

MINUTES - TRI-TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

A special meeting of the Tri-Township Park District Board of Commissioners was convened at Jarvis Township Senior Citizen Center at 2:30 P.M. on 10/21/93 with president Russell Wiesemeyer presiding. Commissioners answering present to the roll call were Greenfield, Loyet and Suter. Jarvis Township Supervisor Allan Dunstan and Supt. Converse were also present. The purpose of the meeting was to arrive at some approach to the matter of resolving the issue of ownership of the JTSC building in order to comply with the legal requirements for buildings situated on property considered under the ownership of the National Park Service, which applies to the Tri-Township Park District property.

Commissioners Wiesemeyer and Greenfield explained the problem to Supervisor Dunstan to date. As of now the District's letter of explanation is in the hands of the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. As of the financial statement for the District for fiscal year ending 3/31/93 the building has been added to the financial assets of the Tri-Township Park District. The Jarvis Township Senior Citizens group also claim ownership of the building. At the time the building was built, there was a contractual agreement between Jarvis Township, building grant applicationer, and the Park District that, although any building built on District property would become the property of the District, the Seniors would always have a Center location in the building in exchange for \$1.00/year remuneration.

At the time the park was founded in 1967, the law provided that no enclosed structures were allowable on land funded in any manner through the National Park Service. The land purchased for the Tri-Township Park District at that time was funded equally by the Department of Conservation (the Illinois State arm of the National Park Service) and the Troy Lions Club. Under a new law enacted in 1990, the enclosed building is allowable if it functions to serve the local Community and activities of the Park District.

The District's resolution to satisfy the problem is to assure the National Park Service ultimately that this building does serve the Community and the District. Having stated this in our letter of justification for the building's presence on National Park Service soil, the remaining problem with the Service is the sign on the end of the building identifying it as the "JARVIS TOWNSHIP SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER". Commissioner Greenfield suggested that the sign be changed to read "TRI-TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTER, HOME OF THE JARVIS TOWNSHIP SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER" to appease the Service.

The Board expressed it's willingness to take over maintenance

of the building (much of which it has been doing), insurance and utilities with rental fees on the building to be collected by the District. The upper floor could still be maintained as the JTSC Center area with the lower floor being used for organization meeting facilities for grass root organizations of the Community and the Activity Boards, etc. which are sponsored by the District.

In response to Dunstan's inquiry, he was told that some of the Seniors do realize that there is a problem with the building, by which they are feeling threatened of dispossession.

Dunstan's response was that before a meeting with the full contingent of Sr. Citizen Board Members, each one should be met with separately by a Park Board Commissioner and given an explanation of the problem and how the Board proposes to handle it. Impress upon them the benefits they will be receiving with nothing to lose and much to gain. Since the Seniors could possibly be facing financial difficulties in future years with declining membership and participation, they could possibly come to realize that the nature of these events is more of a blessing than a threat. Due to past disagreements concerning the identification of the sign Dunstan suggested that no mention be made about the changing of the sign until most have been convinced that very little change will be made to their present status.

Commissioner Wiesemeyer suggested that the terms of the changeover be listed for review by the Commissioners at the next meeting. Commissioner Greenfield agreed to draft his thoughts on the contents to be addressed and the Secretary will draw up the paperwork. Upon approval of the draft, negotiations with the Seniors can proceed.

Contrary to previous misconceptions that any ground purchased by the District did not belong to the National Park Service, Commissioner Greenfield explained that once brought under the name of the District it comes under the same ownership of the original ground subsidized by the National Park Service.

Commissioner Wiesemeyer noted that the 1993-1994 Levy has been reviewed by Atty. Cain who pointed out that the Levy did exceed 105% of the previous year's levy by \$1,000. Subsequent to discussion, motion was made and seconded to reduce Wages and the Multi Purpose Building set aside by \$500. each to correct the problem. All Commissioners answered affirmatively to a roll call vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

TERRY C. TAAKE
Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Commissioners
Tri-Township Park District