

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD  
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE  
March 21, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02p.m. by President Austin.

The roll call was as follows:

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

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director  
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary  
Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Parks  
Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation

Addresses from the Audience – None

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 Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

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

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt informed the Board that Executive Director Scheltens, Treasurer Lee Howard, and he were in the process of finalizing the tentative budget to be presented to the Board at the April Board meeting. The Budget/Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2023, would be available for public input at the June Public Hearing, and approved at the June Board meeting.

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Callan informed the Board that Director Scheltens and Superintendent Louthan had conducted final interviews for the new Aquatics/Recreation Supervisor. This candidate will be offered the position pending references and background check. Superintendent Louthan had placed ads in both the Doings and the Courier advertising lifeguard positions. She reported that three lifeguards had applied for the fourth manager position. A final decision would be made this week.

Superintendent Fletcher informed the Board that the sand in the two pool tanks would be replaced, and the two tanks inspected in the coming weeks. The water pipes would be pressure tested in mid-April.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that he had received a request from the Director of the Westmont Park District to offer Westmont residents a discount for a family pool pass. He informed Director Scheltens that approximately 150 Clarendon Hills families were using the Westmont Park District's Health Club at a resident rate.

After discussion, the Board agreed that there was not a formal agreement that guaranteed family pool passes at a discount to non-residents. The financial goal is to attract a minimum of 300 Clarendon Hills families to purchase a family pool pass, but still allowing non-residents to purchase passes at the non-resident price.

President Austin agreed that since the resident passes are currently being purchased, it was too late to change the pricing for non-residents. She suggested Director Scheltens inform Westmont Park District that the Board would address this issue at the end of this pool season and re-visit this consideration for the 2023 pool season. Commissioner Callan stated that the health club rate charged to Clarendon Hills residents was the responsibility of the Westmont Park District and did not involve the Clarendon Hills Park District.

#### Recreation Committee

Commissioner Fetzer informed the Board that summer registrations had begun for residents and non-resident registration would begin on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Popular programs continue to be Camps, tennis, swim lessons as well as youth and tot athletics. Adult Pickleball leagues will be starting as well as youth and adult culinary classes. The Recreation staff has worked to expand Birthday Party options and are offering Yoga classes combined with a culinary class. The winter-spring session will finish with the Easter Egg Hunt.

#### Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Barcelos informed the Board that ice rinks and sled hills are down, and the tennis courts are ready for play. Currently, the focus of the Parks Maintenance staff is landscaping and prepping ball fields.

Commissioner Barcelos wanted to meet with the maintenance staff to discuss the Park Avenue sled hill, which is very steep on three sides. He suggested planting natural plants, such as a strong grass, to stabilize the hillside and discourage sledders from going down the wrong side of the hill. This project may need to be contracted due to the number of plantings and will need to be phased in over a few years. Commissioner Barcelos would be meeting with Landscape Specialist, Brett Roberts in the coming weeks to discuss budget options.

Phase II of the Hosek Park Natural Restoration project will involve planting of physical plants in the middle of the wetlands where it is the most wet. Piso and Associates will check on this project at least four times per year to take care of weeds, removing plants that should not be there, and supplemental seeding if necessary. The maintenance staff would be planting the physical plants to fill in where the seeding did not take. Commissioner Barcelos would be meeting with Brett Roberts, Landscape Specialist, to discuss plant choices for the berms in the parks.

Director Scheltens informed the Board that School District 181 might want to revisit the utilities agreement. Currently the Park District pays approximately 6% of the utility bills.

Superintendent Fletcher and Superintendent Louthan exited the meeting at 7:43pm.

President's Report

President Austin discussed with the Board a chronological list of future projects through 2027. As was addressed at the February Board meeting, land acquisition north of Chicago Avenue is a high priority. Director Scheltens and the Board will continue to seek out land opportunities for additional park space. Director Scheltens informed the Board that grants may be available for Land Acquisition and Development through the state. These grants, if awarded, could pay up to 50%.

Commissioner Draudt informed the Board that the Park District will not be able to sell bonds for large projects for a few years due to the completion of the Community Center renovation and the Maintenance Facility. Any projects completed would need to be paid for out of the operating budget or carryover funds. Director Scheltens informed the Board that money has been earmarked for capital projects this year. Many of these projects are improvements at Hosek Park, including the North-South ADA pathways, installation of the east playground, and other improvements to the park.

Commissioner Fetzer agreed to look at the current Mission Statement and make suggestions to minimize the length of the statement, while still including the goals of the Park District.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, adjourned at 8:40p.m. by voice vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Park Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_