

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 315 CHICAGO AVENUE
September 28, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Johnson.

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Carlsen, Johnson, Lithgow and Staab

Absent: None

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Lee Howard, Treasurer
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary
Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Parks
Kelly Smith, Superintendent of Recreation
Laura Reinke, Recreation Supervisor

Approval of Consent Agenda

President Johnson inquired if the Board had any changes or additions to the minutes. There being none, President Johnson requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Austin, seconded by Commissioner Lithgow, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Austin, Lithgow, Staab, Johnson, and Carlsen

Nays: None

Absent: None

President Johnson moved to Agenda Item 7(a) and introduced the Clarendon Hills Historical Society. Historical Society President Diane Hiller presented to the Board an update on Heritage Hall with new cost estimates. The architect that the Historical Society is working with has done a lot of work in the public sector, and is familiar with the prevailing wage, so they believe these estimates to be accurate. The estimates did not include the cost of cleaning the building from the fire. Ms. Hiller also informed the Board that beyond the deductible for the fire remediation of the building, the Historical Society would also need to spend considerable money to restore the contents of the building.

John Steeves, Parks Foundation, addressed the Board and told them that at the last meeting the Historical Society was asked to bring updated estimates, an operating budget to run the museum, and to research comparable museums also run by Park Districts. The updated estimates and budget were presented to the Board. Mr. Steeves then introduced Colleen McElroy, Museum Curator from the Worth Park District. Ms. McElroy addressed the Board, explaining her position with the Park District and museum, and told the Board that the biggest advantage to being affiliated with the Park District is the funding. Her museum is not a stand-alone building, but is part of a recreation center that also houses a preschool, as well as other classrooms for programming. She brings people in by offering programs in each of the three seasonal

recreation brochures, as well as using a large volunteer force and forging partnerships within the community to keep the museum self-sustaining.

Director Scheltens informed the Board that he had spoken with other Park Districts that operate museums, and told the Board that it would not be a problem, should the Board decide to pursue the museum. He explained that the Park District would hire a museum curator, and run the facility like all the other Park District facilities.

Mr. Steeves passed out the timeline necessary to put this referendum question on the ballot for the upcoming March election. After each Board member responded, the Board agreed not to pursue a referendum for a museum tax. The Board members expressed concerns regarding the demographics of the village, and the interest in this type of investment of their tax dollars, in addition to the cost to renovate this building. The Board also discussed using a more centrally located building to house the museum, and that the Board may consider a future referendum for the purpose of additional recreation space. President Johnson didn't want the Historical Society to think that the Board was against their endeavor, but not to be tied to this building. If the Park District should pass a future referendum for additional recreation programming space, he asked if the Historical Society would consider space in the building to be designated as museum space, if the public showed an interest. Ms. Hiller said they would certainly consider it, but with the preservation of the contents of the museum, time was a critical factor. These items would need to be housed in a safe place to preserve them, so it is necessary to make Heritage Hall useable very soon.

Executive Director Scheltens advised the Board they would need to discuss any major future capital projects of the Park District, before any further consideration of a referendum. The Board agreed. The Board thanked the Historical Society and especially Colleen McElroy, for her insights. The Historical Society exited the meeting at 8:18pm.

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Lithgow informed the Board that Treasurer Lee Howard would be presenting the 4-month financial report. Treasurer Howard informed the Board that the actual revenues and expenditures for the pool and summer recreation programs were on target with the budget. The pool expenditures were also down. Executive Director informed the Board that not all bills were in for the pool, but still expected some carryover after all bills were paid.

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Austin asked Laura Reinke, Recreation Supervisor/Aquatic Manager, to present the end of season report to the Board. Ms. Reinke informed the Board that family pass sales were down by about 90, and she believed that the cool and rainy May and June put a stop to pass sales. With a much warmer July and August, daily admissions were way up from last year. She commended her staff for a job well done. She made recommendations for pool pricing for the 2016 season, as well as recommendations for programming and general operations. She also had some immediate maintenance needs, such as hiring an additional pool maintenance staff to handle daily maintenance and complicated repairs.

After discussion, the Board unanimously agreed with the staff recommendations for the 2016 pool season.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Austin asked Kelly Smith, Superintendent of Recreation, to present the Summer Recreation Report. Ms. Smith presented the report, noting that while numbers were smaller in a number of programs, there were more programs offered to offset, so the recreation revenues were higher than previous years.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Commissioner Carlsen informed the Board that the Walker Park project was complete with the exception of some landscaping.

Superintendent of Parks, Mike Fletcher, informed the Board that the pool painting was completed this week with the exception of the lane lines. The plumber would be coming at the end of the week to winterize the pool.

Executive Director Scheltens informed the Board that he and Superintendent Mike Fletcher would be obtaining estimates for the storage cabinets. The Park District would purchase the materials and the estimates would be for labor only. There was also storm sewer cleaning in some parks, as well as replacing all playground lighting with LED bulbs, which are more economical and longer lasting.

Executive Director Scheltens said he is also obtaining estimates for anchors in the dive well for the landlines needed for the fluid running classes.

The Prospect Park pavilion restrooms would be closed and winterized on October 15th. The Board questioned whether that could be held off until after Halloween, but Superintendent Mike Fletcher informed them that the danger of frost was too great.

Liaison Reports

SEASPAR Liaison

Superintendent of Recreation, Kelly Smith informed the Board that the annual Trivia night was being held at Arabian Knights on October 16th. SEASPAR was still looking for teams.

Village of Clarendon Hills

President Johnson informed the Board that he and Executive Director Scheltens had met with the Village Manager and the Village President to discuss the Hosek Park storm water issues.

School District 181 – None

President Johnson dismissed the staff at 9:10pm.

President's Report

President Johnson informed the Board that he would like to change some of the by-laws to reflect a committee liaison, rather than a committee chairperson and co-chair. After discussion, President Johnson asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-04, an Ordinance Amending the By-Laws. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Lithgow, seconded by Commissioner Staab, the Ordinance was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Lithgow, Staab, Austin, Carlsen, and Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: None

President Johnson then appointed the following Committee/Liaisons:

Recreation: Suzanne Austin
Aquatics: Bruce Lithgow
Maintenance: Bruce Carlsen
Finance: John Staab

There being no further information to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Lithgow, seconded by Commissioner Austin, adjourned at 9:29pm by voice vote.

Secretary
