

The Special Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Patinkin at 7:02 p.m. via remote access by Zoom video. Attendance was taken and the following were:

Present: Antokal, Caron, Cohen, Lapin, Patinkin (5)
Absent: None (0)

And there was a quorum in attendance. Also present were Jeff Nehila, Secretary/Executive Director; Kent Street, Andrew Lichterman, Village of Deerfield; Ashley Kalus, Dr. Jeff Weinzweig, Primary and Immediate Care Solutions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were received by email prior to the meeting.

Facility Use Agreement

On February 23, 2021, the park district was contacted by the Village of Deerfield to explore the possibility of a park district facility potentially being a host site for a COVID-19 vaccination site. The village had initial dialogue months prior with the potential firm requesting consideration when they initially inquired about holding a COVID testing site within Deerfield. The firm was then able to be awarded a federal bid to perform testing at O'Hare and Midway airports and the dialogue for a testing site did not continue. The firm then re-engaged the village about possibly hosting a site to administer vaccines. After conferring with the village, district staff met with the firm and village staff at the Patty Turner Center on February 24, 2021.

The site visit revealed that the Patty Turner Center would be an ideal location for the vaccination site. The number of available parking spots, the walk-in traffic flow and room spaces available provide an ideal scenario. The days and times for the operation of the clinic were discussed as well as the anticipated length of the agreement. Staff then internally discussed the impact of the operations of the center and explored possibilities of continuing to operate during the hours that the clinic is in operation. Albeit limited, there would be some other space within the center to hold small group programs and activities. The center will also continue its virtual programming. Since then, park district staff has worked with Ancel Glink on drafting a Facility Use Agreement. The medical firm has reviewed the agreement and has agreed to the terms.

The terms essentially provide the use of identified spaces within the center for vaccine administration. The spaces include the Lobby, Multi-Purpose Rooms A and B and Members Rooms A and B. The flow of people coming in would be from the north entrance, first checking in at a table in the Lobby, then going to the Multi-Purpose Rooms for the vaccination and then going to the Members Rooms for a 15-minute observation period. After the observation has period ended, persons would leave through the south side of the building and walk around on the paved path to the north parking lot where they parked. The term of the agreement would be rather immediate through August 31, 2021. Both parties reserve the right to end the agreement sooner.

The firm will administer their own portal for registration and will follow the state and county guidelines for eligibility to receive the vaccines.

The medical firm is coordinating with Lake County Health on the distribution of the vaccine and that number is still being determined. The firm, based on number of available vaccines they can receive, anticipates administering many hundreds of shots per day. Lake County Health has expressed their support of this model as the county aims to focus on the actual distribution of the vaccine versus distribution and hosting sites. Their lease to use the Lake County fairgrounds for a vaccine clinic ends at the end of March.

Village staff has also provided a letter supporting the proposed agreement. Numerous logistical points will still need to be worked out with the park district, the firm and the village. Staff is confident that these points can be worked out quickly.

The proposed weekday only use would still permit the center to hold weekend programs they have scheduled and would also not conflict with spring and summer sports at the park.

Staff recommends approving the Facility Use Agreement for a vaccination clinic at the Patty Turner Center.

Andrew Lichterman from Village of Deerfield provided an update on the coordination with Lake County Health. This is the type of relationship that Lake County Health is looking to create with private companies. Lake County Health has been receiving more vaccines to distribute and will have doses for this firm to administer. Lake County Health is very excited about his partnership and opportunity to offer vaccines to the region.

The firm will be abiding by all state and county guidelines.

Kent Street, Village Manager of Deerfield, reported that over the past several months, the Village of Deerfield has been in discussions with Doctors Testing Centers, Owner, Dr. Jeffrey Weinzweig concerning COVID-19 testing and vaccinations. While the original intent was to arrange for a COVID-19 testing location in the village, as the number of testing providers increased and the demand for testing flattened, we shifted our efforts to collaborating with Dr. Weinzweig to offer a COVID-19 vaccination site in the village.

During the limited time working with Dr. Weinzweig and his team at Doctors Testing Centers, we have found their work to be of the highest integrity and credibility. We have verified their successful track record of providing COVID-19 testing, as demonstrated by their notable work provided at O'Hare and Midway airports.

The village is in regular contact with the Lake County Health Department (LCHD) and understands that Dr. Weinzweig's firm is qualified to be a mass vaccination provider and will be eligible to receive weekly vaccination distributions from the County. The LCHD Executive Director has advised that these types of public-private partnerships are exactly the type of arrangements needed throughout Lake County to ensure that our communities are vaccinated efficiently.

Kent stated that the village is excited to bring the vaccine to this region of the County. The goal is to have a great site that helps the community. Kent thanked the Park Board and staff for their continued partnership. The village will be providing traffic control support. The village has some concern with people trying to come in off of Pfingsten but are working on a signage plan.

Commissioner Antokal commended the Village Board and staff as well as the Park Board, Director Nehila and the staff for coordinating this effort. This is terrific and he is looking forward to moving the process along as quickly as possible.

Ashley Kulas of Primary and Immediate Care Solutions reported that they set up their testing sites in a matter of a couple of weeks and sees no issues with being able to do the same thing at this vaccination site.

Treasurer Cohen asked if appointments will be made through Lake County. Ashley commented that it will be integrating into Lake County's AllVax system. A link will be available on the Primary and Immediate Care Solutions website and can also be pushed out through the village and park district websites as well.

Vice-President Caron suggested contacting Representative Brad Schneider's office once the site is up and running to have the site added to his list of available locations.

Commissioner Lapin asked about the plan in the event of an emergency. Ashley responded that some of those details still need to be worked out, but she understands that the Fire District is very close to the center. She stated that they plan to have a paramedic on site. Also, LCHD typically does a walk through prior to opening to make sure all parties are comfortable with the site.

Dr. Weinzweig commented that they will have all the facilities and staff to provide a safe vaccination site. They are excited to bring a vaccination site to the North Shore, so community members don't have to travel outside of the North Shore to receive their vaccinations. We have a lot of experience working with residents of the North Shore and are confident the staff can handle any issues.

Ashley explained that the health department informed them they would be getting their allocation at the end of the month.

Commissioner Lapin asked if they knew how many parking spots will be taken up daily. Dr. Weinzweig stated that 50-60 people should be in the facility at one time.

Treasurer Cohen asked if the clinic will be for Lake County residents only. Ashley responded that it is for Lake County residents only and by using the AllVax system we are guaranteeing that.

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Lapin, to approve the Facility Use Agreement between the Deerfield Park District and Primary and Immediate Care Solutions for the operation of a COVID-19 vaccination clinic. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Cohen, Lapin, Antokal, Caron, Patinkin (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Motion made by Commissioner Lapin, seconded by Vice-President Caron, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 7:44 p.m. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Lapin, Caron, Antokal, Cohen, Patinkin (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary