

**WINNETKA PARK DISTRICT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020 | 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, Colleen Knupp, Eric Lussen, David Seaman.

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff present in the Winnetka Park District Administrative Office with observance of social distancing practices: John Peterson, Executive Director; Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance; Lara Kuechel, Executive Assistant; Costa Kutulas, Superintendent of Parks; Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager; Paul Schwartz, Ice Arena Manager; John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation

Audience Present via Zoom videoconference: Steven Adams, Cal Bernstein, Amy James, Don Smith, Teresa Tarling-Graham, Kim Marsh

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Remarks from visitors will take place following Communications

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Peterson reported that approximately a half dozen notes had been received regarding the land swap.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

Teresa Tarling-Graham inquired about the land swap notification, Executive Director Peterson responded with an explanation of the public notice process, which was followed to the letter of the law required by a park district for this type of transaction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lloyd Tier II Project Update

Superintendent Kutulas reported that revisions for Lloyd are being implemented per the Masterplan. President Archambault reported on his visit to Lloyd and spoke of the drone photos provided by Commissioner James. He further suggested having the Board members visit and see the progress.

Tower Road Beach Project Update

Superintendent Kutulas reported that the project is wrapping up, handrails mostly installed regarding the posts, on-site fabrication of the handrails continues, and they are waiting for shipments of steel mesh. Restoration will be delayed until after the mesh is in place. Lloyd and Maple restoration will also involve a controlled burn in November; the permit is under review.

Budget Update

Superintendent Berman reported that the budgets are all entered. Meetings have been set with business unit managers to review the information to prepare for presentation to the Board.

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Peterson acknowledged two employee anniversaries – Paul Schwartz, Ice Arena and Platform Tennis Manager, 10 years and Costa Kutulas, Superintendent of Parks, 20 years. He thanked everyone for the work towards executing significant projects of the Waterfront 2030 Masterplan at Elder/Centennial and Lloyd Beach. Board members discussed inaccuracies reported on social media outlets and the need for more communication.

Commissioner James made a statement regarding the transaction, noting it is a gift, and the parcel of property we are acquiring is the same width as the property we are conveying. He further emphasized the urgent need to address the lakefront, stating it is incumbent upon the Board to be good financial stewards. He clarified for the record the Ricard property at 261 Sheridan Road is between Centennial and Elder, is approximately feet 70 wide at Sheridan Road and approximately 70 feet at the beach. The parcel that is the same at Sheridan and the same at the beach; it is a benefit to the citizens of Winnetka and the Park District.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Executive Director Peterson relayed that the Winnetka Parks Foundation is going through a re-start and he is working with Ian Larkin to get additional participation from residents. Some consulting ideas have come forward to drive financial contributions.

STAFF UPDATES

John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation – the Recreation Department is planning some new Halloween events and continuing with some other programs such as yoga, which will be moving into the tennis center as the weather changes. We are continuing with comedy show programming and continue to look for additional creative programming opportunities and indoor space.

Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager – new staff member Molly Krohe continues with the onboarding process. She is also working on developing the winter brochure, which will be online and available in early November.

Lara Kuechel, Executive Assistant – added to Executive Director Peterson's comments regarding the Winnetka Parks Foundation and reported that she is in the process of updating their documentation.

Costa Kutulas, Superintendent of Parks – reported the Parks Department is working to clean up the invasive plants along the Green Bay Trail. Superintendent Knupp spoke of the amount of work the staff has to do cleaning-up at Crow Island, such as broken glass and other debris left by users. Attorney Steven Adams said to observe and report to authorities is the best practice. Mr. Adams further noted that the Park District does have the authority to issue fines and citations.

Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance – she is planning for the upcoming Truth in Taxation resolution. A change in credit card processing has been implemented from BMO to Chase. New credit card readers, with chip reading capabilities, are at each facility.

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, and 2(c)(6) for the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body to discuss the purchase or lease of property pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

***Note:** Commissioner Knupp left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:56 p.m. Commissioner Claybrook made a motion to return to Open Session. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

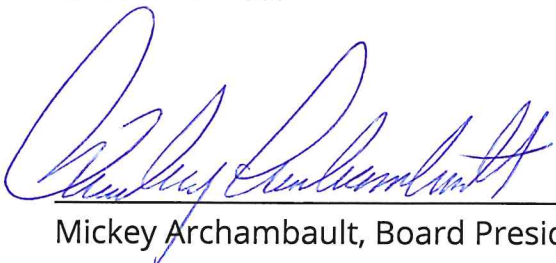
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Codo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.



Mickey Archambault, Board President



John Peterson, Board Secretary