

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS January 19, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Caron at 7:02 p.m. in the Jewett Park Community Center. Executive Director Nehila called the roll, and the following were:

PRESENT: Brown, Caron, Cohen and Patinkin (4)

ABSENT: Serota (1)

Commissioner Serota joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Staff: Executive Director Nehila, Director of Finance Jeff Harvey, Director of Recreation Laura McCarty, Deputy Director of Recreation and SRC General Manager Tony Korzyniewski, Director of Golf Operations Jason Mannina and Director of Parks Jay Zahn

III. PUBLIC HEARING: BUDGET & APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 2023-01

Prior to opening the Public Hearing on the Deerfield Park District's fiscal year 2023 proposed Budget, President Caron advised a notice for this Public Hearing appeared in the December 15, 2022, and January 5, 2023 edition of the Deerfield Review. In addition, the public hearing notice was posted on the Park District's website. The legal notice on December 15, 2022, stated that the tentative 2023 combined Annual Budget and Appropriations Ordinance would be available for public review in the main offices of the District and on the District website beginning December 16, 2022. The budget process is a lengthy one, beginning in late summer. Budget requests are reviewed at the level of the Department Head, Director of Finance, Executive Director, and the Board of Park Commissioners. A Budget Workshop meeting is held in late November to go over the proposed budget in detail. President Caron stated that while the basic purpose of a budget is to give an account of government finances, it also serves as the blueprint of the year's activities. In addition, the budget review process provides the Board with the opportunity to balance the needs of the community against available resources.

No other Commissioners chose to make comments regarding the Public Hearing portion. President Caron noted that no members of the public were present to comment regarding the fiscal year 2023 budget and concluded the Public Hearing on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2023-01.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Treasurer Patinkin, seconded by Vice President Cohen, to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2022, Budget Workshop Meeting. Roll vote **carried** as follows:

AYES: Brown, Cohen and Patinkin (3)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Caron (1)

ABSENT: Serota (1)

Motion made by Treasurer Patinkin, seconded by Vice President Cohen, to approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2022, Finance Meeting, the December 15, 2022, Regular Board Meeting and the December 15, 2022 Closed Session Meeting. Roll vote **carried** as follows:

AYES: Brown, Caron, Cohen and Patinkin (4)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Serota (1)

V. FINANCE REPORT

(A) Approval of Disbursements

Motion made by Treasurer Patinkin, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve the Voucher Listing dated January 19, 2023, in the amount of \$1,708,888.21 which includes \$4,725.78 of travel and training expenses.

Roll call vote **carried** as follows:

AYES: Brown, Caron, Cohen and Patinkin (4)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Serota (1)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mark Chester voiced concerns to the Board regarding Sachs Recreation Center personal training fees. President Caron advised that the majority of Sachs Recreation Center operations are subsidized by tax dollars as the revenue generated by memberships does not cover the cost of operational expenses. Personal training lessons are not subsidized because the Board feels this is not a basic community need whereas fitness memberships are. She thanked Mr. Chester for his comments.

Commissioner Serota entered the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

After public comment, Director Nehila asked three Affiliates who were in attendance to present their annual operations report to the Board.

Advisory Presentations – Pegasus Soccer, Deerfield Youth Lacrosse and DYBSA

(i) Pegasus Soccer

Keith Londo, Pegasus Soccer, initiated his presentation by thanking the Board and District staff for their continued support throughout the 2022 season. It was a very successful season with over 500 participants. Participation numbers among the younger age groups remain at an all-time high. However, Pegasus still suffers in retaining participants at the high school level due to competing sports within the area such as lacrosse and football. Fees were kept the same and in line with competing soccer programs. Pegasus still desires turf, particularly indoor turf and utilizes the Willow Hill Dome in Northbrook often. Overall, finances are great, with the biggest expenditures being indoor turf time and coaches.

