

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

June 17, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Vice-President Caron at 7:02 p.m. via Zoom and in-person. The Secretary called the roll and the following were:

PRESENT: Brown, Caron, Cohen, Patinkin, Serota (5)

ABSENT: None (0)

and there was a quorum in attendance. Also present was Jeff Nehila, Secretary/Executive Director; Jeff Harvey, Jay Zahn, Laura McCarty, Tony Korzyniewski, Jason Mannina, John Meredith, staff members; Tod Stanton, Public Research Group. Brown, Caron, Cohen, McCarty, Harvey, Zahn, Mannina, Meredith, Nehila and Stanton were in-person. Patinkin and Serota attended via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve the Minutes of the May 20, 2021, Regular Meeting. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Cohen, Brown, Patinkin, Serota, Caron (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

FINANCE REPORT

Approval of Disbursements

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Serota, to approve the Voucher Listing dated, June 17, 2021 in the amount of \$1,016,944.60 which includes \$5,678.98 of travel and training expenses.

Discussion followed:

Commissioner Brown asked about the expense for scoreboard repairs for Jewett. Staff responded that this spring we found a break underground halfway between the scoreboard and the transformer that required underground boring. Commissioner Brown asked if it was related to the construction. Staff responded that it was checked after the construction, but we don't now for sure what happened. Director Nehila commented that the electrical code has changed since the scoreboard was installed so it was brought up to code.

Treasurer Cohen asked if we do our own planting or if we contracted that out. Staff responded that we do plantings in-house.

Treasurer Cohen asked about the difference between the water bills for Deerspring and Mitchell. Staff responded that we have reached out to the village to investigate a cause.

President Patinkin asked if the Lurvey's purchase was because Red's didn't have the materials we needed. Staff responded that we purchased the magnolia tree from Lurvey's since Red's didn't have one. We normally purchase landscape materials from multiple places but this year we relied more on Red's.

President Patinkin asked if we are switching everything from Keyth to Fox Valley. Staff responded that the village switched over to Fox Valley and since we are tied into the village we switched as well.

President Patinkin asked about the graffiti. Staff responded that we had some severe graffiti at the shelter and outdoor restrooms at Jewett Park. We did file a police report and installed additional cameras.

Commissioner Serota asked about the NSSRA member agency contribution. Staff explained that that is a twice-yearly payment that we pay towards the Association's operation and is separate from the NSSRA building fund.

Commissioner Serota asked what the increase in net revenues for the golf course is contributed to. Staff responded that COVID was really good for the game of golf and that trend is continuing this year.

Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Cohen, Serota, Brown, Patinkin, Caron (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No emails were received prior to the meeting for public comment and no public was present at the meeting.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Pool Advisory Committee

A verbal report was given on the May 27, 2021 Pool Advisory Committee meeting. Three new members were welcomed to the committee. Discussion topics included committee member expectations, Bridge Phase guidelines, lap swim and public swim procedures, staffing, and the Deerspring Sprayground Renovation project.

PTC Members' Council

A verbal report was given on the June 10, 2021 PTC Members' Council. There are currently 530 active members as of June 1. The Center hosted the annual Antique & Classic Car Show on May 22 and the Music Palooza event on June 6. The Center is looking to resume normal operations in July.

Fiscal Year 2020 Audit Report

Monika Adamski from Lauterbach & Amen was present via Zoom video to review the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit Report. The district received the highest opinion possible. She thanked the Finance Dept. for their preparedness and high level of communication.

Commissioner Brown asked what staff is anticipating for FY 2021 relative to the balance of taxes and user fees. Director Nehila responded that we did budget to be in Phase 4 for all of 2021, so it should be more favorable with user fees than tax dollars as we are now in Phase 5. Normally it's about 50/50 between tax dollars and user fees.

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by President Patinkin, to accept and place on file the fiscal year 2020 Annual Financial Report for the Deerfield Park District.

Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Cohen, Patinkin, Brown, Serota, Caron (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Community Survey/Needs Assessment Update

Director Nehila provided a brief update on the Community Survey/Needs Assessment.

Staff has proofed and provided Public Research Group with comments twice. PRG conducted a staff visioning session with the leadership team. The session included a SWOT Analysis and take-aways from the COVID responses and sharing priorities going forward.

