

**MINUTES OF THE 2,367th
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD
MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS
AND OFFICERS OF THE WINNETKA
PARK DISTRICT, WINNETKA, IL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020**

President Archambault called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mickey Archambault, Teresa Claybrook, Christina Codo, Warren James, Colleen Knupp, Eric Lussen, John Peterson

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: John Muno, Executive Director; John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation; Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance; Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager; and Lara Kuechel, Executive Assistant.

Audience Present: Don Smith, Todd Marver, Anne Wilder, Jan Bowden, Jaime Garregus, Glad Hales, Mike Hales, Rick Prohov, Jen Crone, Chris Crone, Karen Kennedy, Sue McDonald, Lisa Kaestle, Karen Essig, Steve Huels, Brad McLane, Bob Sutter, V. Apatoff, John Thomas, Ron White (not signed in) Joan Zietlow, Scarlett (minor – not signed in)

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

None

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

Karen Kennedy shared her interest in the restoration of the lakefront

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Vice President Peterson to combine the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2020 with a correction that members present included Commissioners James and Lussen and the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2020. Commissioner Claybrook seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, Claybrook, James, Knupp, Lussen, Peterson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Vice President Peterson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. Passed by a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:**FY2020 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #571**

Vice President Peterson made a motion to approve the FY2020 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #571 as presented. Commissioner Claybrook seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen, Peterson

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Stormwater – Village of Winnetka

President Archambault acknowledged the collective work with the Village of Winnetka and spoke of the commitment to work together in the spirit of the first plank set forth by the Caucus. He further acknowledged Warren James for his vision to use the golf course to address the stormwater problem. He welcomed Chris Rintz, Village President, Steve Saunders Director of Public Works/Village Engineer, Robert Bahan, Village Manager, Mike Waldron of Strand Associates and Rick Jacobson from Jacobson Golf Course Design.

Chris Rintz, Village of Winnetka Board President led off the presentation and offered recognition to the Board and gave special recognition to Mickey Archambault and Warren James for their efforts to move the project forward and noted that it was an investment for taxpayers. He then provided a historical perspective and commented that flooding is not new to the Village. Steve Saunders was introduced and provided detailed and technical information regarding the project layout. Direction to find solutions to flooding began in 2015 with the hiring of Strand & Assoc. In 2016 they adopted a vision to address stormwater through a cooperative approach with several agencies, including the Cook County Forest Preserve. Other open areas were explored to hold stormwater, including: Duke Childs Field, Crow Island, the Skokie Playfields complex and the par 3 and 18 hole Winnetka Golf Club courses. Besides stormwater management, some of the key benefits allow the Park District to use stormwater as a resource for irrigation and the excess landfill will be distributed in the use of re-contouring the golf course to improve drainage. Improved playability of the fields will also be helpful at Little Duke and will allow for structural sports surfaces (i.e. an ice rink) for future use. Any structures to be built in the future will require permitting through the Village and the Water Reclamation District; noting that the Village has committed to act as a co-applicant. The impact of flooding for 2, 5 & 10 year events was shown and said that there will be significant improvements, particularly to the back 9 holes of the golf course. There are four construction windows with no way to avoid impacting a projection of two golf seasons, possibly beginning in July of 2020.

The presentation ended with a questions/answer session. Commissioner Claybrook inquired about keeping standing water moving, Steve Saunders indicated that water depth will be important to keeping the water healthy. Commissioner Knupp asked for clarification regarding building recreation amenities on Little Duke and it was noted that no buildings would be able to be constructed. Audience members asked about use of the golf course and President Archambault suggested that area courses would be accommodating to Winnetka golfers during course closure. Another audience member inquired about monitoring weather and Steve Saunders said that they are looking at the use of forecasting data. Resident John Thomas

questioned making up lost revenues during golf course closures to which President Archambault indicated that they were addressed and there is no way to know how many people may be potentially lost in the transition. Resident Karen Kennedy questioned if this plan is only to help the Park District or if it will benefit residents on the West end of Winnetka and be able to cross Hibbard Rd. One audience member was very grateful to the Village and Park District for taking the project on noting that it was “government at its best”. Ron White noted that Indian Hill could benefit from a similar system. Resident, Mike Hales questioned when the residents would be included in the Crow Island conveyance plan; Chris Rintz replied and referenced the IGA with District 36. Construction at Crow Island will have to be addressed at a different time as it cannot take place without first approving the plan. Not utilizing Crow Island would impact residents South of Willow. President Archambault acknowledged the “superb effort” of those who have participated in the planning.

OLD BUSINESS

Lakefront 2030 – update

John Shea reported that a permit was going to be submitted to the IDNR and Army corps of Engineers for a breakwater system that will not include ramps, etc. He presented photos that showed further damage to Lloyd Beach. Commissioner Claybrook questioned the timing of claim submissions; PDRMA would like claims submitted as damage happens. The boathouse appears to be intact, but no structural engineering inspection has taken place. Commissioner Lussen and Claybrook questioned liability for vessels that are left behind. Superintendent Shea replied that we have been notifying rack holders and boat owners all along regarding conditions. He further noted dramatic changes in sand conditions. Also being examined are alternative solutions for summer 2020. There is no damage at Tower and no apparent immediate danger at Centennial Beach. A pre-construction meeting for the Tower staircase will be taking place.

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director John Munro mentioned the Legislators Breakfast to take place in Glenview in February. Some discussion will take place with other Park Districts experiencing lakefront problems. The IPRA State Park District Conference is coming up, with staff and Vice President Peterson attending. Executive Director Munro said further that he and John Shea will meet to re-initiate facility use Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) discussions with D36 that began in 2019. Commissioner Claybrook suggested that we could do more to collaborate and increase our offerings for after school activities.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Vice President Peterson reported that there was one possible candidate to take departing Parks Foundation President, Steve Hole’s place, but it is too soon to confirm that.

Commissioner Codo said that there is a slower enrollment decline per a new demographer for New Trier. Wilmette reports that 80% of households with children there do not attend public school.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

Karen Kennedy suggested using more beach grasses and making repairs from the lakeshore up, not the bluff down.

Ron White – cited the 1923 Bluff Protection Plan that called for a harbor with the Dutch System, suggested an off-shore barrier for protection.

Rick Prohov said that the Board should focus attention and energy on financial and intellectual pursuits and not build the parking lot.

Scarlett remarked that we should not remove trees and get rid of the park area at Tower Road Beach.

Chris Rintz commended Scarlett's environmental interests, Wall-Streeter 24/7 Winnetka was designated as the 2nd most desirable place to live in the country.

A resident encouraged everyone to support the stormwater IGA

STAFF UPDATES

Marketing Brand Manager, Kelsey Raftery – the spring brochure will be out next week

Superintendent of Finance, Christine Berman – expressed thanks for approving the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance, budget booklets were distributed to Board members and 3 additional pieces of information were required of the candidates for financial advisor services so a recommendation can be expected in February. A preliminary audit is being conducted for 2019.

Superintendent of Recreation, John Shea – the middle school ski trip is full and will be held Friday, January 17th. Work on dismantling racks at the lakefront and gearing up for summer.

Executive Assistant, Lara Kuechel – no report

CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Peterson made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss the purchase or lease of property. Commissioner Claybrook seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen, Peterson

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:30p.m. Commissioner Claybrook made a motion to return to Open Session.

Vice President Peterson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

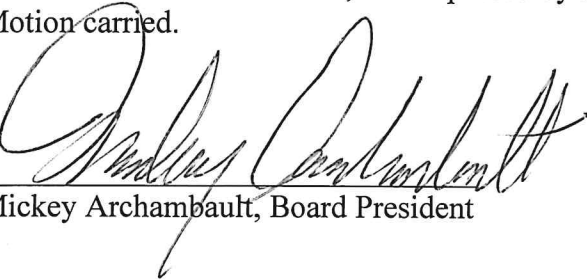
Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen, Peterson

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion, which passed by a voice vote.
Motion carried.



Mickey Archambault, Board President



John Muno, Board Secretary