

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
February 27, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01p.m. by President Austin.

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Barcelos, Draudt, and Fetzer
Absent: Callan

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Lee Howard, Treasurer
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary
Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities

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

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

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Treasurer Lee Howard asked if the Board had any questions or needed any clarification regarding the possible need for a referendum regarding the Lions Park Pool Renovation which was discussed at the last meeting. Commissioner Draudt informed the Board that discussion of possible pool survey questions would be covered under the President's report.

Aquatics Committee

In Commissioner Callan's absence, Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that Dave Littwin, Aquatics Recreation Supervisor, had contacted last year's staff to see if they planned on returning this pool season.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that he would like to hire an Aquatic Engineer to check the repaired sand filter tanks to make sure that there wasn't another problem. The Board agreed. He was hoping to have additional information for the March meeting.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Fetzer informed the Board that the Summer Brochure was being finalized and would be mailed out on March 10th. Resident registrations would begin on March 14th. She also informed the Board that the Athletics Recreation Supervisor had resigned. The position has been advertised as a "Recreation Supervisor" and Director Scheltens has received many applications. Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities was in the process of reviewing the applications and contacting viable candidates to set up interviews.

The Little Learners preschool held an Open House last Saturday. It was very well attended and staff was able to plan for the students returning in the fall. The Mommy/Son date night was held on Friday, February 24th, and was very well attended. Commissioner Fetzer noted that the Birthday Parties have been very popular.

The Board discussed other ways to market the programs. The postcards are very effective as well as email flyers. It was suggested that a "QR" code be used to allow the residents to sign up from their phone. Director Scheltens agreed but stated that the Park District had a lot of technology expenses to catch up on, and the additional technology expenses for this request would be reviewed and ranked in the new budget.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Barcelos informed the Board that a large tree had fallen at Walker Park and damaged a neighbor's fence. Director Scheltens was already in contact with the Park District insurance company, and agreed with the Board that the Park District would fix the fence.

Commissioner Barcelos questioned the need for skating rinks at the two parks, as there is a very small window weather-wise each season as well as the cost to build and maintain. The Board discussed putting up a slightly smaller rink at Prospect Park on a grassy area and keeping the rink at Hosek Park. The Board agreed to look into this after consulting with Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher.

President's Report

President Austin asked the Commissioners for questions that should be included in the survey regarding interest in the Lions Park Pool. The Board agreed that the possible amenities should be listed, and questions regarding their past interest in either a family pass or daily admissions. This survey would be mailed out at the beginning of May, with responses due by May 19th. This survey will have a "QR" code for the residents to respond and will be advertised in the Doings. President Austin requested that these questions be finalized by the March 20th Board meeting. The Board also agreed to inform the residents that this would involve using the original pool and adding the new amenities. They also agreed that the survey could state that due to the aging of the pool, should the Board decide not to proceed with the updates the community pool will eventually be closed permanently.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, adjourned at 8:21 p.m. by voice vote.

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Park Board Secretary
