

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 February 15, 2018.

Roll Call: President Doss chaired the meeting calling it to order at 5:07 p.m. Commissioners McDermott, Sansone and Doss were present. Commissioner Walsh arrived at 5:27 p.m. Commissioner Entler was an excused absence. Also present were Director Larry Piekarz, Superintendent Larry Buckley, Resident and Former Director Dave Novak, Recreation Supervisor Rachell Entler, Treasurer Joe Murray and Secretary Chris Richards.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion was made by Commissioner Sansone, seconded by Commissioner McDermott, to approve the agenda. Ayes: 3, Absent: 2.

Director Piekarz began with discussion of beer sales. He provided a list of pros and cons with regard to turning the sale of beer over to a vendor and said that his recommendation is to keep beer sales in house this year as has been the custom. He did not feel that this anniversary year was the time to make such a major change and said that it would probably be better to reconsider next year.

Larry outlined events that are being planned for the Tuesday of tournament week: the Hall of Fame Games, possibly an MVP vs. Old-Timer game and the play-in games. He said that the tournament games would be the same as usual and that dignitaries and 1st year winners and tournament directors would be introduced prior to the championship game on Sunday. Former Director Novak provided some historical anecdotes pertaining to early tournaments and said that he will be attending a softball tournament in Arizona next month and would be happy to bring along flyers or information for distribution about the 50th anniversary events.

President Doss and Director Piekarz discussed their ideas for tournament hats and also displayed the design for tournament t-shirts. Two designs have been prepared for our t-shirts. One will be available before the tournament and one will only be available at the tournament. Also discussed was the idea of a VIP tent near field one and also a "volunteer tent" where the volunteers would go to get beverages and check in, etc.

Director Piekarz also said that the menu would be the same as always, but that last year's pulled pork will be replaced with the rib sandwich and the addition of a veggie quesadilla. He also talked about getting tournament logo water bottles and offering a water station to refill them. Some discussion was held with regard to offering "specials" for the 50th anniversary, i.e. 1968 priced hot dogs for a select client or maybe a different special each day, etc. Also discussed was the idea of a "signature item" for the anniversary like a steak sandwich. Rachell will look into possibilities.

There was also discussion with regard to special entertainment during the tournament. Although a band or DJ could be distracting to the games, it might be a good idea to provide something for people that are not as interested in the softball aspect of the tournament. Commissioner McDermott commented that the Roos will be open by that time so something could be done at that end of the park. Director Piekarz said that something could also be done on the pool deck, but that might be a concern due to the sale of alcohol. Director Piekarz will work on this aspect. Commissioner McDermott said that in addition to the softball community she would like to get residents excited about the event.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Commissioner Sansone, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0; Absent: 1.

Submitted by: _____ Secretary
Approved: _____ Board of Park Commissioners
_____ Board of Park Commissioners

Date: _____