

AMENDED

Minutes of the Workshop Meeting Board of Park Commissioners

April 6, 2017

The Workshop Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Lapin at 7:32 p.m. in the Administrative Offices of the Deerfield Park District located in the Jewett Park Community Center. Attendance was taken and the following were:

Present: Caron, Cohen, Lapin, Patinkin (4)
Absent: Antokal (1)

And there was a quorum in attendance. Also in attendance was Jeff Nehila, Secretary/ Executive Director; Sherry Prause, staff member.

Commissioner Caron congratulated Commissioners Antokal, Lapin and Patinkin for being re-elected.

Matters from the Public

No members of the public were present.

Deerfield Park Foundation Articles of Incorporation Discussion

Commissioners reviewed the foundation bylaws and approved funding plan for 2017. The foundation has not been active in fundraising and/or programming initiatives and are looking to possibly eliminate the \$1,500 it puts forward to cover the cost of labor at the pools on July 4 to have a free swim day.

Article I covers the intended purposes of the foundation and lists its primary goal – “to promote and develop recreation facilities and services in the Deerfield Park District.”

Commissioner Caron asked how many directors were currently on the foundation board. Manager Prause responded that there are eight members at this time. Commissioner Caron suggested increasing the size of the board. Vice-President Cohen suggested trying to get younger people involved on the board. Commissioner Patinkin commented that younger people might not have time to get involved.

Vice-President Cohen suggested coming up with new events/activities as fundraisers that may attract younger families such as a carnival. This type of event would allow the foundation to hire a company to run the event and wouldn't require a lot of manpower from the foundation. He suggested an afternoon event between Family Days and Halloween Hoopla. Manager Prause mentioned that the foundation board does like to talk about all kinds of things to do but no one wants to step up and do the majority of the work to make the events happen.

Commissioner Patinkin asked if there is a motivational speaker from the national association of foundations that could come speak to the foundation. Manager Prause commented that maybe having a speaker come to the November meeting as a kick off for next year would be beneficial. She also noted that the foundation didn't renew their membership in the association because the foundation needs buy into it and to establish where they are going prior to rejoining.

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Vice-President Cohen noted that the park board doesn't control the foundation board and feels that the more the park board tries to, the more the foundation board is going to push back.

Commissioner Caron asked if it would be beneficial to give the foundation a fundraising goal. President Lapin commented that it is the suggestion of the association to do just that. In the past there have been projects the park board has asked them to fund.

Manager Prause feels that each board member has a very different reason for wanting to be on the board. They want to come to the meetings and attend the Linda Gryziecki Scholarship meeting one night. They are passionate about Deerfield and the park district but not about the foundation.

Executive Director Nehila commented foundations are driven by two main components, a staff liaison dedicated to the foundation and the leadership within the foundation itself. If there's a person with passion and a belief as to why they are there, they are going to go forward if people are with them or not. Looking at the bylaws, Executive Director Nehila is optimistic about the new leadership that will be taking over for next year. Nehila feels that it is integral to spend time to direct or guide him and see what his motivational efforts are and educate him on the value of a foundation when it's successful.

Executive Director Nehila wanted to give the foundation a special project to focus on and buy into and put their name on. This would create synergy for their own identity.

President Lapin commented that he had suggested having members of sub-committees that don't have to be directors. These might be great for younger people who have specific interests and ideas.

Commissioner Patinkin commented that there are a lot of new businesses moving into town and maybe members of the business community could be directors. They are usually looking to get involved in the community more than just through the chamber. The bylaws currently state that they must own a business to be a director but these could be revised. Manager Prause feels that the foundation would be open to changing the bylaws.

Recruitment and revising the bylaws could be agenda items at the May foundation meeting.

Commissioner Caron suggested adding a line on the registration form about becoming a member of the foundation. More advertising needs to be done to promote what the foundation is and what it does for the community.

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Mission Statement Submissions Review

Commissioners reviewed the top 3 submissions selected by staff from a total of 31 statements that individual staff developed over the last month. Commissioners voted and selected the statement: "To provide outstanding parks, services, facilities and recreation programs that enrich lives, promote healthy living and inspire memorable experiences." The statement can be adopted at the April Board Meeting. A benefit of this exercise is meeting a standard of the state accreditation process. The standard requires both staff and board involvement and review/adoption within the last 5 years.

Northwest Quadrant Task Force

The Northwest Quadrant Task Force met on Thursday, March 30. The Village is looking to move forward on redesigning and repaving the parking lot. Before the Village approves the work a traffic study needs to be completed. The traffic study is \$10,500; the Village is paying \$5,500, the park district's contribution will be \$2,500, the remaining entities will pay amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$500.

Now that the construction trailer has been moved the traffic study can be scheduled. It will probably be a year before the entire planning and approval process is complete and work begins.

As each piece of the plan gets done each entity must fit their plans in with the walkway plans, etc.

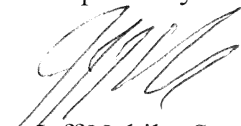
Staff will be pursuing a written agreement with the church for use of the shared parking lot.

Balanced Scorecard

Staff distributed information regarding an online assessment on our organization. All full-time staff have also been asked to complete the assessment. Commissioners were asked to report their scores to Executive Director Nehila. All scores will be tabulated and presented at the Planning Retreat on April 22.

There being no further discussion on agenda items, at 9:01 p.m., the Workshop Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary