

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL BOARD
MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS
AND OFFICERS OF THE WINNETKA
PARK DISTRICT, WINNETKA, IL
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016**

Vice-President Ian Larkin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Commissioners present: Mickey Archambault, Teresa Claybrook, Gerri Kahnweiler, Ian Larkin, John Peterson and John Thomas. Commissioner absent: Brad McLane. Staff present: Robert Smith, Executive Director; Bob Farmer, Chief Financial Officer; John Muno, Superintendent of Facilities; Mary Cherveney, Communication/Marketing Manager; John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation; Kevin Rutherford, Recreation Maintenance Coordinator and Libby Baker, Administrative Manager/Safety Coordinator. Visitors: Chuck Balling, GovHR, Kristen Leahy, Winnetka Youth Organization and Sara White, The Lakota Group. See attendance list for additional names.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lakefront Master Plan Draft Report

The final draft of the Lakefront Master Plan was discussed. Director Smith reminded the Board to review the plan and forward any questions to him or Scott Freres. The Executive Summary of the report is now on the website and gives a concise overview of the plan. The final document will be presented to the Park Board for approval at the February 25 meeting.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Balling reviewed the proposed agenda for the Board planning workshop. He stressed that it is important for the Board to be looking at big initiatives; things that differentiate the Winnetka Park District from other park districts. A date still needs to be determined for the workshop. Commissioners Archambault and Thomas were assigned to the Strategic Planning Executive Steering Committee that will provide updates and reports to the entire Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Tennis Court Renovations

The District has received a generous donation of \$310,000 from the Theodore Eckert Foundation towards the basic reconstruction of outdoor tennis courts 8-12. Staff has engaged the Lakota Group to assist with the site design and Gewalt Hamilton to assist with the engineering aspects of the project.

Winnetka Youth Organization

Director Smith introduced Kristen Leahy, Executive Director of the Winnetka Youth Organization (WYO). Ms. Leahy gave an overview of the services that the WYO provides to the teens in the community. Ms. Leahy answered questions and shared her vision for future growth opportunities of the organization. She thanked the Board and staff for the financial contributions and partnership.

Continued minutes of the
Special Board Meeting
February 11, 2016

Lakefront Advisory Committee Reception

Upon final approval of the Lakefront Master Plan, staff would like to host a celebratory reception for the members of the committee and the Park Board. Once a date is selected an invitation will be sent.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

Vice-President Larkin addressed the audience and opened the floor for visitor comments.

Krisia Miller requested an explanation of what will happen with the Lakefront Master Plan at the February 25 meeting. She asked for clarification on some of the plans outlined in the Master Plan that are noted differently in the Executive Summary. Ms. Miller expressed her concerns about many of the proposed initiatives in the plan. Ms. Miller was encouraged to put her concerns in writing and forward to Director Smith.

Mike Miller addressed the Board and inquired: is the Lakefront Master Plan intended for Village of Winnetka residents, why we are doing this, and who is going to pay for this? He is looking forward to additional opportunities for the public's voices to be heard.

Zosia Schur asked why she wasn't informed of this meeting. Commissioner Larkin explained that email notifications are not sent for committee and regular board meetings. Ms. Zosia asked for an explanation of the proposed storage at Lloyd Beach. She expressed her opinion that she does not feel that the Park District should be in the business of providing boat storage.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Financial Officer Bob Farmer distributed to each Board member a copy of the preliminary 2016 budget. He asked the Board to provide their comments and corrections by February 18. All changes will be incorporated into the final budget that will be presented for approval at the February 25 Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. to discuss:

- To consider information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2(c) (1)

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Archambault and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Kahnweiler, Larkin, Peterson and Thomas. Nays: None. Absent: McLane. **Motion carried.**

Continued minutes from the
Special Board meeting
February 11, 2016

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION/ACTION

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to return to open session at 7:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kahnweiler and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Kahnweiler, Larkin, Peterson and Thomas. Nays: None. Absent: McLane. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Archambault made a motion to change primary legal counsel from Tressler LLC of Chicago, Illinois to Robbins Schwartz of Chicago, Illinois with the assignment of Steve Adams as lead attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Archambault Claybrook, Kahnweiler, Larkin, Peterson and Thomas. Nays: None. Absent: McLane. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:25 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Archambault and passed by a voice vote. **Motion carried.**

Brad McLane, Board President

Robert Smith, Board Secretary