



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
530 Bernard Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL
Room 24
December 11, 2023

Commissioners Present: Steve Cummins, Scott Jacobson, Kim Page, 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, Athletic Fields Specialist Connor McWard, and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland.

Attorney David Bloomberg was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

President Jacobson called the Workshop to order at 6:25 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Cummins, Jacobson, Page, Reiner and Wallace answered present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Buffalo Grove residents Deepthi Chiruvuri, and Adhya and Rajesh Garlapati were in attendance. Adhya, Miss Lake County, came to thank the board for the support the board has shown her. She said she loves the parks and events the Park District offers. She brought everyone in the room homemade candles with pieces of nature from our parks in each candle. Adhya's mother, Deepthi said she appreciates the staff of the Park District who are encouraging and responsive. She said Adhya has planted 19 trees in Reiner Park. President Jacobson said Adhya is welcome to come back to a board meeting anytime.

APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

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

PRESENTATION OF STAFF RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Resolution 23-12-1 Commending Alyson Stanczak on 20 Years of Service to the Buffalo Grove Park District

Vice President Cummins said that Aly was unable to attend the meeting tonight and the resolution will be approved later in the board meeting and presented to her at the January Full-Time Staff Meeting.

**RESOLUTION 23-12-1
COMMENDING ALYSON STANCZAK ON
20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Alyson Stanczak was first employed by the Buffalo Grove Park District as a part-time camp counselor, then hired as a full-time Performing Arts Assistant in 2003, promoted to Recreation Supervisor in 2005, and promoted to Recreation Manager in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Aly's creativity was on full display during the COVID-19 pandemic. She taught online dance classes through Zoom, ensuring students had an outlet to continue dancing and connect with friends. She even offered an online musical, which was unheard of at the time; and

WHEREAS, Aly's true colors shined after the tragic events at Highland Park's 4th of July parade. Aly hosted the *Making Moves for Highland Park* dance benefit. The show featured performances from dance companies across Illinois and raised over \$3,000, with all proceeds donated to the Highland Park Community Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Aly's has built a community within the dance program. Aly's ability to connect with compassion and a caring nature is one of the many reasons the dance program has grown year after year. Aly's exceptional customer service with parents has fostered a great group of volunteers eager to help whenever needed; and

WHEREAS, Aly's innovation in fundraising led her to implement a yearly Arts & Craft Fair; the money raised provides production costumes for each company member and offsets the cost of company jackets; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Park District and Community Arts Center is dependent upon employees like Aly who have taken pride in the Buffalo Grove Park District and its accomplishments.

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

1. That Alyson Stanczak is commended on behalf of the citizens of Buffalo Grove for her distinguished career at the Buffalo Grove Park District.
2. That this resolution be presented to Alyson with best wishes in the future.

DATED AT BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS this 11th day of December 2023.

FINANCE

December 2023 Warrant

Director Short said we are starting to spend some of the capital money and also have transferred money to Wintrust where the interest rate is more favorable.

November Financial Statement

Director Short said things are looking good and the some of the Cook County money came in December 1.

November Year to Date Statement

There were no comments or questions on the November Year to Date Statement.

December Refunds

Director Short said refunds were relatively small due to the short turn-around time between board meetings.

Tax Levy Ordinance 23-12-1

Commissioner Wallace said the Tax Levy Ordinance 23-12-1 was discussed at length during the Public Hearing.

IMRF Rate Notice

Director Short said the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Contribution Rate for calendar year 2024 went up two basis points which is less than a .2% increase. He expects it to go up more next year due to several retirements.

Bond Issuance Post Compliance Report

Director Short said we received the money from the bond sale on November 15. He said we don't have the final transcript yet, but will soon, and then he said he will get the bond issue documents filed with the counties.

Eco-Clean Janitorial Services Bid Extension – Fitness Center

Vice President Cummins said it is nice to see there is no increase and that Eco-Clean does a nice job cleaning.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Resolution 23-12—2 Alcott Temporary Easement

Executive Director Strojinc said originally this was a verbal agreement but because of the federal funds tied to the Bernard Drive project, the Village needs to follow Illinois Department of Transportation's authoritative process across the board. This includes a certified resolution, a temporary construction easement, and affidavit of title, and a receipt of donation.

Quarters CD Executive Director Work Plan

Executive Director Strojinc said if a QAB goal is in progress she forwarded it into her QCD G&O's and has asked staff to do the same.

Quarters CD Departmental Goals and Objectives

There were no further comments on Quarters CD Departmental Goals and Objectives.

PARKS

ADA Transition Plan

Connor McWard, Parks Specialist, the newest full-time staff hire introduced himself. He said he was hired in September and said the environment at the Park District is great. He said he played baseball at Emmerich Park as a kid growing up. Formerly, he said he traveled the country as a field service technician for wide-format printers.

Director Howe said Mark Trieglaff, founder of ACTServices, Inc., presented an ADA Transition Plan for the Park District to the board back in 2018. He said every 5 years, per Distinguished Agency, we are required to update the board. Director Howe discussed accessibility barriers and required upgrades. He talked about annual maintenance of accessibility issues, parks, and facilities ADA upgrades. He shared photos of the ADA improvements the Park District has completed over the past five years and plans for ADA compliance projects in the future.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

President Jacobson mentioned the thank you note for the food donated to the Vernon Township Food Pantry in correspondence from his Turkey Bowl event held annually on Thanksgiving Day.

Commissioner Wallace said she attended the seed collecting event and the volunteers processed 150 pounds of seeds which will be divided by the Park District and the Village. She said on a personal note, her kids were cast in *Grease!*

Commissioner Cummins said he wished he could have attended the seed collecting event but couldn't due to a previous commitment. He gave kudos to the Environmental Action Team on their successful collection.

Commissioner Page said she, too, attended the seed collecting event and it was very educational. She said she and her kids attended the Holiday Shoppe and talked to two families in attendance; one family from Mount Prospect and another from Long Grove. She was surprised it had such a wide draw of people from other communities.

Commissioner Reiner said he has been attending fundraisers and holiday parties of state legislators and networking for the Park District. He said he will be back in Springfield when the legislation session starts up again in late January. He said we should be getting our grants in the spring. He said former Executive Director Mike Rylko has been under the weather in Arizona but on the mend.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Liaison Positions

President Jacobson said he spoke with Commissioner Page earlier today and appointed her to join Commissioner Wallace as liaison to the FOP Foundation and join Commissioner Cummins as liaison to the Environmental Action Team.

NEW BUSINESS

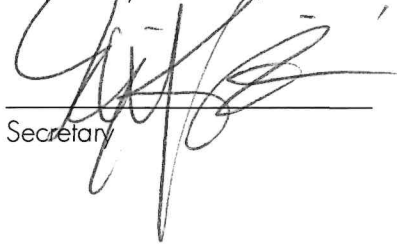
2024 Board Meeting Dates

Executive Director Strojinc said in 2024 there are three months that there will only be one board meeting; June, September, and December. She said staff will be verbally reporting those months and there will not be operational reports in the board packet.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Cummins moved to adjourn the Workshop at 7:14 pm, seconded by Commissioner Wallace and the motion passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mike Rylko', written over a horizontal line.

Secretary