(ii) Deerfield Youth Lacrosse

Dan Schwab, Deerfield Youth Lacrosse, reported that DYLC has officially completed their first full season as a Park District Affiliate and is in a great place. There is unprecedented enrollment among both boys' and girls' programs across all age groups and while DYLC remains in their infancy stage, they are excited about the potential ahead. There are currently 200 participants with over 75% of those participants being Deerfield residents. Their biggest challenges include limited turf time and a shortage in both coaches and referees. Most importantly, DYLC participants are having fun, improving and winning.

(iii) DYBSA

Mike Irvine and Brandon Bashcut, reported on the most recent DYBSA season. Major accomplishments include the field improvements to Shepard Park and its new batting cage constructed in partnership with the Park District. DYBSA also made contributions to Deerfield High School to help build batting cages in the back. Clinics for the House Leagues have sold out multiple times. Fees range from \$150 to \$250 and the youngest age groups are growing incredibly fast. Softball is up roughly 11%. DYBSA is also partnering with Trinity University with respect to their coaches. Their biggest challenges include coach turn over and lack of umpires. Commissioner Serota requested that DYBSA focus on skill building for children within the house league. There was a brief conversation about potential nearby buildings that could be turned into indoor facilities for increased turf time. The Board thanked the Affiliates for their presentations.

VII. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

(A). Deerfield Park Foundation

A verbal report was given on the January 9, 2023, Deerfield Park Foundation meeting by President Caron. The Foundation made their annual Committee appointments and discussed 2023 fundraising opportunities. Most importantly, the Foundation has committed to contributing \$25,000 towards Jewett Park renovations. President Caron and Executive Director Nehila commended Foundation Manager Prause for her diligent efforts in organizing Foundation affairs and maximizing the Foundation's productivity.

(B). PTC Member's Council

A verbal report was given on the January 12, 2023, PTC Members' Council meeting by Recreation Director McCarty. They have already welcomed 5 new members since the start of the year and their goal for the year is 130 new members. They also welcomed two new Council Members that began their term this month. On January 24, there will be a classical musical performance by Jim Kendros and there are 31 members enrolled currently. On February 17, the popular 5-Alarm Chili Luncheon will return to the PTC. Lastly, there is another new event scheduled for February 21 called Sip, Chip and Putt hosted by the Deerfield Golf Club. There will be a golf professional at the event to provide putting tips in addition to hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

(A). Adoption of the 2023 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #2023-01

Vice President Cohen moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve the 2023 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #2023-01, a copy of which is attached and to be included with the minutes of this meeting.

Roll call vote **carried** as follows:

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

(B). Approval of the 2023 Budget

Vice President Cohen moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, Organizational Chart and Salary and Wage Range Tables, as presented at the November 28, 2022 Board Workshop, a copy of which is attached and to be included with the minutes of this meeting.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(C). Deerfield Golf Clubhouse Exterior Renovation Payment Request #2

Vice President Cohen moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve Payment Request #2 from Camosy Construction for the work completed through December 2022 on the Deerfield Golf Clubhouse exterior renovation project in the amount of \$105,446.

Prior to a vote, Commissioner Brown asked for a project update. Golf Operations Director Mannina advised the contractors have been able to pour concrete due to favorable weather conditions. The siding is almost done, and the gutters are next. Overall, the project is moving along well.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(D). Architectural Services Fee Proposal for Jewett Park Community Center Renovation Phase 1

Commissioner Brown moved and Vice President Cohen seconded a motion to approve the Wold Architects and Engineering Proposal for Architectural Services for the Jewett Park Community Center Renovation Phase 1 of the project, as presented. Prior to a vote, Vice President Cohen commented that Wold's fees seem very reasonable.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(E). Resolution 2023-01; Resolution Authorizing a Contract for Construction Management Services

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2023-01, Authorizing a Contract for Construction Management Services to Camosy Construction Inc. for the Jewett Park Community Center Renovation Project Phase 1.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(F). Architectural & Engineering Proposal for Jewett Park 2.0 Phase II

