

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
October 19, 2021

President Goshorn called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. The President led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Gerry Crews, Michelle Klemz, Vicki Paddock, Aaron Dalzot, and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services; Mike Wick, Director of Recreation; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks; Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations; Diane DeLorenzo, Aquatic Facility Manager, Jesse Balay, Graphic Design and Brand Specialist, and Melissa Greenthal, Operations Analyst.

President Goshorn opened a public hearing to receive public comments on the proposal to sell \$1,000,000 Limited Park Bonds for the payment of land purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of expenses incident thereto. A notice of the meeting was published in the *Daily Herald* on October 5, 2021. The proceeds from this bond issue will be used for various capital projects throughout the Park District. The bonds will also be used to pay off a portion of the debt on the Hunt Club Park Community Center construction. No comments were received during the hearing.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 21, 2021. The motion was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Klemz, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: Dalzot. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$858,679.97 presented on October 19, 2021, was made by Gerry Crews and was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: Dalzot. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

Director of Parks Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report. The grass is back to being mowed again. Commissioner Klemz complimented the new playgrounds at Timberwoods and Prairie Oaks.

Director of Recreation Mike Wick reviewed the recreation report. Trick or Treat Path went well with over 500 registrations for the event. Mary Lester, staff and the volunteers made Trick or Treat Path a great success. Concerns on the lack of Hydrofit classes and swim time for fitness members was addressed by adding an additional Hydrofit to Thursday evenings. Diane DeLorenzo presented the 2021 Aquatic Report; there were a total of 82 operating days. Concessions did very well this summer with hot dogs, large soda, and cotton candy being the top sellers. Commissioner Goshorn asked about the lifeguards this summer. Diane indicated there were 21 returning guards with new guards being trained and doing well; the season ended with the lifeguards fully staffed.

Director Mike Szpylman reviewed the Business Services report. In the November board meeting the recommendation will be made to buy our own annual rollover bond or sell on the open market. Commissioner Paddock asked if the park district is feeling any of the shortages.

Director Jennifer Gilbert reviewed the Marketing and Community Relations report. Jesse Balay, the new Graphic Design and Brand Specialist introduced himself.

Commissioner Aaron Dalzot entered the meeting at 7:30PM.

Executive Director Susie Kuruvilla reviewed her report. Gurnee Park District developed a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to determine the needs of the park district; the committee will be introduced at an upcoming Board Meeting. Some changes are to make sure our staff and programs meet the needs of the culturally diverse community. The Legal Symposium is on Thursday, November 4, 2021 for any board members interested in attending. Changes to FitNation operations are to remove the contracts for members which will create efficiency in front desk operations and make it easier on customers. Daily rates will be available at a discounted rate to purchase online. Breakfast with Santa is coming back with two time frames on December 11th.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Gerry Crews to approve the estimated tax levy amount of \$5,307,400 in the corporate and special purpose funds and \$1,066,589 in the bond and interest fund bringing the total estimated levy to \$6,373,989 and was seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Klemz, Crews, Paddock, Dalzot, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. None. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to approve the Whistleblower policy as presented and was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Crews, Klemz, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to approve the updated VESSA policy as presented and was seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Dalzot, Crews, Paddock, Klemz, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. None. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to approve the updated sick leave policy as presented and was seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Klemz, Paddock, Crews, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. None. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to accept the lowest responsible bid from Campanella and Sons, Inc at a cost of \$28,685.00 for the demolition and restoration of property at 301 S. O'Plaine Road and was seconded by Michelle Klemz Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Dalzot, Paddock, Klemz, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. None. Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Village of Gurnee, Chamber of Commerce and Gurnee Park District are hosting the Holiday Lights at the Welton Plaza event on December 2, 2021 from 5:30-7:30pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicki Paddock and seconded by Michelle Klemz. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Michelle Klemz, Secretary