

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 315 CHICAGO AVENUE
March 20, 2017 – 7:00pm

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Pro Temp Lithgow.

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Carlsen, Lithgow, and Staab
Absent: Johnson**

**Commissioner Johnson entered the meeting at 8:55pm

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Lee Howard, Treasurer
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary
Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Parks
Kelly Smith, Superintendent of Recreation
Doug Holzrichter, Williams Architects

Addresses from the Audience - None

Approval of consent agenda

President Pro Temp Lithgow inquired if anyone had any questions or changes to the consent agenda. There being none, President Pro Temp Lithgow requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Staab, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Austin, Staab, Lithgow, and Carlsen
Nays: None
Absent: Johnson

President's Report

President Pro Temp Lithgow welcomed SEASPAR's Executive Director, Susan Friend, who announced that she would be retiring in July. Susan Friend introduced Matt Corso to the Board, who would be replacing her as the Executive Director of SEASPAR.

Susan Friend introduced Jason Catalano, a Clarendon Hills resident, SEASPAR participant, and the recipient of the Inspirational Participant Award, which was presented at the Board meeting of the IPRA's Therapeutic Recreation section.

President Pro Temp Lithgow asked John Steeves to give an update of the Parks Foundation. Mr. Steeves informed the Board that with the success of the "Jurassic Jimmy" sculpture in Prospect Park, the foundation has chosen "Bees on Parade" for 2017. They are purchasing 10 bee sculptures which will be sponsored and decorated by different community organizations and will be displayed downtown from June through September. The bees will be on display at the September Family Fall Fest where five of them will be auctioned off, with the proceeds benefitting the Parks Foundation. The remaining five bees will be placed in the various parks as a permanent display.

With Board approval to move forward, Executive Director Scheltens reminded the Board that the sculptures would be a 50/50 split with the Foundation. The Board agreed by voice vote.

Committee Reports

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Austin informed the Board that the summer brochure was delivered, and resident registration has been going on for a week. Non-resident registration began today.

A very successful senior event, Breakfast & Bingo was very well received, and was sponsored by Aspired Living, in Westmont. They would also be sponsoring the spring luncheon and the entertainment for the June event. Staff was working on marketing strategies for camps, theater, and other programs. Preschool registration was continuing and has been showing more interest these past weeks.

Interviews were continuing for camp counselors, lifeguards, and swim lesson coaches.

Upcoming events include Breakfast with the Bunny and the Egg Hunt on April 14th, and the Earth Day celebration in Prospect Park on April 22nd.

Aquatics Committee

Early Bird pool passes will be on sale until April 14th. The pool postcard would be mailed this week. Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher informed the Board that work would be completed on the fencing around the pool and work on the starting blocks would begin soon. The starting block replacements would cost between \$5,000 and \$8,000.

**Commissioner Suzanne Austin exited the meeting at 7:32pm.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Carlsen informed the Board that the Park District had received one bid for the Hosek Park Athletic Court Fence Replacement. The bid was from the Peerless Fence Company in the amount of \$32,855. This amount was under the cost estimated last year. Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher informed the Board that he has worked with this company in the past and had no problems. President Pro Temp Lithgow requested a motion to accept the bid of \$32,855 from Peerless Fence Company to replace the Hosek Park Athletic Court Fence. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Carlsen, seconded by Commissioner Staab, the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Carlsen, Staab, and Lithgow
Nays:	None
Absent:	Austin and Johnson

Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher informed the Board that he was in the process of gathering information based on the drone policies of other Park Districts, and would bring more concrete information in the upcoming months. He believed that the drone users should need to apply for a permit, but beyond that, the limitations and rules for flying drones over parks are all over the place.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that V3 would begin surveying in approximately two weeks, for Phase II of Hosek Park. Derrick Martin will give an update at the April meeting.

Finance/Personnel Committee

Treasurer Lee Howard presented to the Board the 2016 Tentative Tax rates and Tax Extensions. He explained how the county arrived at these numbers, and explained that the increased dollar amounts of approximately \$7,000 was due to new construction.

Commissioner Staab brought up a discussion regarding abating the taxes, to refund the additional money received over the amount levied by the Park District. He believed that it was a matter of principle to return any additional monies back to the tax payers. Extensive discussion took place. If the Park District abated the taxes, namely the additional \$7,000, it would be a reduction of approximately \$2 per household on the tax bill. Commissioner Lithgow believed that it would not make sense to abate the \$7,000, because we would then have to borrow money and pay interest to complete future projects.

Commissioner Staab reiterated to the Board that he believed that it was important to have these conversations every year, to make sure that the Park District was receiving what they need for the budget, but being responsible to the taxpayers and returning or abating additional monies received. Commissioner Carlsen commended Commissioner Staab for bringing up this discussion and to the Board for addressing this issue. He believed that the Board was responsible for the long-range integrity of taxpayer dollars.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

President Pro Temp Lithgow asked Doug Holzrichter, Williams Architects, to give the Board an update on the long-range Capital Projects Plan. Mr. Holzrichter presented to the Board a seven-year plan which included: Replacement/Repair/Renovation; New Projects; Operation Equipment; and Proposed Projects to be Financed by Bonds. The annual capital projects listed would total approximately \$250,000 in improvements each year. This timeline will assist this Board and future Boards with the timely needs of the Park District as well as plans for future growth. Commissioner Lithgow suggested that this plan be updated yearly. This long-range capital projects list would begin with the next fiscal year's budget (May 1, 2017) after the Tentative Budget Ordinance is approved.

**Commissioner Austin re-entered the meeting at 8:30pm

President Pro Temp Lithgow requested a motion to convene to Executive session for the following:

- a. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or discipline of an employee, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1)(2) of the Open Meetings Act.

Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Staab, the meeting convened to Executive Session at 8:40pm. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Austin, Staab, Lithgow, and Carlsen
Nays: None
Absent: Johnson

The Board reconvened to the Regular Board meeting at 9:25pm. The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Carlsen, Johnson, Lithgow and Staab
Absent: None

President Pro Temp Lithgow announced that no action would be taken from the Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Staab, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, adjourned at 9:27 p.m. by voice vote.

Secretary