Commissioner Serota moved and Vice President Cohen seconded a motion to approve the Proposal from Upland Design for Architectural Engineering Services for the Jewett Park 2.0 Phase II Project for a total of \$130,304. Vice President Cohen expressed concerns over the 7.5% fee proposal. Executive Director Nehila advised this is a competitive offer as this project is complex and the allowable maximum for DNR A&E reimbursement is 15%. Commissioner Brown asked if this proposal was the original proposal presented. Director Nehila advised the only change is the addition of one more meeting for four meetings total.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(G). Request to Host Fundraiser at Sachs Recreation Center on April 8, 2023

Commissioner Brown moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve the use of (7) pickleball courts on Saturday, April 8, 2023, from 5:30-8:30p.m. to Robyn Mendelsohn at a cost of \$850 to run a fundraiser for her daughter's Bat Mitzvah service project.

The motion **carried** in a roll call vote as follows:

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

(H). Employee Policies and Procedures Manual Updates

Vice President Cohen moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve the recommended changes to the District's Employee Policies and Procedures Manual, as presented. Prior to a vote, Vice President Cohen asked that head coverings be added to the discriminatory behavior section as these can represent certain religions. Treasurer Patinkin noted a difference throughout the document with respect to the use of domestic partner versus a spouse. He also noted minor grammatical corrections. Vice President Cohen amended his motion to incorporate those changes.

The motion **carried** in a voice call vote as follows:

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

(I). Full-Time Employee Policies Supplement Manual Updates

Vice President Cohen moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve the proposed updates to the District's Full-Time Supplement Manual, as presented.

The motion **carried** in a voice call vote as follows:

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

(F). Other Matters

Northwest Quadrant Task Force

Director Nehila advised the Northwest Quadrant Task Force will meet January 25th. PRI should be circulating a draft of the architectural and engineer designs to the Task Force and Director Nehila intends to present this to the Park District Board at the February Workshop Meeting.

IAPD Legislative Platform Bill

Director Nehila reported that IAPD shared a draft of a potential Solar Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) law that would allow Park Districts the ability to enter long-term relationships for PPA's via statute.

X. Election of Officers

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to elect Commissioner Caron as President and Commissioner Cohen as Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners for FY 2023.

The motion **carried** in a voice call vote as follows:

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

XI. Appointments

President Caron appointed Jeff Nehila as Secretary/Executive Director of the Deerfield Park District, Ancel, Glink as Primary Counsel and Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins as Secondary Counsel for tax appeals and tax objection matters, Rick Patinkin as Treasurer, Jeff Nehila and Jeff Harvey as FOIA Officers, Jeff Nehila and Jeff Harvey as Open Meetings Act Designees, Commissioner Patinkin to the Pool Advisory Committee, Commissioner Cohen to the Golf Advisory Committee, Commissioner Brown to the Recreation Center Advisory Committee, Commissioner Caron to the Park Foundation and Northwest Quadrant Task Force and Commissioner Serota to the Affiliate Advisory Committee.

XII. Adjournment to Closed Session

Vice President Cohen moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to enter Closed Session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel of the District in accordance with Section 2(c)1 of the Open Meetings Act at 8:49 p.m.

Roll call vote **carried** as follows:

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

XIII. Reconvene to Open Session

The Board reconvened to the Open Session of the December 15, 2022 Regular Board Meeting at 9:52 p.m. The Secretary called the roll, and the following were:

PRESENT: Brown, Caron, Cohen, Patinkin and Serota (5)
ABSENT: None (0)

XIV. Possible Action from Closed Session

There was no action from Closed Session.

XV. Motion made by Vice President Cohen, seconded by Commissioner Serota, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 9:53 p.m. Voice vote **carried** as follows:

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

NAYS: None (0)

The next Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary