing the property. Several outside groups have expressed an interest in utilizing the property (Special Events Area, Community Garden Area, and Senior Ball Diamonds). County has also expressed an interest in taking back the property from the City if nothing was going to be done with it. Britton said that County Executive Ehlmann would give six months to see progress before taking property back into County possession.

Mayor York explained the history of how the park became City property and a timeline of the progress/lack of progress since then including some development options that have been considered.

Britton explained the "flood" issues and restrictions on the property which would limit the amount of development and amenities that could be placed on the property.

Both Probst and Lyon said that this is such a great opportunity for the City to utilize such a large space for park purposes and would like to see the Parks & Recreation Department plan, develop and program the space rather than giving it back to the County.

Smith made a motion to ask City Council to dedicate the 103 acre property to the Parks & Recreation Department so that the Parks & Recreation Department can plan and develop the property. The development would be contingent upon County approval. Motion was seconded by Slattery. Passed unanimously.

Walendy suggested that a "Task Team" be formed to develop and "master plan" this piece of property. Walendy, Ohms, Lyon and Probst volunteered to serve on the task team. Staff would be assigned to the team also.

Probst suggested that the board try to tour the property to get a better sense of what could be done on the property.

**Adopt-A-Park - Board Member Observations Pertinent to Facilities, Progress and Services within the Park System:**

Walendy indicated that both Jaycee and Kiwanis Park looked good.

Probst reported that McNair looked good.

Ohms reported Point DuSable looked good.

Lanning reported that Fountain Lakes looked great and commended the department on keeping the park trash free.

Smith reported that McNair looked good.

Slattery reported that Soccer Complex looked good. Commented that he had a citizen concern about a pipe/culvert in Vogt Brothers Park and it being potentially dangerous for children. Staff believed it was not located on Park property but would pass information onto Public Works.

Lyon reported that she had not visited her parks. She requested that she/other board members be given a bus tour of all of the parks in the system. Staff said they would work on the tour.

As there was not any other business to discuss Smith moved for **Adjournment** at 7:16pm. Seconded by Slattery. Passed unanimously.

Park Board Work Session Meeting: November 3, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Walendy - President

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Valerie Lanning - Secretary