

**RIVER FOREST CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF MANAGERS
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 16, 2010**

Manager Davis called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM on February 16, 2010 at the River Forest Civic Center. Roll called.

Present: Managers J. Davis, V. Krawczyk, A. Romeo

Absent: Managers M. Kelty, M. O'Brien

Also present: RFCC Director Dick Chappell, Attorney Pat Deady

Manager Romeo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2010 meeting of the River Forest Civic Center Authority. Manager Krawczyk seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bills – Manager Romeo made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$825.45 (see enclosure). Manager Krawczyk seconded. Roll called:

Ayes: J. Davis, V. Krawczyk, A. Romeo.

Nays: None. The motion was unanimously approved.

Director's Report – Opportunity Knocks opened its doors on February 22. The Daddy-Daughter Dance had a tremendous turnout of 450 people, with much positive feedback.

Director Chappell sent a bill to the Park District for their Community Center gym usage. The Park District is billed for what they originally book. A couple of adjustments to the bill were made to account for the refinishing of the gym floor and the use of the gym for a fundraiser by St. Luke School. The Park District will present the bill at their March 8 meeting.

Manager Krawczyk inquired as to the Community Center use of River Forest parks. Director Chappell indicated that he notifies the Park District in advance of any formal park use by a Community Center program. The Community Center does not ask for any exclusive use of a park, nor does it demand any services from the parks. Community Center staff picks up their own garbage when using the parks. Attorney Deady pointed out that other schools and groups in the community use the parks in the same manner.

Old Business – Manager Krawczyk reported that some type of public forum is necessary before the lease can be renewed between the Civic Center Authority and the Community Center. Attorney Deady added that the Township Act requires that in the case of a lease, public notice must be given and a public meeting must be held. He will help prepare appropriate responses to issues that may be raised in a public forum regarding the lease and how it works. Attorney Deady noted that the Civic Center Authority is a non-taxing authority and a unique governmental entity that has worked well in a quiet way. The public may not understand that if you do something different in regard to the lease, it will result in increased costs to the taxpayer.

A public hearing is still required even if a lease is being extended. A public hearing is required whether a tenant is new or being renewed. In a public forum, the Civic Center Authority will need to explain the relationship with the Community Center of the last 20 years, the benefits of the relationship, and how the costs of the building have been borne by the non-for-profit entity (the Community Center) which has been operating in the building.

Attorney Deady noted that one solution may be to work with the Park District in advance to better understand how they want to utilize the building. Trustee Romeo observes that the Civic Center Authority must be open and proactive about assessing and accommodating the Park District's needs. The community needs to know that the Civic Center Authority is willing to address the situation. Director Chappell's staff is reviewing the Park District brochure to determine which of their programs could be accommodated at the Community Center.

Manager Davis asked for confirmation that the existing Civic Center Authority structure must continue. Attorney Deady confirmed that absent an amendment to the state statute that was the case.

New Business – None.

Manager Krawczyk made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of approving minutes. Manager Romeo seconded.

The meeting reconvened at 5:43 PM.

The next meeting of the RF Civic Center Authority will take place on Tuesday, March 16, 2010. Manager Romeo made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Manager Krawczyk seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Sloan, Clerk