



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
August 14, 2023
Alcott Center – Room 24
6 pm

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

Staff Present: Executive Director Erika Strojinc, Director of Business Services and Human Resources John Short, Director of Recreation and Facilities Joe Zimmermann, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Mike Terson, 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 Cummins, Jacobson, Reiner and Wallace answered present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Illinois State Senator and former board commissioner Adriane Johnson, Linda Byron from Raymond James & Associates, Inc., former Park District employee Kim Cashmore and her wife Karen Cencula, and Recreation Supervisor and DEI Contact Jessi Hersman and her husband Darrell were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP AGENDA

Commissioner Reiner moved to approve the August 14, 2023 Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and the motion passed with a voice vote. It was noted the Park Tour planned immediately before this meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

Jessi Hersman thanked the Board, and leaders past and present. She said she knew she belonged to the Park District from a very young age when she signed up for a performing arts camp. She said she has loved working for the Park District as both a part-time and full-time employee for 22 years. She said her position at the Park District does not fit her personal life anymore but knows as she leaves that the board and incredible staff will continue to promote their love of the arts to the community of Buffalo

Grove. Kim Cashmore thanked Jessi for her time and talent and said she will be missed. She wished her the best on her next adventure. Senator Johnson said Jessi has helped make the Community Arts Center home for our community. She read a proclamation from the members of the Illinois Senate congratulating her on her service to the Buffalo Grove Park District. She also thanked her for championing diversity, equity and inclusion for the Park District. President Jacobson said he has known the Gangware family for a long time and Jessi wears her passion on her sleeve. Commissioner Reiner said Jessi is a quiet worker and has been our ambassador for people with disabilities. Commissioner Cummins said Jessica, as he knew her years ago, has made a career of belonging and wished her the best of luck in her new career. Commissioner Wallace said she is the guiding light for asking why and answering the why with thoughtfulness. Executive Director Strojinc said Jessi has a way of connecting with people that others don't. Director Zimmermann said she has laid a solid foundation at the CAC and he said staff will continue to grow what she nurtured.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Financing Plan – Linda Byron, Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

Linda Byron said she has been working with the Park District since 1989. She presented a financing update for the Buffalo Grove Park District outlining the outstanding debt the District currently has and summarized options for Alternate Revenue Bonds the District is looking get. The Park District will go for \$1.725 in General Obligation Limited Bonds for 2023. The District goal is to raise an additional \$6 million in General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) to complete long overdue capital projects around the District. Ms. Byron said Raymond James will go for \$6.5 million to make sure the District gets the amount they are looking for in order to complete the projects planned. She said the Board will conduct a BINA hearing at the September 26 Board meeting; the Board will adopt a Bond Parameters Ordinance on Monday, October 23; Raymond James will price the bonds on Wednesday, October 25; and the Bond Closing will be on Wednesday, November 15.

NWSRA 2024 Member District Annual Assessment

Commissioner Reiner said that NWSRA has changed the way they assess member districts. The changes in the calculation now include Inclusion Services from the previous year for each district. In the past inclusion services were shared among all 17 districts, but now with the new MDAA format, inclusion services are based upon each individual agency's inclusion needs. Essentially, each agency pays for what they use. The new calculation resulted in a \$34,973 increase in our annual assessment for 2024.

Board Policy Manual 8.17 Remote Attendance Policy

Executive Director Strojinc said that the Open Meetings Act has been amended to add unexpected childcare obligations to the current list of reasons that a public body member may attend a meeting remotely. The Governor signed this legislation and IAPD suggests updating the current policy to reflect this change.

Quarter A Executive Director Work Plan Update

Executive Director Strojinc said her Work Plan is updated and said she would answer any questions from the board. There were no questions asked.

Quarter A Departmental Goals and Objectives Update

There were no questions or comments on Quarter A Departmental Goals and Objectives.

PARKS

Rylko Park Amphitheater and Spray 'N Play Expansion Bid Update

Executive Director Strojinc said included in the original Rylko Park bid was the amphitheater, the Spray 'N Play expansion, the large shelter, the shipping containers for housing the Spray 'N Play offices and concessions, paving, electrical and utilities. Alternates included seat walls, playground, pour-and-play full color, decorative upgrades, and sport field irrigation. She said our budget which included the playground was \$6.1 million and the lowest bid came in at \$7.3 million, not including the playground. She said she and Director Short had a value engineering call with Upland and Legat Architects and re-aligned our priorities. She said she will have new numbers for the board at the end of September.

Rylko Park East

Executive Director Strojinc said due to the circumstances with the amphitheater and Spray 'N Play bid coming in over budget, she would like to table the Rylko Park East OSLAD grant until we get through the above-mentioned project. The board agreed with the strategy moving forward and applying for a grant one or two years from now.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Strojinc said included in the Board packet was a National Night Out announcement in the Daily Herald.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Strojinc said a new Planning and Development Manager has been hired and her name is Laurie Hoffman. She is an architect, had a great interview, and amazing references. She has experience with the VA and school districts. She will be on-boarded and we will revise the three-year capital project work plan. Executive Strojinc said she was contacted by a grant manager from Representative Didech's office who said the money is triggered for release. She said we got through the DIA with the Village for Prairie Grove Park and attended the pre-construction meeting with Hacienda and Upland on Friday. Construction will begin on September 28 and Kids Around the World will be coming to remove the playground for recycling. She said the Village is coming up with a universal IGA for future projects which will trump the DIA for the Park District. She asked the board if they would like to attend the Best of the Best Awards Gala at Chevy Chase on Friday, October 20. She said she and Director Short met with Wintrust Bank to possibly move the Park District's banking. She said D102 reached out and asked about expanding their footprint at Veterans Park and she will discuss with Director Howe when he returns from bereavement leave. She told the board there are seven board vacancy applicants. The board agreed they will decide who to interview at the next board meeting and hold interviews Monday and Tuesday, September 18 and 19.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

President Jacobson said he attended the wake for Director Howe's father and sends his sincerest condolences to Tim and his family. He said he thinks it is important to be able to ask follow-up questions to the script when they interview potential board members.

Commissioner Wallace agreed with President Jacobson and said having a script to conduct board vacancy interviews allows you to expand asking questions.

Commissioner Reiner thanked Commissioner Wallace for attending the SLSF golf outing even though she is not a golfer. He asked staff to consider recognizing Recreation Supervisor Jessi Hersman in some way at the Community Arts Center. Executive Director Strojinc said staff is holding a send-off for her at Sal and Tony's at 4 pm tomorrow.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.

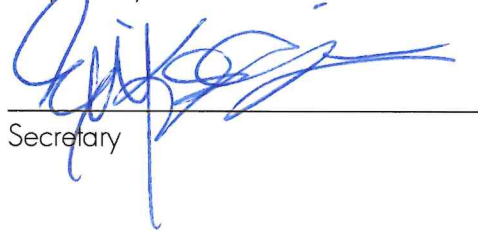
NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cummins moved to adjourn the Workshop at 8:18 pm, seconded by Commissioner Wallace and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Secretary