

A SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS of the Park District of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois was held in the Administration Building of the Park District of Forest Park, 7501 Harrison Street, Forest Park, Illinois at 5:00 p.m. on October 19, 2017

Roll Call: President Doss chaired the meeting calling it to order at 5:07 p.m. Commissioners Entler, McDermott, Sansone and Doss were present. Commissioner Walsh arrived at 5:20 p.m. Also present were Director Larry Piekarz, Assistant Director Steve Thomas, Recreation Supervisors Andrew Doss and Rachell Entler, Softball Director Grace Kenney, Ron Kubicki of the 16" Softball Hall of Fame and Secretary Chris Richards. George V arrived at 5:15 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion was made by Commissioner Entler, seconded by Commissioner Sansone, to approve the agenda. Ayes: 4, Absent: 1.


President Doss thanked attendees for coming and said that the Committee is being established to come up with ideas for celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 16" Softball Invitational Tournament. He said that the final approval of any plans would be made by the Board of Park Commissioners. He turned the floor over to Director Piekarz who said that while we want to celebrate the anniversary, it is important that the integrity of the tournament not be compromised.

Discussion ensued with regard to holding special inaugural activities possibly on Wednesday, or to allow for a rain day on Tuesday. Mr. Kubicki indicated that the 16" Softball Hall of Fame would be receptive to conducting their induction activities on the same day as the Park District's celebration. Ideas for special activities included a "party" with a DJ, a "legends" game and a small fireworks display. There was also discussion concerning the compilation of a commemorative book, possible celebrity attendance, the invitation of local legislators and dignitaries, the design of a special MVP t-shirt and replacing some of the tournament prize money with a specially designed jacket or hat for each player on the winning team. The group also talked about ways to publicize the anniversary and associated activities by designing banners, introducing Facebook and Twitter pages and having a booth at the Hall of Fame banquet on April 7, 2018. There was discussion about not only involving the softball community, but also encouraging the local community to be a part of the celebration. It was suggested that the community reach out to the Chamber of Commerce as well as Village officials in planning events. President Doss recommended that subcommittees be established for the various tasks involved. Director Piekarz said that he and staff would continue to discuss details and research some of the ideas presented and he will contact those in attendance and other potential committee members via e-mail when the next committee meeting is scheduled.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Commissioner McDermott, seconded by Commissioner Sansone, to adjourn at 5:52 p.m. Ayes: 5, Nays: 0; Absent: 0.

Submitted by:  Secretary

Approved:  Board of Park Commissioners

 Board of Park Commissioners

Date: 11 | 16 | 17