

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS May 18, 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, Patinkin and Serota (4)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

Staff: Executive Director Jeff Harvey, Executive Director Jeff Nehila, Executive Administrative Assistant Catherine Serbin, 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Serota, to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2023, Workshop Meeting and Closed Session. Roll call vote **carried** as follows:

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

Motion made by Treasurer Patinkin, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve the Minutes of the April 20, 2023, Finance Meeting, Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting and Closed Session. Roll call vote **carried** as follows:

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

IV. FINANCE REPORT

(A) Approval of Disbursements

Motion made by Treasurer Patinkin, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve the Voucher Listing dated May 18, 2023, in the amount of **\$1,478,050.56** which includes **\$721.73** of travel and training expenses.

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Former Park Board Commissioner Gil Antokal was in attendance to share his thanks to outgoing Director Nehila for his leadership and friendship.

VI. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

(A) Recreation Center Advisory Committee

A verbal report was given on the April 27, 2023, Recreation Center Advisory Committee meeting by Commissioner Brown. The Committee welcomed three new Committee members and received an

update on the April 1st fee increase. Staff have not received pushback from patrons regarding this fee increase. Deputy Director of Recreation and SRC General Manager gave an overview of the Districtwide Emergency Operations Plan, and the emergency flip charts within each room as part of the EOP. The Committee also discussed upcoming capital improvement projects, special events and the current fitness schedule. Membership levels remain high despite the change in seasons. The annual Deerfield High School Post Prom Afterparty will be held May 20th. The Chicago Sky resumed training on May 5th.

(B). PTC Members' Council

A verbal report was given on the May 11, 2023, PTC Members' Council meeting by Recreation Director McCarty. During the month of April, the PTC welcomed seven new members. Currently, overall membership is around 550. On May 3rd, the PTC held an open house to attract new members. The open house was advertised via a postcard mailer and staff is following up with attendees. On May 16th, the PTC held its annual Antique Classic Car Show with over 100 participants. Upcoming events include a champagne brunch on May 19th which will include a musical performance and a light breakfast. There are over 36 members registered to attend. On Wednesday, May 24th there will be a Chicago Showcase Performance with 27 members currently registered. Staff is busy creating new program offerings for the fall to include a writing workshop, square dancing and crafting classes.

(C). Pool Advisory Committee

A verbal report was given on the May 18, 2023, Pool Advisory Committee meeting by Treasurer Patinkin. Topics of discussion included upcoming season dates, the pool schedule, pool pass sales, rentals, birthday parties, swim lessons, and new pool concession offerings. Due to aggressive marketing tactics, the District was able to retain over 100 lifeguards for the season and staff is pleased with this significant seasonal staff increase from last year. Lifeguard wages are up to \$15 per hour. The COHO Classic returns the weekend of June 23rd and the Foundation will continue its sponsorship of the July 4th Free Swim. There was a brief discussion regarding the recent updates to State Statute which could impose a harsh fine on the District for not providing a mandatory break between shift changes.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

(A). Oath of Office

Outgoing Executive Director Nehila administered the Oath of Office to President Caron.

(B). Appointment of Secretary

Board President Caron appointed Jeff Harvey, Incoming Executive Director, as Secretary of the Deerfield Park District effective May 18, 2023.

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to accept and approve President Caron's appointment of Jeff Harvey as Secretary of the Deerfield Park District effective May 18, 2023.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(C). Appointment of OMA Officers

Commissioner Serota moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to appoint Jeff Harvey and Catherine Serbin as OMA Officers for the Deerfield Park District effective May 18, 2023.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(D). Appointment of FOIA Officers

Commissioner Brown moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to appoint Jeff Harvey and Catherine Serbin as FOIA Officers for the Deerfield Park District effective May 18, 2023.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(E). Resolution #2023-04

Commissioner Serota moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution #2023-04** to appoint Jeff Harvey as MissionSquare Retirement Plan Coordinator and Retirement Health Savings Trustee.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(F). Resolution #2023-05

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution #2023-05** to appoint Jeff Harvey as the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Authorized Agent to include the powers to petition for nomination or cast a ballot for election of an Executive Trustee of IMRF.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(G). Appointments to Local Government Efficiency Committee

President Caron moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to appoint Andrew Vlahakis, Glen Marder, Gil Antokal and Joseph Haughney to the Deerfield Park District Local Government Efficiency Committee.

