



## **Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Fargo**

In addition to our Sworn Oath of Office, we voluntarily accept the guidelines of the following:

### **Code of Ethics**

As a Commissioner of the Board Team, I pledge to:

- ❖ Listen carefully to my Board colleagues.
- ❖ Respect the opinion of fellow Board Members and not criticize their opinions, in or out of the Board room.
- ❖ Respect and support the majority decisions of the Board.
- ❖ Recognize that all authority is vested in the full Board only when it meets in legal session.
- ❖ Keep well informed about developments relevant to issues that may come before the Board; committing not to promise how I will vote in advance of a meeting.
- ❖ Participate in Board meetings and actions.
- ❖ Bring to the attention of the Board any issues I believe will have an adverse effect on those we serve.
- ❖ Attempt to interpret the needs of those we serve, and interpret the actions of those we serve.
- ❖ Refer complaints to the proper level on the chain of command.
- ❖ Recognize that my job is to ensure that the organization is well managed, not to manage the organization.
- ❖ Represent all those whom the organization serves not just a particular geographic area or interest group.
- ❖ Consider myself a “trustee” of the organization and do my best to ensure that it is well maintained, financially secure, growing and always operating in the best interests of those we serve.
- ❖ Always work to learn how to do my job better.
- ❖ Declare conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the Board, and abstain from voting or discussion when appropriate.

As a parks and recreation board member, representing all of the residents, I recognize that:

- ❖ I have been entrusted to provide park and recreation services to my community.
- ❖ These services should be available to all residents regardless of age, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, physical or mental limitations.
- ❖ While honest differences of opinion may develop, I will work harmoniously with other Board members to assure residents the services they require.
- ❖ I will invite all residents to express their opinions so I may be properly informed prior to making my decisions. I will make them based solely upon the facts available to me. I will support the final decision of the Board.
- ❖ I must devote the time, study and thought necessary to carry out my duties.
- ❖ I accept as fact that the board establishes the policy and the staff is responsible for administering the policies of the board and handling the day-to-day operations of the agency.
- ❖ I have no authority outside of the proper meetings of the board.
- ❖ All board meetings should be open to the public except as provided by law.
- ❖ I understand that it is unlawful to predetermine vote support by contacting a majority of board members by any means prior to public meetings.