



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
July 26, 2021
6 pm

Commissioners Present: Tracy Bragg, Steve Cummins and Scott Jacobson
Commissioners Absent: Adriane Johnson and Larry Reiner

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Director of Recreation and Facilities Erika Strojinc, Director of Business Services and Human Resources John Short, Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Mike Terson, and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

Attorney Steven Bloomberg was present

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

President Jacobson called the Workshop to order at 6 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Bragg, Cummins and Jacobson answered present.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP AGENDA

Vice President Bragg moved to approve the Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and passed with voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Jeff and Martha Weiss, Buffalo Grove residents, former Park District Commissioners and environmentalists, were in attendance.

FINANCE

July Warrant 2021

Director Short said programs are running so we are spending more money on payroll. He said the capital budget is quieter than usual with the exception of the Museum project.

June Financial Statement

There were no comments on the June Financial Statement.

June Year to Date Statement

There were no comments on the June Year to Date Statement

July Refunds

There were no comments on July refunds.

Director Short presented Budgeted Tax Revenues for 2021-22 and said the good news for Cook County is that we are expected to get about \$130K more than we budgeted. He noted we are right on target with Lake County budgeted tax revenues. He concluded saying we are trending in a lot of areas better than we thought we would.

PARKS

Resolution 21-7-1 ComEd Green Region Program

Director Howe said we applied for a ComEd Green Region grant back in March and were notified we received a \$6K grant for Green Lake Park. Resolution 21-7-1 is a formality required to be approved by the Board confirming that we agree to participate and will move forward on the project.

Jeff Weiss proposed that the ComEd Green Region program grant be used for plantings for an arboretum at Green Lake Park. He recommends that the Park District apply for Level I certification with ARBNET in 2022. ARBNET is an accreditation program that recognizes arboreta at various levels of development, capacity, and professionalism. He said there are five requirements to receive Level I certification: 1) An arboretum plan – He suggested the slides he shared in the Board packet may be sufficient; 2) An arboretum organizational group – He said the Buffalo Grove Park District qualifies; 3) An arboretum collection of more than 25 labeled species of trees and shrubs – He said we have been planting for years at Green Lake Park but there are not 25 species. His idea is to provide QR codes on labels linking the plants to a geodatabase. He said he would like a scout going for Eagle Scout ranking to set up the database, install the tags and create links to the database. He said the cost for the signage is \$2,000 to the Park District. He also knows a Rotarian who can produce the labels; 4) Arboretum staff or volunteers – He is volunteering along with the help of the Rotary Club and Garden Club who are already engaged; and 5) An arboretum public dimension – He sees this as a multi-year project and will continue to organize annual planting events. The Board thanked Mr. Weiss for his presentation.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Resolution 21-7-2 Settlement of Litigation

Executive Director Risinger said we will pass Resolution 21-7-2 Settlement of Litigation in the Regular Board meeting.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

President Jacobson said he attended the Cabaret two weekends ago. It was moved indoors due to inclement weather and he said the acoustics and orchestra were great in the theater. He said it is amazing at how much talent we have in Buffalo Grove. He said he was at the Fitness Center today and noted many positive changes. He said he will be recognized at the Best of the Best Awards for his 20 years service as commissioner on October 15 and he will attend the gala. Executive Director Risinger added that Commissioner Johnson will be recognized at the gala for her 10 year anniversary serving as commissioner.

Commissioner Cummins apologized that he was unable to attend the Full Time Staff social last week. He said it is so nice to see everything ramping up and the thirst of the community for activity.

Vice President Bragg said that she enjoyed seeing staff at the Full Time Staff party and seeing them outside of an office setting. She said she loves seeing all the hard work that staff is putting into their operational reports.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.


NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Bragg moved to adjourn the Workshop at 6:21 pm, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Secretary