

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 315 CHICAGO AVENUE
July 27, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by President Austin.

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Barcelos, Callan, Carlsen, and Draudt
Absent: None

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Lee Howard, Treasurer
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary
Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Parks
Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation
Aaron Gold, Speer Financial

Addresses from the Audience

Blair Ewing, a resident, addressed the Board regarding security concerns in the Hosek Park east parking lot. Recently she witnessed an altercation between juveniles. Due to her proximity to the parking lot, she has witnessed people sitting in their cars on numerous occasions, as well as cars parked next to the playground.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that the east parking lot was the only lot that is not lighted. Commissioner Barcelos acknowledged that this is obviously a concern and asked Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Parks, if there were any problems elsewhere in the parks. Mr. Fletcher informed the Board that there were no known problems in the west parking lot. He acknowledged that other neighbors have called, but according to the Police Chief there is not a lot of activity at the park.

The Board discussed possible security options, namely parking lot lights. Director Scheltens discussed security cameras, but Mike Fletcher said that they would need access to the internet, and there was the issue of video storage. President Austin brought up the privacy issue as people do not want to be videotaped in a public park. The Board agreed to begin with installing lights in the east parking lot.

Superintendent Fletcher and President Austin informed Ms. Ewing that it was not the job of residents to monitor the parks. For safety reasons they should contact the Park District or the police. Commissioner Barcelos suggested adding signage. The Board agreed to add signage along with low lighting security lights as a start. Director Scheltens asked Superintendent Fletcher to have his staff do periodical checks during the day. President Austin asked for lights and signage to be added to the shed and to increase the wattage in the current playground lights as well. The approximate cost should be under \$10,000.

President Austin opened the Public Hearing for the issuance of \$3,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District, for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, and to refund the District's General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2012.

President Austin introduced Aaron Gold, Municipal Advisor, Speer Financial to explain this process. Mr. Gold informed the Board that he and Treasurer Howard had begun the process to receive favorable ratings from S & P, and he believed there would be a competitive bond sale on August 24th. These General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2020 would be issued for 15 years, and be retired December 15, 2035. The results on this bond issue will be discussed and voted on at the August 24th Board Meeting. He also informed the Board that the General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2012, would be refunded.

There being no public input regarding the issuance of the bonds, the Public Hearing was closed.

Approval of consent agenda

President Austin asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. There being none, President Austin requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Carlsen, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Carlsen, Draudt, Callan, Barcelos, and Austin
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Treasurer Lee Howard informed the Board that the Park District was again the recipient of the Excellence in Financial Reporting award from the Government Finance Officers Association. Commissioner Draudt informed the Board that he, Director Scheltens, and Treasurer Howard were still working on finalizing the health benefits information.

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Callan informed the Board that Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation, would begin interviewing in fall for the Aquatics Supervisor.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Carlsen informed the Board that under Phase 4, the recreation staff was able to offer in person camps which have been very successful. Superintendent of Recreation, Valerie Louthan informed the Board that the Movie in the Park, Frozen 2, was attended by approximately 60 children. The next Movie in the Park would be held on the first weekend in August. The movie which is "Secret Life of Pets II" would be shown by the maintenance garage, and activities would also take place around the pavilion.

Commissioner Carlsen informed the Board that the Fishing Derby had been rescheduled to September. There would be two 1-hour time slots, and registration was necessary.

The Fall brochure was in the process of being completed and would be online only. Fall Ball will be included. The Family Fall Fest has been cancelled.

President Austin mentioned that the pavilion is used mornings for Barre3 classes, and that there has been more garbage left overnight in the pavilion and overflowing garbage cans. Director Scheltens informed the Board that staff will arrive at 5:00am to clean the area to get it ready for programming. President Austin also requested that "No Smoking" signs be added in the pavilion.

There were concerns regarding unleashed dogs in the park. Superintendent Fletcher informed the Board that there was signage instructing that all dogs must be leashed. It was requested to install additional mutt mitts on the north side of the park.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Barcelos informed the Board that the Design Director from ecology + vision, LLC was no longer with the company and he would be working with a new design director. He and Superintendent Fletcher would meet with the new person on Thursday and he was hoping to present a final conceptual schematic plan to convert the existing stormwater basin into a naturalized stormwater basin.

Commissioner Barcelos informed the Board that the Merry-go-Round in the Prospect Park Playground would need to be replaced. While this piece of equipment has always received mixed reviews, it is very popular with the children. The Board agreed to replace the Merry-Go-Round. The cost would be approximately \$6800 to purchase the equipment.

President's Report

President Austin informed the Board that the Building and Grounds Manager with District 181 emailed that they had approved the Community Center Renovation project to proceed. Director Scheltens informed the Board that the 13 bid packages would be available beginning on Tuesday, July 28th. All bids must be returned to the Park District by 10:00am on August 18th. The bid opening would take place via zoom meeting at 10:30am on August 18th. The Board would approve the bids at the August 24th Board Meeting. After the Bond sale in September, the contracts would be drawn up for the individual contractors. If everything works according to the timeline, this project will begin November 21st and be completed on April 30, 2021, in time for the Park District's 75th Anniversary.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Callan, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, adjourned at 8:11pm by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
