

**METRO EAST PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT**

320 Regency Centre, Collinsville, Illinois

**Minutes of April 10, 2006 Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order-** President Pamela Hogan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II Attendance -** Roll call was taken.

Present were: Pam Hogan, St. Clair County  
Earl McDowell, St. Clair County  
Gene Peters, Madison County in at 7:07 p.m.  
Harold Byers, Madison County  
Jerry Kane, Madison County  
Paul Evans, St. Clair County

Mike Buehlhorn, Executive Director  
Bryan Werner, Planner  
Rene' St. Peters, Administrative Assistant  
Ed Szewczyk, Attorney in at 7:19 p.m.

Guests were: No guests

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**Director Evans made a motion, seconded by Director Byers to approve agenda items A and B for the minutes from the March 13, 2006 regular meeting and the March 23, 2006 Special Board meetings.**

Voice Vote

All Ayes No Nays Motion Carried

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**

Voice Vote

All Ayes No Nays Motion Carried

**V. Finance**

**a) Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Peters to approve the payments and claims from March 2006 for MEPRD as presented with the additional \$12,335.84 to Calhoun Construction, after it has been approved by Juneau Associates.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

All Ayes No Nays Motion Carried

**b) Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director Kane to authorize payments for MMMP for March 2006 as presented.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

All Ayes No Nays Motion Carried

**c) Director Evans made a motion, seconded by Director Peters to authorize the Executive Director to transfer \$594,875 from the Illinois Fund account to the Bank of Edwardsville checking account for the following expenses: \$200,000 for MEPRD operational costs, \$294,874.84 to Great Rivers Greenway and upon approval \$100,000.00 to Godfrey for grant reimbursement.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

All Ayes No Nays Absent Motion Carried

**VI. Executive Director's Report**

Nothing more added by the Executive Director than what was reported in the agenda packet.

**VII. Old Business**

No old business to discuss

**VIII. New Business**

**a) Village of Godfrey – Request for Reimbursement**

**Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Evans to approve Bryan Werner's recommendation to reimburse the Village of Godfrey for \$100,000 for the Trail Extension from Glazebrook Park to Lewis and Clark Community College for the regional grant program.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

Ayes No Nays Absent Motion Carried

**b) Update of McKinley Bridge Trail Connection.**

**Executive Director Buehlhorn explained to the Board that he approached MCT to see if they would still be interested in partnering with us to extend the Confluence Trail from 20<sup>th</sup> Street in Granite City to the McKinley Bridge. At this time the trail alignment is being determined and will need to be approved by all parties involved; presently to include MEPRD, MCT, Corp of Engineers and Tri City Port District.**

**c) Design Update – Riverview Platform**

**Executive Director Buehlhorn explained to the Board that there had been more changes to the platform which increased the price significantly. Larger footings and numerous aesthetic changes are the primary reason for the increase.**

**d) Draft Budgets MEPRD – MMMP**

**Executive Director Buehlhorn highlighted the information already provided in the board packet and asked if anyone had any questions, no questions were asked.**

**e) Funding request for the MMMP interpretive Areas/Promotional**

**Director Kane made a motion, seconded by Director Evans to accept the Executive Director’s recommendation to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$10,000 for the expenses incurred in the publication, set up and execution of the public meetings and river view platform dedication.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

Ayes No Nays Absent Motion Carried

**f) Report from District Engineer on Projects**

**This agenda item was removed due to Bill Baudendistal’s absence.**

**IX. Public Discussion and/or Comment**

No public discussion

**X. Executive Session to discuss the acquisition of Property under 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (5)**

**At 7:55 p.m. Director Peters made a motion, seconded by Director Kane to leave regular session and go into executive session.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Aye	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

All Ayes No Nays Motion Carried

**The following portion of Executive Session Minutes was released by the Board of Directors on September 10, 2007.**

President Hogan called the Executive Session to order at 7:56 p.m.

Director Peters discussed that nearly a decade ago IDOT came to the Refinery and did a quick take of the Refinery property. Across from the refinery on the opposite side of I 255, on this piece of property is where the Shell Recreation facility is located. It is on top of the bluffs and has been there since the 1950's it is highly used by the employees. The bottom portion of the property is what IDOT was after. They knew the IDOT was going to need one mile of fill dirt and they negotiated a price in which IDOT would build this shaped as a lake instead of just a rectangular borrow pit. It is about 20 acres of lake approximately 15 feet deep in the deepest point, and is stocked with fish. It has become a liability to the Refinery, security chasing people off of it. It is opened to employees and retirees and they love using it, it has a one mile oil and chip road around the perimeter of the lake. It was set originally to allow only electric motor boats but now that has changed and only allows fishing from the shore.

Director Peters has been discussing with Executive Director Buehlhorn over the past year, as a possibility of acquiring this as the first regional park of MEPRD in Madison County. The acreage we are discussing is the 41 acres located at the bottom of the bluff. There is no way that Conoco Phillips will discuss the property were the recreation facility is located. This is and will always be used by the company. He suggested making a new road and there is already a working pavilion. Director Peters has been in contact with the former manager and he is in support of this and has written his support to the new refinery manager. We need something for an OSLAD grant and this would be a perfect thing. Director Peters wants to get a face to face meeting with the refinery manager and board members to discuss this option.

Executive Director Buehlhorn suggested that we draft a letter to Mr. Seedorf about seeing if we can get a donation/sell of this piece of property.

Director Kane made mention that this was addressed in an earlier executive session and consent was given at that time to approach the refinery about the possibility of acquiring the piece of property.

Director McDowell asked the question about the issues of trespassers. Director Peters suggested that we would have to address this by putting up a boundary between the refinery property and our public property.

Director Evans asked about liability issues. ED Mike Buehlhorn explained that he will find that information once the refinery manager agrees to meet with us.

Director Hogan asked what the population of the area and Director Peters explained that it is just a few houses. He also asked if there was an issue with flooding and the answer was no.

Director Kane excused himself from Executive Session at 8:39 p.m.

A motion by Director Peters, seconded by Director Evans to adjourn from Executive session

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Absent (left 8:39 p.m.)	Earl McDowell	Aye
Pam Hogan	Aye	Harold Byers	Aye
Paul Evans	Aye	Gene Peters	Aye

5 Ayes, No Nays 1 absent Motion Carried

Executive Session adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**Back into regular session at 8:51 p.m.**

**Director Evans made a motion, seconded by Director McDowell to authorize the Executive Director the ability to begin negotiations regarding the Scott Troy Trail, given total related expenditures are no more than \$500,000.**

Roll Call Vote

Jerry Kane	Absent	Pam Hogan	Aye
Gene Peters	Aye	Earl McDowell	Aye
Harold Byers	Aye	Paul Evans	Aye

4 Ayes No Nays 1 Absent Motion Carried

**XI. Adjournment:**

**At 9:00 p.m. Director Byers made a motion, seconded by Director Peters to adjourn the meeting. All voted and the meeting was adjourned.**

**Next Meeting: Monday May 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., at the MEPRD district office 320 Regency Centre, Collinsville, Illinois.**

**Next Parks and Trails Committee Meeting is Monday May 8, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the MEPRD district office 320 Regency Centre, Collinsville, Illinois.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rene' St. Peters  
Administrative Assistant**