



**Buffalo Grove Park District
WORKSHOP MINUTES
November 22, 2021
Alcott Center – Rooms 10/11
6 pm**

Commissioners Present: Tracy Bragg, Steve Cummins, Scott Jacobson, 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, Risk Manager Dani Hoeffle and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

Attorney David Bloomberg arrived at 6:03 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests to introduce.

APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

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

FINANCE

November Warrant 2021

Director Short said there was nothing out of the ordinary to highlight on the November 2021 Warrant.

October Financial Statement and Year to Date Statement

Commissioner Cummins noted that six months into the fiscal year we have hit 101% of our budgeted revenue for program fees.

November Refunds

There were no comments on November refunds.

Renewal of Vista 2022 Health, Dental, Life and Vision Insurance Plans

Executive Director Risinger said in comparison to other options Blue Cross Blue Shield is a very good plan. He said the cost of insurance took a big jump this year and our Vista representative said that businesses are seeing this across the board. He said we are proposing to put a little of the burden on the employee. He said staff is appreciative of our plan and seems happy we are continuing with Blue Cross Blue Shield for our

health insurance next year. He said he and Director Short will make it a point to look at other insurance options earlier next year before Blue Cross Blue Shield comes to us for renewal. Vice President Bragg asked what the Board and staff can do to stay healthier. Executive Director Risinger said we have a wellness committee and we give family members of our staff free membership at the Fitness Center. Commissioner Cummins asked the number of full time employees on the plan. Director short said we have 67 employees and retirees on the plan. Vice President Bragg suggested looking into collaborating with other Park Districts on health insurance. Commissioner Cummins asked if there was a ceiling on the plan. Director Short said there is not. He said he will talk to Vista about that as an option moving forward.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Privacy Policy

Executive Director Risinger said we talked about this policy previously and PDRMA has reviewed it. It will enable us to move forward with marketing efforts at the Fitness Center.

Cambridge Park Infrastructure Memorandum of Understanding

Executive Director Risinger said the MOU is the next step with the Village that we need to take to move forward on the Cambridge Park Infrastructure Plan. Commissioner Reiner asked what exact maintenance the Park District will be responsible for that is referred to in the Memorandum under Park District Responsibilities – Item 4. He also asked what type of surface the path would be. Executive Director Risinger said the Village wants to know that if they extend the path from the park to the pond that we will maintain it. He said he will clarify the path surface type with the Village. Commissioner Cummins asked about beautification of the pond and surrounding area referred to under Village Responsibilities - Item 7. He asked to clarify the ambiguity of the language of Item 7 defining what the surrounding area means.

Revised Vaccination Policy Recommendation

Executive Director Risinger said he and staff added where and how often the testing would take place into the proposed vaccination policies. President Jacobson asked if we are currently requiring unvaccinated staff to test. Executive Director Risinger said we do not require testing, with the exception of Clubhouse staff who is working in schools. He said he would prefer if the Board was going to pass a policy that it include testing. Risk Manger Hoefle said she thinks it is time for the Board to put a policy in place. She said either proposed plan is better than nothing. Director Strojinc said that she thinks all staff should be vaccinated but doesn't think there is a 100% win with either policy. Director Howe said that he hopes that the policy passed would include testing.

Commissioner Reiner asked Attorney Bloomberg if the Board doesn't act could they be held culpable if someone contracts COVID and the Board has not taken action. Attorney Bloomberg we are not talking about liability but are discussing the health and safety of the workplace. He said he wishes the OSHA policy was in place so we would have something to piggyback on. He added that he thinks the Board has hit all the right points in their discussions.

Commissioner Reiner said there is value in the Park District and Village working in concert. He added the Village has decided to table their conversation until OSHA comes down with guidelines. He said he doesn't know if the urgency to pass a policy is there. He suggested requiring anyone who doesn't feel well to get tested. He also suggested networking with school districts and using the University of Illinois testing.

Commissioner Johnson said we have the opportunity to lead the way and we are not rushing to do it. She said if we put a policy in place we will be consistent in how we have been managing the virus all along. She added that when OSHA weighs in the Park District can always change the policy. She said she would choose a policy that includes testing of everyone because of breakthrough cases.

Vice President Bragg said she would like to wait to implement a policy because of the ever changing vaccination efficacy.

Commissioner Cummins said he has been pondering the policy since the discussion held last meeting. He said he is in favor of testing but doesn't feel the need to pass a policy tonight. He said he would like to tweak the use of the words "must" and "may" with regard to working onsite to provide consistency. He also noted religious and medical exemptions being absent in the policy that includes testing.

President Jacobson said he thinks a policy with a testing option is the best option and emphasized the ability exists to change the policy at any time. He said it is the better choice and his vote is to not sit back and wait to pass a policy. The discussion concluded by him saying that doing something is better than doing nothing.

PARKS

Sale of Personal Property

Director Howe said the 2019 Ford Transit vehicle was originally bought for the Discovery Kids program which we are not running anymore. He said there is no longer a need for it and the used vehicle market is very hot right now.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

President Jacobson said that the Veterans Day event was well received and well done. He reiterated that it would be nice to figure out a way to reach out to more, younger veterans. He wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Reiner gave kudos to staff for another meaningful Veterans Day celebration. He also thanked Executive Assistant Wanland for handling Commissioner registration and hotel accommodations for the January conference.

Commissioner Johnson thanked staff for putting on another important Veterans Day event. She said the opening and closing events at conference are both going to be onsite. She said masks will be required in open areas but optional in closed. She said attendees will also have to follow Hyatt COVID protocol.

Commissioner Cummins extended the Board's best wishes to staff during the holidays and hopes everyone enjoys time with their families.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn the Board Workshop at 7:25 pm, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary