Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Six (6) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson
Charles Agnew
Steve Davis
Nathaniel Leonard
Arlene Colvin
Robert Trelo

Visitors:

Virgil Meier - Highland
Marsha Mahney - WJOB
William Fritchly - IN Port Comm.
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - ""
Ross Stanton - Ogden Dunes
Kay Stanton - Ogden Dunes
Bill Petrites - Highland
Thomas Dogan - Ogden Dunes
Siavash Beik - IDNR, Div.Water
Donald Shapiro - Highland
William Bailey - Ogden Dunes
Buzz Lee - Ogden Dunes, Town Council President
Jeff Gunning - Attorney for Ogden Dunes
Charlotte Read - Save the Dunes Council
Robert Blomquist - Attorney, Ogden Dunes
Resident from Ogden Dunes
Debbie Lee - Ogden Dunes

The minutes of the September 2, 1993 meeting were approved by a motion from Charles Agnew; seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner announced that Siavash Beik, the Commission’s representative from DNR, is leaving DNR. He has been faithful in attending the monthly meetings and has played an important role in establishing a good communication line and he will be missed by the Commission members.

Chuck Agnew made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order in agenda items to allow the discussion of the sand issue in Ogden Dunes; motion seconded by Robert Trelo; passed unanimously.
Executive Director’s Report - Mr. Gardner led the discussion on the request from Ogden Dunes for Commission sand to be placed on the beach at Ogden Dunes. He referred to letter from Superior Construction regarding their proposal to place 20,000 cubic yards on their beach. The Dept. of Natural Resources fund of $44,000 which had been previously given to the Commission with usage being dedicated for shoreline nourishment will be utilized for this project. There is concern by DNR that the sand is tested to certify it suitable for Lake Michigan beach nourishment. Metals and P.C.B. testing has not been done but it is being required by DNR before the sand can be moved. EPA & IDEM working will work with DNR to review test results. Ogden Dunes residents were very frustrated that the testing would be required and would, therefore, delay the immediate release of the sand. Mr. Gardner stated that the cost per metal is $225 for a 7-day turn-around with C.C.A.S. from Valparaiso doing the testing. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Gardner recommended that four conditions be met: (1) the Development Commission authorize 20,000 cubic yards of clean sand be made available to the town of Ogden Dunes for the purpose of shoreline nourishment within the community; (2) waive the requirement of $.30 per cubic yard for contractor (Superior) payment for the 20,000 cubic yards; (3) approve the release of up to $40,600 to Ogden Dunes for use as payment to the town’s contractor upon satisfactory completion of the work and contingent upon priority pollutant metals and PCB testing confirming that the quality of sand is suitable for placement on the Lake Michigan shoreline as beach nourishment; and (4) approve contract authorization with testing laboratory for the priority pollutant metals and PCB testing. Payment to be made from interest earned on $44,000 DNR sand nourishment account. A motion was made to that effect contingent upon DNR approval of monies release - motion made by Chuck Agnew; seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously. It was stated that the Commission would pursue a 3-day turn-around of testing results instead, even though the cost is higher. The Ogden Dunes representatives thanked Mr. Gardner for the time and effort he has devoted in the last few days in bringing everything together.

Mr. Gardner referred to a copy of the letter in packet from the Corps addressed to Jean Blackwell that requests the next local cash contribution of $1.2 million. We have not received approval to draw upon the $2 million. Senate has not passed final budget yet for their $16 million of federal monies.

Referral was made of the letter from Col. Reed to Gary Common Councilman Roy Pratt stating the increase of minority participation to 40% on Corps construction contracts. A letter by the Col. was also sent to Congressman Visclosky regarding same.
WPA - Bids opened 9/14. 30th award contract.
Mr. Gardner announced that bids for the Wicker Park Manor levee construction phase were opened on August 14th; contract award date was August 30th; bid award was given to Dyer Construction, who was low bidder. The Corps is now going through final documentation, all the legals, all the paperwork. We do not have a schedule of project start at this time.

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter from Pat Ralston, Director of DNR stating their concurrence that we are able to remove the Erie R.R. bridge from the river at Indianapolis Blvd. Specifications have been prepared and we are hopeful that a DNR permit is not required. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorizing staff to advertise for bids contingent upon not needing a DNR permit; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Grant St. bridge - Meeting was held with Gary officials present and INDOT officials, with Frank DeRisi attending. Mr. Gardner stated that the Congressman probably needs to be brought in to intercede with INDOT to stress the necessity of replacing the bridge. Arlene Colvin thinks they have prepared a letter to INDOT; she will get a copy to us.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to approve an additional amount of $1,000 on DC312 bringing the value to $13,000 from $12,000 (thus avoiding condemnation); motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew then made a motion to approve additional monies on DC192, 195 and 196 raising the appraised amount of $3335 to $4500 (thus avoiding condemnation); motion seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Burr St. bridge construction DNR 8. Approval pending meeting Corps and other requirements necessary for mitigation CA/AC

Mr. Agnew then made a motion to approve an area of Commission property for use as part of the Burr Street bridge reconstruction project by the city. Approval pending on meeting the Corps and other requirements necessary for mitigation; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Jim Pokrajac is meeting monthly at the branch office of Corps, attending Partnering meetings. He will start providing information from those meetings to Bob Huffman, Committee Chairman.
Marina/Breakwater Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke’s absence, Mr. Gardner informed the Commissioners that we do not yet have a signed lease with NIPSCO. We have received a very lengthy draft copy from NIPSCO that the Commission attorney is now reviewing. We have forwarded a copy onto the city engineer and city attorney.

Mr. Gardner reported that the IDNR permit for marina development construction has been received. The Corps permit is still being pursued. We have not received it yet.

Finance/Policy Committee - In Treasurer John DeMeo’s absence, Mr. Gardner presented the financial status report for September as well as the claims for approval. Nathaniel Leonard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Statements from the floor - There were no statements from the floor.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 1993 at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm