

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
August 15, 2017

President Goshorn called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a roll call. Commissioners present: Vicki Paddock, Libby Baker, Gerry Crews, Michelle Klemz and Jim Goshorn. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Jeff Reinhard, Director of Parks and Planning; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services; Scott Crowe, Director of Recreation; Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations. Also in attendance: Kara Moss, Aquatics Manager and Gurnee Park District Life Guards; Fitness Manager, Pat Bodame and family.

A motion to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of July 18, 2017 as amended was made by Michelle Klemz and seconded by Gerry Crews. Goshorn asked for the word “dispersed” be exchanged for the word “lead” for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Goshorn, Crews, Klemz and Baker. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2017 as presented was made by Gerry Crews and seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Goshorn, Klemz and Baker. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$1,107,760.91 presented on August 15, 2017 was made by Libby Baker and seconded by Gerry Crews. Commissioner Crews verified that the Background Check payment was a pre-purchased item. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Goshorn, Klemz and Baker. Nays: none. Motion passed.

The financial report and treasurer’s report were reviewed. Commissioner Goshorn thanked the Business Department for their preparation of the additional requested reports. President Baker observed that the Recreation Fund was behind budget to which Crowe responded that some contractor changes like Rink Side Sports and lack of demand for some smaller programs and changing demographics is partly contributing to the difference between budget and actual. Goshorn indicated his interest in getting demographic analysis software in place. Commissioner Crews commented on Hunt Club Park Aquatic Center revenue decline as a result of weather and rising costs to which Executive Director, Kuruvilla responded that increased marketing and sales would be necessary as no additional expenses can be cut.

The President opened the floor to visitor comments but there were none.

Directors reviewed their monthly reports with the Board.

Director Crow introduced Aquatic Manager, Kara Moss and lifeguards who placed 1st for the 9th Year at the Annual Lifeguard Games. A second team placed 3rd. They competed against 36 teams.

Lifeguard teams:

1st place: Katie Bell, Erik Kosberg, Maddie Pietranek, Natan Weiner (guest in distress: Maddison Crecchio)

3rd place: Lexi Dorner, Jordan Elkinton, Jonathan Mendez, Shane Mundt

Junior Lifeguard teams:

1st place: Evan Berndt, Grace Bevers, Robert Carlson, Ethan Harrigan, Faith Harris

2nd place: Kimberleigh DeVecchio, Mineva Freehling, Giana Mae Lim, Jonathan Lim, Ben Smith, Cameron Beard

The following guards were introduced to the Board: Katie Bell, Erik Kosberg, Maddie Pietranek, Natan Weiner, Maddison Crecchio, Lexi Dorner, Jordan Elkinton, and Shane Mundt. Moss recognized the team coach, Danielle Friedl, for her dedication and many hours of volunteer work. It is her 7th year of coaching. Baker asked how the teams are selected to which Moss reported that the members tryout, must attend hours of practice and fundraise for their travel and entry fees. Goshorn commented how these efforts contribute to the overall faith and trust in the safety of the Hunt Club Park Aquatics Center.

Crowe also introduced Pat Bodame, newly promoted Fitness Manager. He indicated how deserving Pat is of this promotion. He also announced on the same day that Bodame's promotion was announced, FitNation was named within the top one hundred clubs in the United States. The Board congratulated the staff. Crowe also reported that Matthew Vanderkamp, FitNation Operations Manager had resigned and the process for identifying a replacement was underway. He reported that in the interim, Henry Lobermeier, former GPD intern, would be helping with several aspects of the position. Lastly, Crowe thanked the Board for their support of Gurnee Days. The Board congratulated the staff and thanked the Recreation Staff for all their hard work with Gurnee Days including the great float in the parade.

Director Jeff Reinhard presented his report. He supplied an update on Christine Thompson Park tennis court replacement. The court still needed a final coat of asphalt, fence and application of color coating. Commissioner Baker inquired about the Spaulding Playground contractor approval amount which is below the purchase amount requiring Board approval. Reinhard indicated that the District seeks at least three quotes. In this instance the highest quote was selected due to concerns with other contractors past performance or promised deadlines. Commissioner Crews inquired about the turf that was impacted by recent flooding. Reinhard indicated that it has been fertilized, aerated and that the appropriate type of seed has been planted for the impacted areas. The Board then recognized the Parks Team for their great work during Gurnee Days.

Director Mike Szpylman presented his report and discussed the Audit Contract. He indicated that it was a 3 year engagement. Baker asked whether it was a practice to change auditors with any regularity as a best practice. The Board and staff discussed this and did not find a reason to change auditors if their fees and level of service were within range. Baker also inquired whether a Finance Committee would be of value to the District. Szpylman indicated that it is being evaluated as part of the Strategic Plan.

Director Jennifer Gilbert presented her report. She reported that it was a good first year of the lunch program and she was evaluating the program for next summer. She also noted a change to the Gurnee Days booth location. She received positive feedback to this change. She is currently conducting interviews for Sponsor/PR position.

The Executive Director reviewed her report. She noted the Walkability Study supplied by the Village was a great way to keep a voice active in issues that concern the entire community. She also asked the Board if any Board Members planned to attend the Tree Dedication Ceremony on October 1st, 2017. Kuruvilla also mentioned the review of the tax appeal and the number of appeals mostly by corporations.

Other Business:

Board was invited to an End of Summer Staff Appreciation Cook Out.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to enter into Executive Session at 8:06pm to discuss:

- Semi Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes – Sec 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (21)

Motion was seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: None. Motion carried. Susie Kuruvilla was also authorized to attend the closed session.

A motion was made by Gerry Crews to return to open session at 8:10 pm. Motion seconded by Michelle Klemz. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion was made by Libby Baker to release executive session minutes dated 8/16/16, 12/20/16, 2/21/17, 3/21/17, 4/18/17 (7:50 pm), 4/18/17 (5:55 pm), 6/20/17 as recommended by staff. All other closed session minutes not released are deemed to still be confidential and will not be released at this time. Motion seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Klemz, Paddock and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Libby Baker to adjourn the regular Park Board Meeting of August 15, 2017 at 8:13pm and was seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Motion passed.

James G. Goshorn, President

Michelle Klemz, Secretary