



Buffalo Grove Park District
WORKSHOP MINUTES
October 25, 2021
530 Bernard Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL
6 pm

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

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 and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

Attorney David 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, Jacobson and Reiner answered present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests in attendance.

APPROVAL OF REVISED WORKSHOP AGENDA

Commissioner Bragg moved to approve the Revised Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Reiner and passed with a voice vote.

FINANCE

October Warrant 2021

There were no comments on the October Warrant.

September Financial Statement

There were no comments on the September Financial Statement.

September Year-to-Date Statement

Director Short said Recreation programs are performing better than expected and he hopes they keep trending in the right direction.

October Refunds

Commissioner Cummins asked about the Fitness Club membership versus member retro freeze. Executive Director Risinger said that he will look into it and get back to the Board.

Ordinance 21-10-3

Ordinance 21-10-3 providing for the issue of approximately \$1,315,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2021, for park improvements, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Director Short said the lowest bid came from Northbrook Bank and Trust Company, National Association, for the sale of the bonds.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

IAPD Credentials

Commissioner Reiner asked which Commissioners would like to represent the Park District at the IAPD's Annual Meeting at conference in January 2022. The following was decided:

- Larry Reiner – Delegate
- Steve Cummins – 1st Alternate
- Tracy Bragg – 2nd Alternate
- Scott Jacobson – 3rd Alternate

Vaccination Recommendation for Staff

Executive Director Risinger said the recommendation on a vaccine policy would be decided by the Board. He said he is comfortable with a policy for staff. He said he listened to a webinar today and the CDC said that people are considered fully vaccinated even if they don't have the booster at this time. He suggested if the Board wants to go in this direction that they give staff two weeks to come up with a policy to propose with the thought of approving it by the end of November and making it effective December 1. Vice President Bragg said her feeling is that everyone should be required to be vaccinated, or none. She expressed it would be too complicated to make exceptions for certain groups of people. President Jacobson said the Governor has mentioned he would like to waive the mask mandate by the holidays. He said his company is discussing charging employees \$250 who choose to not vaccinate to cover the cost of testing and insurance. Commissioner Reiner said he would hate to see the Park District lose valuable employees by mandating a vaccine. He said he believes the Board should strongly encourage that it is the right thing to do based on science for our Park District staff and program participants. Commissioner Cummins commended staff on their high vaccination percentage and wondered the worth of mandating the vaccine for less than 10% of staff who are not. He said he thinks the Board should look at policy and assess whether it was good for the organization. Executive Director Risinger suggested he would work with staff to come up with two different policies – one mandating the vaccine and the other mandating the vaccine with the option of testing. He said he will invite staff to voice their opinion and noted that the Board strongly encourages them to do so.

PARKS

Cambridge Park Infrastructure Recommendation

Executive Director Risinger said that Village Assistant Public Works Director, Kyle Johnson, followed up on some questions that were brought up at the last Board meeting. Commissioner Cummins said that he would like to see the Village add more amenities to Cambridge Park in return for allowing them to do the infrastructure project on our property.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

President Jacobson said he attended the Best of the Best Gala and was honored to be recognized for 20 years of service as a Commissioner. He said Commissioner Reiner was recognized for his contribution to the Allen Force and Commissioner Johnson was recognized for 10 years of service as a Commissioner.

Commissioner Cummins congratulated President Jacobson and Commissioner Johnson for their years of service. He said he attended the Howl-O-Ween Pooch Parade and the Craft Fair on Saturday. He thanked Commissioner Johnson for encouraging him to go through the IAPD Board Member Development program. He said he payed it forward to his Board at River Trails Park District and 3-4 members are going to go through the training.

Commissioner Reiner commended President Jacobson on 20 years of service to the Park District and said he appreciates the leadership he has provided the Board and the community. He said Allen Force and Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies wouldn't have gotten off the ground without the Buffalo Grove Park District being the sponsoring agency for the programs. He said it has made a big difference in the lives of 2,500 veterans the program is currently serving. He said it is a fully inclusive program serving many communities.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bragg moved to adjourn the Board Workshop at 6:55 pm, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary