

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 3, 2009

1.0 Call to Order

A special meeting of the Washington Park District Board of Commissioners, Tazewell County, Illinois was held on August 3, 2009 at the Washington Park District office located at 105 S. Spruce Street, Washington, Illinois. President Jim Bremner called the meeting to order at 5:50pm. Staff present was Doug Damery, Director; Kristy Howell, Recreation Manager, Commissioners present: Jim Bremner, Dale Claus, Lorelei Cox, and Herb Knoblauch. Doug Weston was absent. Also present was Julia Sander, Washington Water Jets President

2.0 Discussion and Potential Action on the Dissolution of the Washington Water Jets Parent Board

Director Damery explained the discussion here is not dissolution of the parent board, but rather to find out what is going on and see if there are some other options, but if the board desired to dissolve the swim team board, it had to be on the agenda. It was also explained by the Director that the need to hold a special meeting was because of some issues which need to be addressed immediately due to the upcoming election on Thursday and if it is decided to dissolve the parent board there is no reason to put a lot of people thru the trouble of an election that doesn't need to happen.

Julia Sander was present and spoke as she is President of the Water Jets. Julia explained that she attended the special meeting in support of the park district. Julia stated she is a representative of the park district as well as swim team and as these issues came up she would seek guidance from Director Damery and Kristy. Julia explained that the last home meet turned into a campaign and it really took the focus away from the purpose of the team and changed that focus to the individuals that were seeking election.

It was also brought to the Board's attention that the end of the year picnic could be ugly due to the elections and that the picnic should be about the accomplishments of the swimmers. Also, the behavior of the swim board is going to prevent us from finding a coach and looks bad on the park district. Kristy explained that Julia has done a marvelous job at handling all the complaints and thanked Julia for everything she has done for the Water Jets.

Commissioners suggested that Director Damery compose a letter to all swim team participant parents stating that we have received a number of concerns regarding swim team and that we will be addressing those issues. It will also include that elections will take place at the picnic, but voting will take place as they arrive; the park district will oversee, collect, and tabulate the votes and release the results the following day, and there will also be absentee ballots; there will be no campaigning prior to the annual meeting. Finally, the new board will work to develop a Code of Conduct for Parents and Officers.

3.0 Adjournment

- A motion was made at approximately 7:15 p.m. to adjourn from the regular meeting. (Knoblauch, Cox; C-Un)

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorelei Cox,
Secretary
Washington Park District