

**RIVER FOREST CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF MANAGERS**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 18, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY Board of Managers took place Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Manager Jerry Davis.

Roll called:

Present: Managers J. Davis, V. Krawczyk, M. O'Brien, A. Romeo

Absent: M. Kelty

Also present: RFCC Executive Director Dick Chappell; Attorney Pat Deady; River Forest Residents Jim O'Rourke, Bill Finn, Cathriona Keane, Lewis Rieck, George Vukotick, Anthony Poku, Mary Roberts, and Dennis Alcock; Oak Park Residents Phil Carmody and Mike Carmody; Oak Park & River Forest HS Administrator Peggy Markey

Manager O'Brien made one correction to the minutes of September 20, 2011. Clerk Sloan duly noted the correction. Manager O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Manager Romeo seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Public Participation** – A number of community members spoke in favor of renewing the lease between the RF CCA and the River Forest Community Center (RFCC).

Jim O'Rourke, RF resident and member of Opportunity Knocks (OK) Board of Directors, spoke in support of OK's location in the RFCC. OK is well-served and treated fairly. RFCC Executive Director Dick Chappell does an outstanding job of administering the building. Mr. O'Rourke concluded that they are "happy campers".

Bill Finn, RF resident and member of OK Board of Directors, noted that OK has been a great program for his daughter. OK initially had a difficult time finding space for its program, but OK and Dick Chappell worked out a strong arrangement. Dr. Finn hopes that the CCA will extend the RFCC's lease.

Phil Carmody, OK President, noted that OK would not be where it is without the cooperation of the RFCC and the RF CCA. They have been valuable partners of OK. OK currently serves over 30 families and continues to grow. Dick Chappell has been creative in scheduling space for the growing program needs.

Peggy Markey, OPRF High School, stated that the RFCC is an open, embracing environment. The CITE program, which transitions 18-22 year old students with developmental disabilities, is housed in the RFCC. Dick Chappell has been helpful in providing whatever CITE needs, e.g., apprentice opportunities, use of the fitness room. OPRF's autism program is also housed at the RFCC. The RFCC has been an "amazing site" and a "great partnership" for OPRF.

Cathriona Keane, RF resident and RFCC Board member, stated that her children attended preschool programs at the RFCC. These programs are a "great foundation" and a "wonderful way for our children to be immersed into the world of education". The after school activities and events held at the RFCC, "on our doorstep", are welcomed by parents. Ms. Keane noted that the RFCC wants and encourages the input of parents and residents. She hopes the RFCC continues to offer its excellent service to the community and to enrich our children. She is in favor of the renewal of the lease.

Dick Chappell, RFCC Executive Director, encourages the support of the renewal of the lease. He appreciates the comments from OK and OPRF High School; these relationships are indicative of some of the partnerships the RFCC has been able to develop over the years. Mr. Chappell noted that the RFCC works without taxpayer support. He encourages the CCA to support the renewal of the lease.

Low Rieck, RF resident and RFCC Board Member, stated that the RFCC is a unique facility and provides a home for groups that otherwise would have no place to go. The RFCC exists on minimal taxpayer support and fills a hole in the community which would otherwise go unfilled.

Manager Davis thanked public participants for attending the meeting in support of the RFCC and lease.

Manager Romeo made a motion to move to Item VIII on the Agenda, "New Business - Approval of the River Forest Civic Center Authority Building Lease". Manager O'Brien seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Romeo made a motion to approve the River Forest Civic Center Authority Building lease with the River Forest Community Center. Manager Krawczyk seconded. Roll called:

Ayes: J. Davis, V. Krawczyk, M. O'Brien, A. Romeo

Nays: None.

The motion was unanimously approved.

The public participants exited.

**Bills** – Manager Romeo made a motion to approve payment of October bills in the amount of \$1286.55 (see enclosure). Manager Krawczyk seconded. Roll called:

Ayes: J. Davis, V. Krawczyk, M. O'Brien, A. Romeo

Nays: None.

The motion was unanimously approved.

**Director's Report** – The claim submitted to FEMA for damage from the February blizzard has been approved; the RFCC is awaiting reimbursement.

Upon inspection by the roofing company, it was determined that the RFCC canopy roof is in worse condition than anticipated, due to membrane damage. The company will do temporary repairs before the winter at no additional cost. In order to do the permanent repairs, a 24-hour stretch of at least 60 degrees is required. The company will honor its original quote and complete the permanent repairs in the spring.

**New Business** – None.

**Old Business** – None.

Manager Romeo made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of approving minutes from previous Executive Sessions. Manager O'Brien seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting reconvened at 7:58 PM.

The next regular meeting of the RF Civic Center Authority will take place on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. Manager Krawczyk made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Manager Romeo seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Sloan, Secretary