

The Special Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Cohen at 7:02 p.m. in the Jewett Park Community Center. Finance Director Harvey called the roll, and the following were:

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

ABSENT: None (0)

Staff: Executive Director Annemarie Flaherty, Deputy Executive Director and Director of Recreation Laura McCarty, Finance Director Jeff Harvey, Superintendent of Recreation Tony Korzyniewski, Director of Golf Operations Jason Mannina, Director of Parks Jay Zahn and Superintendent of Marketing Deanna Musurlian

I. MATTERS OF THE PUBLIC, VISITORS AND GUESTS

A. Comments from the Public, Visitors and Guests

There were no comments on non-agenda items.

II. ACTION ITEMS

A. Appointment of Secretary

Commissioner Caron moved that the president appoint Annemarie Flaherty as Executive Director, as the Secretary of the Deerfield Park District, effective September 5, 2024. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Appointment of OMA Officer

Commissioner Caron moved to appoint Annemarie Flaherty as OMA Officer for the Deerfield Park District, effective September 5, 2024. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Appointment of FOIA Officers

Commissioner Caron moved to appoint Annemarie Flaherty and Sharon Sheehan as FOIA officers for the Deerfield Park District, effective September 5, 2024. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

D. Resolution #2024-02 to appoint MissionSquare Retirement Plan Coordinator and Retirement Health Savings Trustee

Commissioner Caron moved to adopt Resolution 2024-02 to appoint Annemarie Flaherty as the MissionSquare Retirement Plan Coordinator and Health Savings Trustee. Commissioner Serota seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

E. Resolution #2024-03 to appoint IMRF Authorized Agent

Commissioner Serota moved to adopt Resolution 2024-03 to appoint Annmarie Flaherty as the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund authorized agent to include the powers to petition for nomination or cast ballots for election of

an executive trustee of IMRF. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

F. Consideration of CivicPlus Agreement for website redesign

Ms. Flaherty reported the following updates: the payment plan includes three payments (25% initial, 50% in December and 25% upon completion), the 5% increase on annual subscription rate was waived in year two and can be changed in year three with a 60-day notice before the end of the year. The commissioners discussed the terms, detailed timeline and an estimated go-live date in March 2025.

Commissioner Caron moved to approve the award the contract for the Deerfield Park District website redesign project to CivicPlus in an amount not to exceed \$45,899.15. Commissioner Serota seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None (0)

III. OTHER MATTERS

A. Discussion of Sachs Center Pickleball Schedule

Mr. Korzyniewski reported the Board received a request to expand open pickleball play to alleviate congestion during busy times. After meeting with staff and analyzing the data, he suggested extending the early morning hours by an hour on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to 7 am – noon and adding early hours, from 7 – 9 am on either Tuesday or Thursday. This expansion would add 5 hours for a total of 12 hours, which would be positive for pickleball players while not impacting current activities and schedules. The commissioners discussed at what point it would be more economical for those paying the daily fee to take out a membership. Mr. Korzyniewski explained a resident would have to visit six or seven times per month. Stan Robbin, SRC member, noted they are only adding one additional day, but the additional hours would help alleviate some of the crowding. Commissioner Cohen looked at the economics and suggested only changing the hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at this time. It is easier to add additional hours than take them away. Commissioner Caron noted the Park District is trying to provide the most things to the most people in the community; however, only half of the pickleball players are residents. Commissioner Serota commented the Park District does not compete with private pools or golf clubs and does not need to compete with private pickleball clubs. Ms. Flaherty suggested the Board provide a recommendation on the additional hour on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and another recommendation on Tuesday or Thursday. This would also become a priority for staff to evaluate for all the different activities that are going on at Sachs Center in relation to what we offer versus what the competition offers. Mr. Korzyniewski noted the open gym schedules are always subject to change.

Ms. Flaherty summarized the hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays will be from 7 am – noon. Staff will review adding early morning hours on Tuesdays or Thursdays and determine which day is best to add. Staff will also continue messages that any program can change and the Board and staff will look at how to use the Sachs Center and different courts and spaces in the future.

B. Deerspring Pool Update

Ms. Flaherty provided information on Deerspring Pool related to concerns of the pools ability to operate. She plans to have an Aquatic Audit conducted to assess the condition of Deerspring Pool, including estimated costs of repairs and future estimates of long-term maintenance costs of the aging pool. Community surveys will be conducted to gather input from the residents and users on the use and programming needs of both outdoor pools. Architects will provide concept plans and estimated costs to repair, replace and even demolishing of the pool. Ms. Flaherty will evaluate various options including maintaining the splash pad independently of the pool or considering expansions at Mitchell Pool if Deerspring is deemed too costly to fix or unnecessary. She will move forward with assessments, engage architects or engineers, and develop community surveys to gather opinions and input on the use of the current outdoor pools and need of the pools. .

Commissioner Serota suggested getting all of the important information to the community so they will be able to appropriately answer the survey questions. Staff will compile statistics with the number of pool passes, which pools are being utilized, how many people are paying daily fees, etc. Ms. Flaherty will also get information on Coho, swim lessons, parties, and all other user groups.

Staff has been reviewing pool hours and fees for the upcoming 2025 year. A survey was conducted and the results need to be compiled in putting together a recommendation. Commissioner Serota is in favor of increasing open swim hours and is not in favor of making families leave for the noon to 12:30 break. She questioned whether having staff training on Fridays is the best day, as many parents take off on Fridays in the summer. Commissioner Serota suggested consolidating the swim lessons to allow for more open swim on weekends. She questioned whether some swim lessons could be moved to Deerspring. The commissioners would like to see numbers on extra initiatives such as Wacky Wednesdays and movie nights.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Caron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annemarie Flaherty
Secretary

Transcribed by:
Jeri Cotton