Prior to a vote, Executive Director Harvey advised staff is targeting the September Workshop meeting to include the first meeting of the Local Government Efficiency Committee. Members will be notified of their appointment within the following week and more information will be provided as staff works through the logistics of forming this new Committee, refining meeting agendas and obtaining meeting materials.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(H). Resolution #2023-06

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution #2023-06**, forming a Deerfield Park District Committee on Local Government Efficiency pursuant to 50 ILCS 70/10.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(I). PARC Grant Program Resolution of Authorization

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to adopt the PARC Grant Program Resolution of Authorization (**Resolution #2023-07**) for the renovation of the Jewett Park Community Center.

Prior to a vote, Director Harvey explained that the State of Illinois Park and Recreation Facility Construction (PARC) grant program has recently reopened to units of local government. PARC grants may be used for park and recreation construction projects, including the acquisition, development, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvements, architectural planning and installation of capital facilities. The provided PARC Grant Resolution is one of many components of the application and the deadline to apply is June 15th.

Should the District choose to pursue a PARC grant for future phases of the Master Plan to renovate the Jewett Park Community Center, a percentage of the building's mechanical system and public spaces on the second floor of the center would be eligible for the grant money.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(J). Deerfield Golf Clubhouse Exterior Renovation Payment Request #6

Commissioner Serota moved and Treasurer Patinkin seconded a motion to approve Payment Request #6 from Camosy Construction for the work completed through April 2023 on the Deerfield Golf Clubhouse exterior renovation project in the amount of \$115,481.

Golf Operations Director Mannina clarified this is not the final payment as some minor punch list items remain to be completed. However, the deck is now usable. Patrons are incredibly pleased with the renovation and staff has received positive feedback.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(K). Bid Approval – Construction Renovation for Sarah Channick Park Playground

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to approve the base bid of \$151,547.65 from D&J Landscape, Inc. for the construction renovation of the Sarah Channick Playground within Cumnor Court Park.

Parks Director Zahn advised that staff received correspondence from a local Union Shop who expressed concern over the District working with D&J Landscape, Inc. A brief discussed ensued regarding the contractor in question. Treasurer Patinkin noted that D&J Landscape, Inc. pays prevailing wage, that the District has used them before with respect to other projects and that they have proven to be responsive. Ultimately, it was agreed that the Board move forward with staff recommendation.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(L). Bid Approval – Sachs Recreation Center – (1) Hot Water Boiler

Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to approve the low bid from Core Mechanical, Inc. for the replacement of one (1) hot water boiler at the Sachs Recreation Center for a total cost of \$61,935.

Treasurer Patinkin noted that this item came in significantly under budget.

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

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

NAYS: None (0)

ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(M). Request for Use of Jaycee Park

Commissioner Serota moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to approve the use of Jaycee Park for the annual “Walk for Parker” 3K walk and 5K run on Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 8:00AM to 12:00PM.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

(N). Other Matters
Resolution #2023-08

President Caron presented outgoing Executive Director Nehila with **Resolution #2023-08**, a Resolution recognizing and honoring his seven years of service to the District. The Resolution will be formally brought before the Board in June for approval. Deerfield Village Manager Kent Street also presented Director Nehila with a separate Service Recognition Plaque on behalf of the greater Deerfield community.

Vandalism Occurrences

Parks Director Zahn advised that the Deerspring Pool sign was recently vandalized. The loss has been submitted to the District’s insurance brokerage and insurance is expected to cover the loss. Maplewood Park also recently experienced minor vandalism. The Board briefly discussed additional security measures such as security cameras and increased police presence.

Gay Straight Alliance

Commissioner Serota advised that a teacher at Caruso Middle School, Ms. Julie Witzak, has secured a grant to paint a rainbow crosswalk at Caruso. The Park District has given permission to move forward with the rainbow crosswalk. The District’s permission was necessary due to an existing IGA with Caruso.

July 4th Parade

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Park District would not participate in the July 4th parade due to staff safety concerns associated with the recent July 4th shooting in Highland Park. Enrollment for the parade is down and most public agencies have elected not to participate.

IX. Adjournment to Closed Session

Treasurer Patinkin moved and Commissioner Serota seconded a motion to enter Closed Session for the discussion the purchase of or lease of real estate in accordance with Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act at 8:00 p.m.

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

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

X. Reconvene to Open Session

The Board reconvened to the Open Session of the May 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting at 8:35 p.m. The Secretary called the roll, and the following were:

PRESENT: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

XI. Possible Action from Closed Session

There was no action from Closed Session.

XII. Motion made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Treasurer Patinkin, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 8:35 p.m. Voice vote carried as follows:

AYES: Brown, Caron, Patinkin and Serota (4)
NAYS: None (0)
ABSENT: Cohen (1)

The next Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners is scheduled for Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeff Harvey, Secretary