

**WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 | 6:00 P.M.
VIA ZOOM**

President Archambault called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mickey Archambault, Teresa Claybrook, Christina Codo, Warren James, Eric Lussen, David Seaman

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff present in the Winnetka Park District Administrative Office with observance of social distancing practices and via Zoom videoconference: John Peterson, Executive Director; Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance; John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation; Libby Baker, Office Associate

Staff present via Zoom videoconference: Costa Kutulas, Director of Parks and Maintenance; Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager

Audience Present via Zoom videoconference: Don Smith, Cynthia Rapp-Hopkins

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Peterson reported on an article published in the Winnetka Historical Society Gazette highlighting beach activities dating back to the early 1900's.

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lakefront Master Plan Update

Director Kutulas reported the work at Tower Rd. Beach is substantially complete and the fence should come down the week of March 22. Staff will schedule a date for a ribbon cutting of the Tower stairs. Director Kutulas reviewed the work currently

underway at Lloyd, and the work still to be completed for the grand opening in May. Staff is working diligently through the plans for Elder/Centennial with hopes to obtain the necessary permits. Manager Raftery shared the drone footage of the Lloyd project and Commissioner James shared current photos of the beach. The committee discussed current water levels and projections.

Fenced-in Boat Storage Plan

Superintendent Shea reported on the ten new storage space holders, noting all will receive a tour of the facility. Superintendent Berman reported all revenue has been collected from the auction and lottery sales, along with money from the annual license, storage and services fees, for a total of \$339,889.24. In response to a question from Commissioner Codo, Superintendent Shea explained the money received in futures years from these ten individuals will only be the annual rental fees. Commissioner James added the staff will re-lottery the current storage space with a one-year duration; the lottery winner will win a storage space with a 3-year duration. Commissioner James noted the program will arrive at a point where each year (a) one storage space will be up for bid (7-year duration); and (b) one storage space will be available for a lottery (3-year duration).

Executive Director Peterson noted the money received would be set aside in the capital improvement portion of the Recreation fund, specifically to achieve additional improvements for the boat launch.

Naming Rights

Executive Director Peterson commented on his connection with a resident who has expressed interest in Lloyd Beach, specifically the boat launch. There is an opportunity to provide naming rights for the launch. Executive Director Peterson explained the proposed agreement and payment terms. The Board expressed support for the idea. Staff will continue the dialogue with the resident and bring a recommendation to the Board in March for approval.

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Peterson reported on a presentation made with Manager Schwartz to the Winnetka Hockey Club for consideration of capital funding towards the outdoor rink. Staff will follow up with phone calls to the leaders of the club.

The construction of two additional platform tennis courts, to be paid for by the platform tennis group, is still under consideration.

Ania Cramer, the new Business Development Manager, is already reviewing information to familiarize herself with the park district, in preparation for her April 12 start date.

Dialogue continues on a 20-year license agreement for beach access on the north side of the north breakwater, in exchange for a \$500k donation.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Executive Director Peterson reported revisions to the Winnetka Parks Foundation by-laws and mission statement are complete. Control of the Foundation website is being transferred to the park district. The next step is to identify board members.

President Archambault reported he continues to attend Village council meetings. Under consideration is a resolution to extend the time frame for homeowners to obtain a demolition permit. The Village's golf course architect is working to finalize topography plans with Strand Associates. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

Commissioner Claybrook reported she spoke with several potential individuals to fill the board vacancy, and continues to pursue the right candidate.

STAFF UPDATES

Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager – reported the map and navigation structure of the homepage of the new website have been finalized. The next step is the design of the homepage, which should be done in April.

Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance – reported staff applied for and received \$5,000 in COVID relief funding from Cook County. Staff met with representatives from Piper Sandler to discuss options for the 2011 debt certificates callable December 2021. Work is progressing with the audit.

Libby Baker, Office Associate – reported a resolution designating a new Freedom of Information Act officer would be presented for approval at the March board meeting. The resolution is being reviewed for accuracy.

John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation – reported current camp registration numbers are higher than last year's numbers at this time. Staff secured additional classroom space from the schools for camp, and collaboration with the schools continues to secure additional outdoor space. The district will host a Leprechaun

Carnival at Indian Hill Park and a comedy show at the Tennis Center March 20. Registration numbers for spring are strong, with many new programs being offered.

Discussion followed regarding camp fees, registration numbers and COVID restrictions. Plans for Memorial Day and 4th of July also were discussed. It is likely only a ceremony will be held for Memorial Day. Staff will meet with Village staff in early April with hopes a decision can be reached for Memorial Day and plans can be started for 4th of July.

Costa Kutulas, Director of Parks and Maintenance – reported staff is working on the tennis lighting project, and developing bid documents for tennis court color coating and driving range netting. Staff also is working with the Village on a grant opportunity to obtain funds for master planning for the Green Bay Trail. Ev Swenson has been hired to fill a full-time vacancy. Ev has worked for the park district for several years in various roles, and will be a great addition to the Parks team.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Claybrook made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act, for the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, Section 2(c)(6) for the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body, and Section 2(c)(1) for personnel. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Lussen, Seaman

Nays: None.

Motion carried

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Lussen made a motion at 7:43 p.m. to return to open session. Commissioner Claybrook seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Lussen, Seaman

Nays: None

Motion carried


ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Claybrook made a motion at 7:43 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Lussen, Seaman

Nays: None

Motion carried



John Peterson, Board Secretary

APPROVED APRIL 22, 2021