

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
September 26, 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
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, Austin, Fetzer, and Callan
Nays: None
Absent: None

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt informed the Board that Treasurer Lee Howard was unable to attend this meeting to address the Comprehensive Financial Report. This report will be filed with the county and be made available for the public to view. Any questions regarding this report can be discussed at the October Board meeting. The Park District is again the recipient of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

President Austin asked Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation, to re-visit the credit card service charges with Vermont Systems.

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Callan informed the Board that the Park District was still projecting a loss for the 2022 pool season of approximately \$20,000 in operating costs for the Lions Park Pool facility. Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that he budgeted approximately \$75,000 for capital projects for pool repairs. The sand filter tanks cost \$49,000 for repairs to open for the 2022 season. They worked efficiently enough to get through the current season, but with some sporadic breakdowns. Future decisions would need to be made regarding the replacement of these sand filter tanks at the cost of approximately \$400,000. The Park District has had to postpone other capital park

projects this year due to the pool's capital project costs. Director Scheltens informed the Commissioners that the pool has operated at a loss for the last two years because of the need for capital project pool repairs and due to a lack of season passes following Covid.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Fetzer informed the Board that the Little Learners preschool has begun with the addition of the "Snack Buddies" program which extends the preschool day by one hour. Michelle Koegel, Early Childhood Recreation Supervisor, has hired Claire Chimelewski to teach the 4-year-old preschool class. Claire has been with the Park District each summer as the Assistant Director for the 5 years and older summer camp.

The Commissioners discussed the Family Fall Fest. All agreed that it was very well attended and enjoyed. The inflatables, wagon rides, and petting zoo were extremely popular as was the addition the Little Learners Kid Zone which hosted games. The Commissioners also commented on the long lines at the Beer and Wine Tent, as well as the food tents. Superintendent Louthan said that next year each food vendor would have an additional table to move the lines faster. A suggestion was made to move the starting time to 3:00 and end at 6:00 pm.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Barcelos informed the Board that Superintendent Mike Fletcher has replaced the permanent part-time position. Director Scheltens and Superintendent Fletcher were completing the job description for the full-time position and would post the job October 1st. The position would be for a Park Foreman, which would require more skills than just park maintenance.

Derrick Martin, V3 Companies entered the meeting at 7:30pm. President Austin asked Mr. Martin to give an update of the Drainage Evaluation for Hosek Park. Mr. Martin discussed the flooding near the west playground. He gave a cost estimate of approximately \$40,000 but informed the Board that this project may not be cost effective, since the water empties after 24-48 hours. Commissioner Barcelos suggested a French drain, which could be completed for a cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000. It was suggested that the Village may be willing to provide some relief.

Mr. Martin discussed the ADA pathway which would go along President's Alley and extend to both softball fields. He informed the Board that should the Board choose to move forward, Mr. Martin would go to the Village for permits. Director Scheltens told the Board that once the final plan and cost estimate was completed, the Board would need to decide whether to move forward with this project in the next fiscal year.

President Austin asked Superintendent Fletcher to update the Board on the Natural Restoration project. Superintendent Fletcher informed the Board that the plants did not have many flowers, but he was expecting to see lots of progress next season. A burn would be completed approximately one year after the project is established. Pizzo and Associates would contact the state and the fire department and would proceed with the burn after approval. The Park District would notify all the neighbors around the park.

President's Report

President Austin informed the Board that there have been issues on the use of the pickleball courts. A non-resident group has been extending their play beyond the time limit, which has been prohibiting residents from usage and forcing them to look elsewhere. Superintendent of Recreation, Valerie Louthan was dealing with this issue.

President Austin informed the Board that Boy Scout Troop 51 had approached Director Scheltens to put signage in the parks to encourage new member registrations. The Board discussed the Park District Regulations which restricted outside advertising in the parks. After discussion, it was decided to allow Troop 51 to fill out a permit for the campfire circle and the pavilion to advertise for their new membership registrations in those two locations.

President Austin spoke to the Board regarding the future plan for Lions Park pool. Director Scheltens gave the history of the pool and how the Park District came to manage and operate the pool. He further informed the Board that the Lions Club owns the pool and the property, which the Park District manages and operates. Reminding the Board of the \$400,000 cost to replace the two sand filter tanks, as well as other major capital project costs, he was asking the Board to discuss and decide if they wanted to continue running the pool. In order to continue operating the pool as well as making the necessary improvements, the Park District might need to borrow additional funds or pass a referendum. Director Scheltens was recommending developing some concept plans and cost estimates for a new pool. He recommended FGM Architects to complete this proposal at the cost of approximately \$6,000. FGM Architects would come to future Board meetings and would have conceptual plans and cost estimates for the Board to discuss.

After discussion, Commissioner Callan made a motion to Engage FGM Architects for a Lions Park Pool Conceptual Planning Study at the Proposed cost of \$6,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barcelos and approved by roll call vote. The roll call was as follows:

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

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Draudt, seconded by Commissioner Callan, adjourned at 9:20p.m. by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
