

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
October 24, 2022 – 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, Draudt, and Fetzer
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 and
Facilities
Kelci Bednar, Athletic Recreation Supervisor

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

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

Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities introduced Kelci Bednar, Athletic Recreation Supervisor. Kelci comes to the Park District from the Hinsdale Community House. During her 5-1/2 years there she worked in many areas of Recreation, including athletics. The Board welcomed her to the Park District.

President's Report

President Austin introduced Maggie Krieger and John Dzarnowski from FGM Architects. Mr. Dzarnowski explained to the Board that their purpose was to gather data regarding the vision of the Board for a future pool facility. FGM was employed by the Board to design three pool facility concepts and cost estimates.

The Board discussed whether the vision for the new pool facility should be built to break even each summer with mainly resident use (less crowded) or a revenue generating facility which would include more non-residents which could result in overcrowding.

Mr. Dzarnowski presented previous pool projects that FGM was involved in designing. He asked the Board to consider age specific opportunities, multiple programming opportunities, possible revenue features, a design to serve all ages, and a separate children's area.

The Commissioners expressed the zero depth was a necessary facility feature and the current dive-well would not be demolished if a new facility were built. There was discussion regarding the current lap swim lanes. Should they be expanded from six to eight lanes, and should the lap swim lanes be lengthened?

The Commissioners believed that one of the concepts should be budget driven and should have amenities that are unique to surrounding pools. Each Commissioner expressed their preferences for possible pool amenities to be included.

The Commissioners agreed to move forward with the new pool facility concepts, but the Park District Mission Statement should be adhered to as the design process continued.

In the discussion of a new bath house, the Commissioners believed that there should be a multi-purpose room included for possible additional revenues and programming.

The Board asked when FGM would return with design concepts and cost estimates. Mr. Dzarnowski informed the Board that he would have this information hopefully for the December 12th Board meeting. The Board thanked FGM Architects for their presentation, at which point they exited the meeting at 8:25pm.

Committee Reports

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Callan informed the Board that the concrete testing was completed, and the results showed that the current stress cracks could be patched, except for the wall that separates the water slide from the main pool. The cost of replacement is approximately \$30,000 - \$40,000. Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher believed this replacement could possibly wait a season, but he would know more information after the winter season.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that the plan was to try to open the pool on Memorial Day weekend, despite the troublesome sand filter tanks which were repaired last summer. If the two sand filter tanks should fail during the 2023 summer pool season, there will not be enough time to replace them. The process to order and replace the two sand filter tanks could take up to nine months. Treasurer Howard also indicated that the funds to replace the two sand filter tanks would reduce the District's Reserve Fund immensely. It was agreed by the Park Board of Commissioners that should the two sand filter tanks fail prior to opening or during the summer season was to close the pool and issue refunds.

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt asked Treasurer Lee Howard to review the Comprehensive Financial Report with the Board. Treasurer Howard informed the Board that the Independent Auditor's opinion paragraph received the highest level of opinion. The Park District also received an AA rating, which is a very favorable rating should the district decide to go out for a referendum in the future. Treasurer Howard also noted to the Board that the non-referendum bonding authority is currently limited, and any referendum bonding could not exceed approximately \$15 million. If a future referendum was successful, this would "significantly limit" other future Park District capital project opportunities for many years.

Commissioner Draudt informed the Board they need to consider any grants which would be available to improve the pool in the future. He also said most grants require the Park District to have funds available in their budget before applying.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Fetzer informed the Board that the Little Learners preschool has added the "Snack Buddies" program which extends the preschool day by one hour. The staff has also added enrichment classes which can extend the day until 2:00 – 2:30pm. New this year was a Little Learners Art Show this week, for the families to view projects that the children have worked on.

Dave Littwin completed the judging of the fourteen homes registered for the Halloween House Decorating contest. Superintendent Valerie Louthan informed the Board that the staff had reviewed each house and voted on the winners.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Barcelos asked Superintendent Fletcher to give an update on the Hosek Park drainage issues. Mr. Fletcher reported that Derrick Martin of V-3 and himself met with some of the neighbors that had concerns. After their meetings, the neighbors understood that water will still be in the park after heavy rains which would take time to drain. A resident reported that they were still getting standing water in their backyard after a heavy rain. Derrick Martin, V-3 looked at a possible swale to direct some of the water to a nearby drain. Mr. Fletcher believed that this could be done in-house.

Commissioner Barcelos asked Superintendent Fletcher if there were any safety issues this last year at the Park Avenue sled hill. Mr. Fletcher informed him that there were no issues. The parks staff will continue to put up snow fences on the Park Avenue Park sled hill this winter for safety.

President Austin informed the Board that the Executive Session would be postponed until the November Board meeting.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Callan, adjourned at 9:34p.m. by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
