

BARRINGTON COUNTRYSIDE PARK DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1393
BARRINGTON, IL 60011
Minutes of Special Meeting of Commissioners September 23, 2009

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

Commissioners present were:
R. Richard Lamkey, President
Fred McMorris, Treasurer

Jean Maddrell, Vice President
Maureen Crump, Communications

Also present: Rosemary Nero, Administrative Assistant
Audience Members: Holly Jauch, Randy Jauch, Clark Benkendorf, Mike Zachar,
Jessica Underwood, Paddy McKevitt, Donna Wilbert, David Wilbert, Nancy Mesic

Motions:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 was made by Jean and seconded by Maureen.
4 ayes 0 nays 1 absent.

Commissioners Discussion:

Richard called the Special Meeting to discuss User Tags to order at 7:10 P.M.

The audience was asked to hold their questions until the end of the Commissioners discussion.

Commissioners reviewed the recap of the User Fee discussion at the May 5 special meeting.

Commissioners went over each item of the User Fee recap.

For general discussion Maureen presented the Park Board with some information from Bucks County Horse Park and also some proposed fee schedules. Richard provided information from the South Barrington Park District.

The Park Board had a general discussion about the policies of other Park Districts.

A general discussion took place about how other Park Districts generated monies.

The Commissioners had a general discussion about residents and non residents.

The Commissioners had a brief discussion about different fund raising concepts including 'Adopt a Stall' and the 'Banner For Bucks'.

The Park Board discussed its role and financial responsibility to the Countryside play ground, softball diamond, tennis courts and residents.

It was noted that community education is a critical element to adopting and implementing a change in policy.

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The Commissioners explained that the method to adopt a User Fee program included providing information and general concepts from the Park Board to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee would be asked to communicate to the members that they represent and then to provide feedback to the Park District.

A public meeting would be held to present concepts and information and to ask feedback from the Park District residents, clubs and users.

A general discussion and review took place about how other Park Districts and Forest Preserves collect for daily, weekly, and seasonal passes.

A general discussion took place about the general supervision of the Riding Center.

A general discussion took place about the possibility of hiring Riding Center staff. Commissioners agreed that it was critical to have a helpful, friendly and respectful staff that would interact with users of the facility. The Commissioners noted that a job description would have to be created since they presently do not have staff.

A general discussion took place about the hours of operation of the Riding Center facility and the proposed parking lot.

Questions and general discussion took place about how to handle guests.

A general discussion took place regarding establishing 'nominal' User Fees and developing a fee structure to address various classifications which may include individuals, children, adults, families, in district, out of district, daily, monthly, annually, summer, and winter.

Commissioners discussed the current Trainer Fee. The Park Board agreed that they will consider the Trainer Fee in establishing the User Fee and may have to change the Trainer Fee accordingly.

The Park Board expressed its interest in hearing the opinion of the community concerning all aspects of developing a User Tag system and detailed the various newsletters and emails where the user tag program was announced.

General questions concerning trailer and vehicle tags were also discussed.

The Commissioners stated that they were still reviewing some details of the user tag program and would be asking for public input.

The Park Board asked the audience for comments and feedback.

The general consensus of the audience was that the Park District needs to be transparent in developing policies and procedures and in seeking public comment.

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Some of the requests from the audience included posting meeting notices on the web site, and sending meeting notices to the Advisory Committee. It was requested that agendas, minutes, notices, ordinances, proposed parking lot drawings and other information be made easily accessible to the public.

It was noted that the Riding Center is a huge benefit to the entire community and it represents a unique way of life. Everyone's needs and viewpoints should be considered. Public discussion and education is critical before changes are instituted and accepted.

The Commissioners agreed to enhance their lines of communication via the website, email and public meetings.

The Commissioners requested that individuals provide written feedback via email or regular mail to the Park District office.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Lamkey