



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
Alcott Center - Room 24
September 26, 2023

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, 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 6:04 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Cummins, Jacobson, Reiner and Wallace answered present.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP AGENDA

Commissioner Wallace moved to approve the September 26, 2023 Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Reiner and the motion passed with a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Laurie Hoffman introduced herself. She said she is the new Planning and Development Manager for the Buffalo Grove Park District. Rick and Monica Hirschhaut were in attendance.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

Rick Hirschhaut said he and his wife, Monica, are 22 year residents of Buffalo Grove and he is an avid user of the Golf Dome. He passed out a presentation to the commissioners proposing revenue opportunities for the Golf Dome and said he wants to make it the best it can be. He suggested booking tee-times electronically and proposed raising the price for a ½ hour reservation by \$1 for non-residents and lowering it by \$1 for residents who already pay taxes. He said he thinks there is an opportunity to lengthen the time the facility is open by an hour a day and to keep the facility open for two more weeks in the spring. He also suggested putting together an advisory committee made up of users of the facility.

The Board thanked Mr. Hirschhaut for coming and for his valuable input and said staff will take his suggestions into consideration.

STAFF RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Resolution 23-9-1 Commending Steven Houde on his Retirement after 37 Years of Service

Steven was not in attendance to receive the resolution but it is included in the minutes for the record:

WHEREAS, Steve Houde has been employed with the Park District since April 28, 1986 (a time when a lot of current staff were not yet born). He was hired as a Park Laborer, promoted to Crew Chief in 1993, and then promoted to Park Foreman in 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Park Commissioners appreciates Steve's dedicated service that has allowed the District to continue to be recognized as an Illinois Distinguished Leisure Service Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Grove Board of Commissioners and the residents of Buffalo Grove have appreciated his dedicated service that allowed the District to grow during his career with us; and

WHEREAS, some of Steve's accomplishments over the years touched all of the District's parks and facilities. Steve was instrumental in creating a standard of how beautiful a park should look in Buffalo Grove. Steve and his crew spent time mowing, mulching, trimming and beautifying the north side of Buffalo Grove. He was in charge of beautifying all facilities. He redeveloped the landscaping at the Spray 'N Play which incorporated a mixture of rock, perennial, and annual landscaping. His leadership shined during winters when he and his crew were on call for snow removal. As most people were still sleeping, Steve was getting yelled at by Fitness Center members for getting in their way as he removed snow. He was the Park District liaison to the Buffalo Garden Club which volunteered to help plant flower beds every year. They loved Steve and what he did for them; and

WHEREAS, Steve was recognized by PDRMA for "Stretching with Steve," a program of morning stretching that he led in the parks department. Staff enjoyed his conversation and listening to Miley Cyrus' "Wrecking Ball" in the background. Another project Steve assisted in was the creation of the buildings in Safety Town. Steve built a police and fire station, as well as a working car that is still used to this day! Recently, Steve renovated and cleaned up the bocce ball court at Mike Rylko Park and conducted an assessment of all the athletic courts in the park system; and

WHEREAS, the success of the District is dependent upon employees like Steve, who take pride in the Buffalo Grove Park District and its accomplishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED by the President and Board of Park Commissioners of the Buffalo Grove Park District, Cook and Lake Counties, Illinois as follows:

1. That Steve is commended on behalf of the citizens of Buffalo Grove for his distinguished 37-year career at the Buffalo Grove Park District.
2. That Steve fills his leisure time with family and friends for many years.
3. That this resolution be presented to Steve with best wishes in his retirement.

DATED AT BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS THIS 26th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2023.

FINANCE

September Warrant 2023

There was no discussion on the September Warrant 2023.

August 2023 Financial Statement

Vice President Cummins thanked Director Short for adding last year's month-to-month comparable on all reports.

August 2023 Year to Date Statement

There were comments on the 2023 Year-to-Date Statement.

September Refunds

President Jacobson asked about the Cyclones swim team refund and Executive Director Strojinc asked Director Zimmermann to find out exactly what it was from.

Board Travel and Conference Expense

There were no comments on the Board Travel and Conference Expense.

PARKS

Rylko Park Phase I Amphitheater and Shelter Bid Recommendation

Executive Director Strojinc said Boller Construction was the winning bidder for the Rylko Park Phase I Amphitheater and Shelter bid and it was better than anticipated. She said reference checks were conducted and came back satisfactory. She also said she pushed through the DIA with the Village and they agreed to help the Park District with restoration because it will be a quick turnaround before BG Days next year. President Jacobson said Boller Construction is out of Waukegan and coincidentally they are from Senator Johnson's district office who secured funding for this project in Springfield. Commissioner Reiner confirmed that the Board officially rejected the first bids that we received for this project in July. Executive Director Strojinc said we are looking at the entire scope of the project and will go out to bid for Phase II which will expand the Spray 'N Play in January. Commissioner Reiner asked if staff is going for an OSLAD for Spray 'N Play and Executive Director Strojinc said we are not going for an OSLAD at this time but will consider it when bidding out Rylko Park East.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

President Jacobson said he was at Willow Stream Park on Saturday and he didn't realize the extent the parking lot is under construction. He said he had family in town for the Huck Finn Fishing Derby and suggested providing fishing poles for the derby in the future.

Commissioner Wallace said the BG Singers concerts are this coming weekend. She said the Ukulele Club project is really doing very well and has brought great publicity to our Park District.

Commissioner Reiner thanked staff for making arrangements for commissioners to attend NRPA. He thanked Director Short for helping him get up to speed on a board meeting he missed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.


NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Reiner moved to adjourn the Workshop at 6:39 pm, seconded by Vice President Cummins and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Secretary