

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
October 18, 2016

Vice President Baker called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She asked for a roll call. Commissioners present: Libby Baker, Gerry Crews, Vicki Paddock, and Michelle Klemz. Commissioners absent: 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; Kara Moss, Aquatic Facility Manager; Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations; and Suzanne Gage, Administrative Assistant. There were no visitors at the meeting.

Vice President Baker opened a public hearing to get comments on the proposal to sell \$975,000 Limited Tax 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. The notice was published in the Daily Herald on October 7, 2016. The proceeds from the bond issue will be used for various capital projects throughout the park district and also be used to pay off a portion of the debt on the Aquatic Center and the Hunt Club Park Community Center construction. She opened the floor for comment. No comments were received during the hearing.

A motion to adjourn the bond hearing at 7:02 pm was made by Michelle Klemz and seconded by Vicki Paddock. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 2016. The motion was seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Klemz, and Paddock. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$1,036,764.30 presented on October 18, 2016 was made by Gerry Crews and seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Klemz, and Paddock. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed. Commissioner Baker thanked Director Szpylman for the new monthly financial overview.

The President opened the floor to visitors however there were no members of the public in attendance.

Department directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks and Planning Jeff Reinhard said that the Ravinia Park bridge project will start tomorrow. The ribbon cutting was well attended. Board members remarked on the wonderful job that the Parks staff did on the playground installation, particularly Justin DePauw, Kevin Robinson, and Joey Morabito.

Director of Recreation Scott Crowe noted that the new women's workout area opened on Oct. 1 with a kickoff event. The Trick or Treat Path event took place on Saturday, 10/15 with about 1,000 registrations and 4,000 people total. Participants waited 1.5 hours in line and the event ran an extra half hour. The staff got a lot of good feedback.

Aquatic Facility Manager Kara Moss presented the summer aquatic report. It was the 15th operating season with 95 days open out of 98 possible operating days. Cattail Café added healthy items to the menu this year and those were well received. Birthday parties and private rentals continued to increase. There were no major emergencies with 83 rescues between FitNation and Hunt Club pools. At the IPRA Lifeguard Games, the lifeguards and junior lifeguards won first place titles for the 8th year. Several small special events were held at the aquatic center for pass holders. Members were surveyed again this year and there was a higher satisfaction rate of 94% versus 86% last year. Every area was higher than the

previous year. Staff will be analyzing the comments to better serve customers. Scott complimented Kara and her staff on the season.

Director of Business Services Mike Szpylman reported that the RecTrac V3 upgrade is complete. Fred Colón and Nichole Todd have put in many training hours. There has been a lot of positive feedback from the staff and things are going well.

Director of Marketing and Community Relations Jennifer Gilbert highlighted developments with GO Gurnee. She noted that the U.S. Surgeon General announced a two-week Step It Up national challenge with Fitbit. Marketing has promoted it at the local level in many ways. Our GPD Step It Up team has 87 members. She has met with Lake County Health Department and she will be sitting on their health and wellness committee. GO Gurnee may become a model for a County-wide program. School nurses, social workers and PE teachers can become mid-level influencers in this movement, she said.

Jennifer noted that the new GPD website will launch live once the Board reviews it. They are hoping to harness RecTrac for the calendar function, which will be a separate project.

The Executive Director reviewed her report. She asked whether or not the board wants to buy the Park District's rollover bonds once again this year. The Board members agreed. Mike Szpylman will inform Speer Financial of the intention.

Susie thanked everyone who worked very hard on the Ravinia Park ribbon-cutting event. The turnout was excellent.

Susie noted that the Strategic plan is moving along. Staff teams are in the process of developing initiatives using all of the input they have received. A draft should be ready at the December board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to approve the estimated tax levy amount of \$4,799,415 in the corporate and special purpose funds and \$967,961 in the bond and interest fund bringing the total estimated levy to \$5,767,376 and since the total increase is above 5%, to hold a truth-in-taxation hearing on November 15, 2016 at 6:45 p.m. at Viking Park Community Center. Motion seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Klemz, and Paddock. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gerry Crews to appoint Susie Kuruvilla as delegate for the IAPD annual business meeting on January 21, 2017 and Libby Baker as the alternate delegate. Motion seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Klemz, and Paddock. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Director informed the Board and congratulated Mike Szpylman and the Business Services team for receiving the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 7th consecutive year. Commissioner Crews expressed what a great job the management team does.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gerry Crews and seconded by Michelle Klemz. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Michelle Klemz, Secretary