



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
November 14, 2022
Alcott Center – Room 24
530 Bernard Drive, Buffalo Grove
6 pm

Commissioners Present: Tracy Bragg, Steve Cummins, Scott Jacobson, Larry Reiner and Hetal Wallace

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Deputy Director Erika Strojinc, Director of Business Services and Human Resources John Short, Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe, Superintendent of Parks and Planning Mike Maloney, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Mike Terson, Risk Manager Dani Hoefle and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests in attendance

APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

Vice President Bragg moved to approve the November 14, 2022 Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Reiner and the motion passed with a voice vote.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no Topics from the Floor.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Quarter B Status Report on Executive Director Work Plan

Executive Director Risinger said this is an update on the progress of his Quarter B Work Plan and he would be happy to answer questions from the Board.

Quarter B Status Report on Departmental Goals & Objectives

Executive Director Risinger said these are updates from department heads on the status of Quarter B Departmental Goals and Objectives.

Strategic Plan/Agency Goals Update

Executive Director Risinger said that these goals are brought to the Board twice a year. Commissioner Reiner commented that they were very well presented.

Renewal of Vista 2023 Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance Plans

Director Short said the good news is this year the health insurance increase is much, much lower than last year. He said we will get an 8% reduction in the annual cost of our dental insurance with similar coverage by switching to Unum. He added that we will save the District \$12,000 by switching staff vision and life insurance to Blue Cross next year.

PARKS

Rylko Park Renovation Update

Executive Director Risinger said he wanted to give the Board an update on the plans in place for the Rylko Park Amphitheater renovation. He said we received word that we have been approved for the 3 million dollars promised from the state of Illinois. He explained that the state money does not come until the end of the project and this will impact how we proceed. Commissioner Reiner said he will advocate on the Park District's behalf in Springfield to try to get 20% upfront from the state. Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe and Superintendent of Development Mike Maloney gave a presentation to the Board on the proposed renovation. They said they also applied for a tourism grant from the state and hope they are successful in obtaining it. Commissioner Reiner complimented the team on their design of the renovation. He suggested looking into building an ice skating rink near the shelter planned at the park. Commissioner Wallace loved that the design team took public input from the Parkchester Park meetings and incorporated 2-5 year-old playground equipment into the plan for Rylko Park. Director Howe and Superintendent Maloney said more public input will be gathered for choices of playground options. Commissioner Cummins said he appreciates the way that there is still open space and the plan doesn't compromise the beauty of the surrounding area. The team is taking the plan to a Village meeting later this week to present the plan to their Planning and Zoning committee.

RECREATION

Fee Assistance Report

Executive Director Risinger said that we discussed Fee Assistance at a recent Board meeting and he wanted to give the Board a chance to review the programs in place. He said there are programs for Military Assistance, Program Fee Assistance, and Clubhouse Fee Assistance and added that staff is allowed flexibility when considering awarding assistance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Risinger said that included in the Board Packet was a congratulatory letter from Peter Murphy on the Park District being awarded the Best of the Best Partnership Award with the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago; a thank you letter from the Highland Park Community Foundation for the dance team's contribution to the victims of the mass shooting response fund; a note from a Wheeling High School science teacher thanking Director Howe for giving a presentation to an AP Environmental class; a thank you note from part-time employee, Dawn Karis, for the tree planted honoring her for her years of service to the Park District; and last, there was a blurb in the Daily Herald advertising the Park District Veterans Day event at the CAC on Friday, November 11.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Administrative Staff Meeting Report

Executive Director Risinger said that the Administrative Staff Meeting report highlights our administrative staff meetings from the month of October and he is happy to answer any questions from the Board.

Risk Manager Dani Hoefle said she brought her 99-1/2 year old grandfather to the Veterans Day event and it was very special for him and for Dani.

Deputy Director Strojinc said the camp book went live online today and registration starts in two weeks. She informed the Board that several staff have applied for the open Superintendent position and is excited for interviews which will start after Thanksgiving. She said our registration forms now ask for male/female/nonbinary and we will make sure all our forms are updated accordingly. She reported that the Village and the Park District are each making \$30,000 revenue from Buffalo Grove Days.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

President Jacobson said Veterans Day was well done as always. He said it was a highlight to meet Risk Manager Hoefle's grandfather who is the same age his father would have been. He said Senator Johnson had a victory party and it was well attended. He said the Waukegan community loves and embraces her and he thinks she'll be there for a long time.

Commissioner Cummins said he attended a Veterans Day event at his school and it was interesting to see kids embrace the event.

Vice President Bragg said she missed Veterans Day due to a work meeting commitment. She thanked Executive Director Risinger and Deputy Director Strojinc for attending the swearing-in of the new Village of Buffalo Grove police chief, Brian Budds. She reminded commissioners to submit their BDU's to IAPD for the Board Member Development Program. She also said she is working with IAPD on lining up hosting and moderators for conference. She said if commissioners are interested in serving in either capacity to let her know and she will send them an appropriate contact person.

Commissioner Wallace said she attended Once upon a Mattress and said there were understudies that worked hard and they got their time to shine by having their own show on Wednesday. She said she will be packing Thanksgiving boxes with Rotary later this week and she also attended the shredding event which was on a rainy, windy day in early November.

Commissioner Reiner said he attended the SLSF/NWSRA Celebrate Ability gala and said we had a full table and it was a great event as always. He said he attended the Veterans Day event which was well attended. He said he had some great conversations with representatives from the Village and said Senator Johnson came well-prepared and did a great job with her presentation. Executive Director Risinger added that Museum Curator Debbie Fandrei hit a home run with the presentation she gave on history repeating itself.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Reiner moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel at 7:02 pm, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and the motion passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Cummins, Bragg, Jacobson, Reiner, Wallace
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

RECONVENE BOARD WORKSHOP

Commissioner Reiner moved to reconvene the Board Workshop at 8:13 pm, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and the motion passed with a voice vote.

President Jacobson announced that the Commissioners were out of Executive Session and back in the Regular Board Meeting.

POSSIBLE ACTION TO BE TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Jacobson said that no final action was taken in the Executive Session.

ADIJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cummins moved to adjourn the Board Workshop at 8:13 pm, seconded by Vice President Bragg and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary