

**MINUTES OF THE 2,389th
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD
MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND OFFICERS
OF THE WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT, WINNETKA, IL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21 2021**

President James called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mickey Archambault, Christina Codo, Warren James, Eric Lussen, Cynthia Rapp, Colleen Root

Commissioners Absent: David Seaman

Staff Present: John Peterson, Executive Director; Costa Kutulas, Director of Parks and Maintenance; Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance; Kyle Berg, Superintendent of Recreation; Molly Krohe, Marketing/Brand Manager; Libby Baker, Office Associate; Ania Cramer, Community Outreach/Business Development; Paul Schwartz, Ice/Paddle Manager; Pat Fragassi, Tennis Manager

Audience Present: Don Smith, Connie Henry-League of Women Voters

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to allow Commissioner Root to participate by remote means. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen

Nays: None

Motion carried

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to approve the September 2021 Financials. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion. Superintendent Berman reported the highlights of the September financials, noting a net income of \$4.5m. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to approve the vouchers for October 21, 2021 for \$582,069.87. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

Commissioner Rapp arrived at 6:09

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consent agenda to approve:

- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2021
- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021
- Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2021
- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2021
- Special Meeting Minutes of September 30, 2021

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion. President James requested the September 9 committee and closed session minutes, and the September 22 closed session minutes be removed from the consent agenda so they could be discussed. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Rapp, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

Commissioner James proposed his corrections to the minutes. Commissioner Archambault made a motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021 as amended. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Rapp, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

COMMUNICATIONS

None

STAFF UPDATES

Ania Cramer, Community Outreach/Business Development – reported her efforts for the

Winnetka Parks Foundation (WPF) annual appeal letter. Dick's Sporting Goods is sponsoring a "Gear Up" event. Coupons were distributed.

Molly Krohe, Marketing/Brand Manager – reported the new signage for the National Grill at the golf clubhouse. Manager Krohe and her assistant will be participating in a free, virtual Adobe training conference.

Kyle Berg, Superintendent of Recreation – reported upcoming special events and winter activities. Plans are underway for the joint summer program being funded from proceeds of the celebrity kickball tournament. The park district is cooperating with the village and Chamber on a "Small Business Saturday" scavenger hunt to promote families getting outside and visiting local businesses.

Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance – announced her last day with the park district would be Friday, October 29. She thanked the board for their support.

Libby Baker, Office Associate – reported the draft 2022 board meeting schedule, noting proposed changes to the regular schedule. The IAPD Legal Symposium will be held November 4, 2021. Interested board members should contact Libby.

Pat Fragassi, Tennis Manager – reported the high school season is almost complete. Winter program registration will begin soon.

Paul Schwartz, Ice/Paddle Manager – reported the start of the paddle season. Ice staff is trying to create new programming to encourage new participants.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Phase 1 Paddle Court Expansion

The affiliate agreement is being finalized, with a purposeful adjustment from a one-year agreement to three years. Director Kutulas and staff continue to work to ensure all required permits and other considerations are achieved for construction of the additional paddle courts. Negotiations with WPTC continue to finalize the terms and conditions of the construction agreement.

Dog Beach/Dog Park Advisory Committee

Commissioners Root and Archambault reported they toured the Tower Rd. site and agree it would be a nice substitute for a dog beach. They are seeking guidance from IAPD for rules and regulations regarding dog beaches, specifically ones near playgrounds. Commissioner Archambault stressed the importance of informing candidates of the committee's purpose. Commissioners Root and Archambault will develop the objectives and present a draft to the board for approval. The next step is to schedule interviews.

STAFF UPDATES - continued

Costa Kutulas, Director of Parks & Maintenance – reported the Jacobson agreement is being discussed and will be reviewed by our attorney. Stormwater work continues. Tree removal work at Crow Island Woods will be completed in November. The scope of work will be communicated through Crow Island School and the park district website.

NEW BUSINESS

5-year Capital Projects

Superintendent Berman presented a high-level overview of the 2022-2026 Long Range Plan. Highlights included expenses related to the lakefront, and the potential shortfall of \$4.9m. The proposed projects for each fund were reviewed.

Commissioner Rapp suggested funding for the dog beach and dog park be included in the long range plan. She also inquired about the playground replacement strategy, and how the need for replacement is determined. Director Kutulas explained the guidelines and standards used to determine the need for replacement, noting the replacement of the playgrounds at Nick Corwin and Happ Road have already been postponed several times. Following discussion, it was determined funding would be added for a dog beach and dog park, and park improvements would be reassessed. Director Kutulas added the Dwyer Park work was more than a playground replacement; it was a full park masterplan with a considerably higher cost.

Truth in Taxation Resolution

Superintendent Berman explained the Truth in Taxation Resolution would be presented for approval at the November meeting and the Tax Levy would be presented in December.

Winnetka Parks Foundation

Office Associate Baker gave an update on the WPF meeting. Staff was pleased with the attendance and enthusiasm of the members. Ways to encourage participation and continue the momentum are being explored. Additional members are being recruited and the officer roles will be filled shortly, with the goal of eventually shifting some of the responsibilities to the foundation members from the staff.

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR

The board viewed a video created to build enthusiasm around the Elder+Centennial development. The video will be linked on the park district website.

Executive Director Peterson commented on the IAPD Legal Symposium and the IAPD/IPRA annual conference held January 27-29, 2022. Superintendent Berg and Manager Krohe will represent the park district tent at the farmer's market. At a recent NSSRA board meeting it was determined there would be no increase to the member agency contribution

and the capital contribution for the new building is being eliminated. Proceeds from the sale of the former building will be distributed on a pro rata basis to the member agencies. Commissioner Codo was recognized for her recent meeting with representatives of Wintrust to discuss options for financing capital projects.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

School District 36 - Commissioner Rapp reported the strategic plan was approved by the school board. School district representatives continue to engage with the park district regarding facilities. Commissioner James clarified the park district board previously informed the school district the park district would not provide capital funding for the school's gym.

Commissioner Archambault inquired about a village representative for the Dog Beach/Dog Park Advisory Committee. Commissioner James said he would follow up with the village. Superintendent Berg volunteered to represent staff on the committee.

Office Associate Baker announced the Parks Caucus Chair would attend the November committee meeting to present the Caucus planks.

The board discussed the Village 2040 open houses led by The Lakota Group.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

None

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to go into closed session at 7:30 p.m., pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1), (5), (6), and (21) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body, and minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes. Commissioner Rapp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Rapp, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to return to open session at 7:56 p.m. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Rapp, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to approve the closed session minutes of September 9 and September 22, 2021 as amended. Commissioner Rapp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Codo, James, Lussen, Rapp, Root

Nays: None

Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Commissioner Rapp seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried

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

John Peterson, Board Secretary

A handwritten date 'November 18, 2021' in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Date Approved