The Delphi Group met in late May and will meet again on June 22. Feedback and input from the stakeholders have been very positive. Many in the group commented that they were interested in indoor sports fields. A question was added to the survey on this topic.

Based on review and comments on the proposed survey, we can either finalize any minor points/corrections or review at the July board meeting. The July board meeting review and final acceptance will slightly affect our proposed timetable of administering the survey starting in mid-July but we can still receive some initial data back from PRG by the end of August as we start the budget preparation process.

Tod Stanton from Public Research Group was present at this meeting to conduct a visioning session with the board. Tod reviewed the draft survey and explained that the questions relating to COVID will be removed.

Commissioners were asked to share their vision of where the park district should be going in the future.

Recommended updates will be incorporated into the survey. The intent is to have the survey ready for distribution to the community in mid-July.

Bid Approval – Asphalt Paving Projects

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve the total base bid of \$45,000 from Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc., Lake Zurich, IL for asphalt paving projects at Woodland, Clavey and Maplewood Parks for a total cost of \$45,000. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Cohen, Brown, Patinkin, Serota, Caron (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Future Workshop, Finance Committee and Board Meeting Start Times

Director Nehila commented that prior to the pandemic, the district began its Workshop meetings at 7:30 p.m., the Finance committee at 7:30 and the Regular board meeting at 8:00 p.m. When we entered the pandemic, start times of the meeting were altered to begin at 7:00 p.m. Now that there are no attendance

or capacity restrictions, the district will begin to offer full in-person meetings in July and need to determine the meetings' start times going forward.

After brief discussion, motion made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Treasurer Cohen, to start the Finance Committee at 7:00 p.m., the Regular Board meetings at 7:30 p.m. and the Workshop meetings at 7:30 p.m. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Brown, Cohen, Patinkin, Serota, Caron (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Floral Park Dedication

Director Nehila explained that since we have entered into Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan where there are no capacity limitations on events, it would be an ideal time to possibly set a date and time for the dedication. As we'd like to invite US House of Representative Brad Schneider, Illinois State Representative Bob Morgan and State Senator Julie Morrison, he has received information that the US House will not be in session in August until August 30. The forecast for both the Illinois House and Senate to return to Springfield for any sessions is yet to be finalized but typical scheduling reflects potential availability in August as well. Other local officials and the Advisory Committee will also be invited to the public event. Commissioners selected the Floral Park dedication date as August 7, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Other Items

Operational Updates

Sachs Recreation Center

Currently the center has 518 active members. We are offering indoor and outdoor classes. We will continue to increase our outdoor offerings throughout the summer and will continue to offer our Zoom classes. The Chicago Sky continue to utilize the center for their practices when in town.

Pools

Deerspring opened on June 5 and Mitchell on June 12. Both pools are operating at full capacity with no restrictions. We started selling pool passes on June 7 and have sold 1,600 passes. Operations are going very well at both pools.

Commissioner Brown asked if staff was getting any pushback from parents about children between 2 and 11 needing to wear face coverings. Staff responded that they have received minimal pushback and refer to the CDC and Restore Illinois guidelines if questioned about our policies.

Summer Camp

We have 749 campers in our summer camps. All camps are utilizing the pools for either lessons or open swim.

Commissioner Serota commented that she has a son in Rookies Sports Camp and that her family has been utilizing the pool on almost a daily basis. She thanked the staff for doing a great job.

Parks

Staff has been busy preparing for the upcoming Wooden Bat Tournament, getting the pools prepared to open, preparing ballfields for youth sports, mowing and planting flowers.

Golf

The golf course continues to be busy with passholders, daily play, league play, driving range use and our youth and adult golf programs.

Vaccination Site

The vaccination site at Patty Turner Center is currently only being utilized one day per week and should be finished by the end of June.

Fireworks

The Village of Deerfield canceled the annual Family Days and fireworks this July 4. The village is looking to offer the fireworks on the weekend of September 18-19 and has asked for use of Shepard Park.

Motion made by Commissioner Serota, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:12 p.m. Roll call vote as follows:

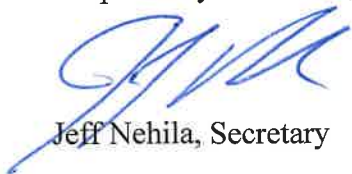
AYES: Serota, Brown, Caron, Cohen, Patinkin (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners is scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary