

100 NEWS RELEASE

From: Rockford Park District – Director's Office Team

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Booker Washington Survey Findings Presented to Park District Board

Rockford, IL - At the April 28, 2009 meeting of the Rockford Park District Board of Commissioners, Calvin Squires, Director of the Booker Washington Center, presented and discussed the findings from a community survey that resulted from focus group meetings held last fall. The meetings were conducted by Joel Cowen, Assistant Dean at the University of Illinois College of Medicine/Health Systems Research.

The presentation also included preliminary concept site plan drawings for the area as well as a report on the status of the Center's capital campaign plans for the purpose of expansion and increasing its ability to deliver recreation services to youth in the community.

"The recent study of southwest Rockford done by Health Systems Research indicated that the southwest quadrant is in need of quality recreation opportunities for children, day care, and services that provide a nice gymnasium/banquet hall," said Squires.

Booker Washington Community Center continues to be a key partner in the Park District's recreation service delivery system in southwest Rockford. The Park District has also provided Booker Washington with facility assistance such as tennis courts, basketball courts, a new playground, and maintenance of all the park turf.

"The Rockford Park District is committed to recognizing and supporting efforts that enrich the lives of our citizens in every segment of the community," said Executive Director Tim Dimke. "With this new information, we are better able to expand our working relationships with the families residing in southwest Rockford and the surrounding area," he continued.

For more information, please contact Tim Dimke at 815-987-8800.

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