

The Special Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Patinkin at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewett Park Community Center. Attendance was taken and the following were:

Present: Brown, Caron, Cohen, Patinkin, Serota (5)
Absent: None (0)

And there was a quorum in attendance. Also in attendance were Jeff Nehila, Secretary/Executive Director; Jeff Harvey, Laura McCarty, Jay Zahn, Tony Korzyniewski, Jason Mannina, Mark Woolums, staff members.

Matters from the Public

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Preschool FY 2022

Program Discussion and Budget 2022-2023 School Year

Discussion followed on budgetary information for the 2022-2023 school year of Preschool.

Upon completion of discussion, the following were agreed upon:

1. Deposits will remain equal to one month's tuition (non-refundable).
2. Using 2021 fees as a base, an increase of 10% will be assessed across the board.
3. Continue the non-resident fee surcharge of a \$5.00 per days of the week in attendance (\$10, \$15, \$20, \$25).

Commissioners suggested that staff let current parents know about the fee increases and/or the brochure notice.

Approval of Fees

Motion made by Vice-President Caron, seconded by Treasurer Cohen, to approve the 2022-2023 preschool fees as proposed into the district budget for FY2022. Roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Caron, Cohen, Brown, Serota, Patinkin (5)
NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Summer Camp FY 2022

Program Discussion

Camp enrollments for 2021 (827) were significantly higher compared to 2020 actual enrollment figures (355). With the loosening of restrictions across the state, staff was able to include swim lessons, open swim and bussing to all full day camps. The 2021 camp season was one of great successes. Camp staff created a safe, socially distant environment that continued to allow for fun activities where children could run and play with one another. Walking this line proved again to be difficult, but worth it as staff witnessed campers and parents come away with such a positive camp experience.

Staff has also budgeted for wage increases for all staff in 2022 to keep up with the minimum wage increases.

The Recreation Staff was commended on a safe, successful summer despite all of the adjustments that had to be made as well as the restrictions and guidelines that needed to be followed.

After review of background materials, Commissioners agreed:

1. Camp fees be calculated using \$50 per day per session.
2. Camp deposits continue to be \$100 per session for six-or-seven-week session camps and \$50 per session for three-or-four-week session camps.
3. A \$5.00 surcharge/registration fee continues to be assessed for 2022.
4. The non-resident differential continues at 20% of the base resident rate and then the \$5.00 registration surcharge

Approval of Fees

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Vice-President Caron, to approve summer camp program changes and summer camp fees as proposed into the FY 2022 budget. Roll call vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Golf Club and Learning Center FY 2022

Competitive Market Analysis

Discussion was held on the 2022 Proposed Deerfield Golf Club Green Fees Recommendations. Each fall golf course management prepares a detailed Competitive Market Analysis (CMA) of the rates at 11 golf courses. This allowed staff to see where the DGC rates and daily play procedures fell as planned for the 2021 season. In 2021 golf course staff once again reduced its online sku offering to coincide with an online pre-payment model. For 2022 staff is reverting to a pre-COVID model of in-person payment for all green/cart fees with the caveat of all tee times continuing to be booked online with a credit card “hold.” This model will promote players to adjust or cancel their tee times prior to play. Required online bookings will also allow for a guaranteed increase in player data (email addresses) for future outgoing email marketing campaigns. Staff is also recommending the elimination of select non-resident seasonal pass types that are averaging extremely unprofitable daily fees. This will allow for better access to the course for residents and a high dollar per round average for non-resident fees. Select pass types are being recommended to proceed with a 4% increase.

The analysis was included in the Golf Advisory Committee meeting packet and reviewed at the September 30, 2021 meeting. In the meeting, staff outlined the key findings of the CMA and shared proposed rate increases that came out of the results.

Treasurer Cohen expressed concern about lowering our rack rates. He would prefer we continue to do what we did in 2021. Deerfield has a superior product, and we shouldn't be afraid to monopolize on that. There is always the option to offer dynamic pricing as needed. He also stated that we shouldn't be lowering our rates when we know that our expenses for staff, chemicals, etc. will be increasing.

Approval of Fees

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Vice-President Caron, to approve the proposed 2022 green fees, cart fees, pass fees and driving range fees as modified. Roll call vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Pool Fees FY2022

Pool Operations Recap FY2021

In 2021, the proposed daily fee was \$10.00 for all admissions. However, fees changed as operations continually pivoted due to the pandemic throughout the planning process for the 2021 pool season. The daily fees for the 2021 season were structured as follows: Children 12 & under \$5.00; Adults 13 & over \$7.00; non-residents \$10. This fee structure was approved by the Park Board as it was determined that if a season pass couldn't be offered, the proposed daily fee of \$10/visit for all fee types would be too expensive. When staff learned there was a good possibility Phase 5 would begin close to the start of the 2021 pool season, a season pass was offered, however the daily fee structure listed above remained in place for the 2021 season. For the 2022 season, staff are recommending the daily fee structure above. This is like the daily fee structure pre-pandemic with the addition on a non-resident daily fee.

Staff believes that Mitchell Pool should be the pool that remains open longer based on accessibility, featured amenities, etc. This was also supported by the Pool Citizen Advisory Committee. Staff recommends opening the sprayground at Deerspring Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 26, 2022, and closing it on Labor Day, Monday, September 5, 2022. If staff are available, there is a possibility the sprayground can stay open past Labor Day weekend.

Approval of Fees

Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Vice-President Caron, to approve 2022 pool operation changes and 2022 pool season fees as proposed into the FY 2022 budget. Roll call vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a roll call vote.

Solar Power Discussion

Staff is continually researching solar power options for the park district. Those options include staying with our current Co-op, switching to the solar grid, switching to the roof-top "lease" option or a combination of those options.

The Co-op that the district is part of provides a highly competitive rate for 2 plus years at a time. Our current Co-op agreement runs through June, 2024. We will receive a lesser rate for electric beginning in June, 2022. Therefore we've had to project what those rates will be and compare to any potential savings with other options.

Upon further exploration and confirmation of the grid option, only two of our 19 accounts qualify based on established criteria. The caveat to this option is that the subscription agreement requires a 15-year commitment with an option to extend another 5 years. There are also termination fees if the district wanted to cancel its subscription. As a 15-year agreement exceeds the typical

length of agreement a park district can enter, we would have to explore a shorter term with potential to renew or withdraw with proper and agreed upon notice.

The "lease" option relates to an outside firm using our rooftop(s) to place privately owned solar panel systems upon in return for a reduced electric rate. We've been working with Realty and our roofing contractor who replaced one large roof at SRC to ensure no loss of warranty is realized. The forecast for one roof with privately owned panels is a savings of approximately \$10,000 per year in electric. Staff believes, if roof warranty(s) can be maintained and honored, this would be the most beneficial option to consider.

Staff will continue doing research.

Community Survey Update

Working with Public Research Group, we were able to post the community survey on our website for 10 days to solicit additional feedback. We received 522 responses! PRG has tabulated the data and forwarded the results to the district. The PowerPoint provided offers a perspective of these obtained results compared to the random sample survey.

PRG has also worked with staff on some data in relation to age groups who responded to the specific question about the lottery vs. first-come, first-serve registration, a drill down question on the time of day question for program offerings and a drill down question about our mobile app. These drill down questions are sent out via district eblast inviting persons to participate and provide additional information.

Tod Stanton from PRG will attend the November workshop meeting to present the survey in its entirety. In the meantime, staff will use the data provided for program and budgeting purposes for the 2022 budget.

Remote Meeting Discussion

As we all know the pandemic has provided little optimism for eradication, it may be a good time to discuss if the district would want to consider holding board and workshop meetings virtually or remain in person. The district's Citizen Advisory Committees have moved back to a virtual format. The Village of Deerfield will resume virtual meetings on October 4. If the board considered moving back to virtual/remote meetings, the Board President determines that an in-person meeting under the Open Meetings Act is not practical or prudent because of public health concerns. Commissioners agreed to continue to hold in-person meetings and will adjust as necessary.

Other Matters

NSSRA

The NSSRA building dedication events will be held on Friday, October 22 and Saturday, October 23.

Gold Medal Finalist Award

A representative from the Gold Medal Academy will attend the November 4 workshop meeting to present the district with our Finalist award.

Moonlight Golf

Moonlight Golf was held on Friday, October 1. The event hosted 60 golfers and was very successful.

Pickleball Courts

Staff has investigated the option of placing pickleball courts at Shepard Park. Staff discussed with SD109 and they were in favor of the project. They will also send a letter stating their support of the project to the Village of Deerfield Plan Commission. Staff discussed placing the pickleball court at Shepard with DYBA and relocating the small ballfield to Woodland and moving the big ballfield to the north end of Shepard. Staff also discussed storm water management with the village and there are good options available. The next step in the process is to have a sound study completed.

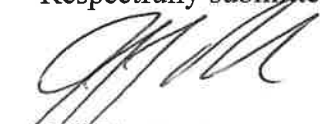
Motion made by Treasurer Cohen, seconded by Vice-President Caron, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 10:03 p.m. Voice vote as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary