



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS PARK DISTRICT
Administration Center
410 N. Arlington Heights Road
August 22, 2023 at 6:30pm

President Leno called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30pm

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners Present

M. Leno
T. Gelinas
R. Nesvacil
B. Owen
J. Supplitt

Commissioners Absent

None

Staff Present: Carrie Fullerton, Executive Director; Brian Meyer, Director of Recreation and Facilities; Ben Rea, Director of Parks and Planning; Jason Myers, Director of Finance and Personnel; Amy Seklecki, Director of Marketing and Community Engagement; and Kathy Lydon, Recording Secretary.

Other Staff in Attendance: Kristy McCann; Abby Vombrack; Sue Rohner; Alli Siamis

Others in Attendance: None

NEW STAFF

Director Rea introduced Sue Rohner as the District's new Park Planner. Park Planner Rohner came from the Plainfield Park District. Prior to that, she worked in the private sector as well as for the Cook County Forest Preserve District. Park Planner Rohner is already preparing her first bid packet, and working on a grant that the District received from Senator Gillespie.

Superintendent McCann introduced the District's new Senior Center Supervisor, Abby Vombrack. Previously, Supervisor Vombrack worked in the Community Outreach Program at the Metropolis. Supervisor Vombrack has been very busy with many senior center activities, and has been well received by the members of the Senior Center.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice President Gelinas moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen, to approve the August 8, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes. On a voice vote, the motion was approved 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS & INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

PRESENTATION ON CURRENT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Executive Director Fullerton said feedback from the Board was that they wanted a memo and better understanding of the current benefits being offered to staff before making a decision on the new proposed benefits. Director Myers and Supervisor Siamis put together a presentation outlining benefits the District currently offers. This list included health insurance premiums as well as a breakdown of estimated costs associated with each employee benefit.

Supervisor Siamis led the review of the current employee benefits.

President Leno does not want unused floating holidays to be paid out if an employee leaves the District. Director Myers said an adjustment would need to be made to the verbiage in the personnel policy to state that unused floating holidays will not be paid out if an employee leaves the District. This was the consensus of the Board.

Commissioner Supplitt questioned how the use of 12 sick days to care for an immediate family member aligns with the state's new law regarding FMLA. Executive Director Fullerton and Director Myers said they will check to see if it aligns with the new FMLA law.

Commissioner Supplitt also questioned the need for the "Sick Leave Donation Program" when there is a benefit for long-term leave through IMRF. Executive Director Fullerton explained that the benefit through IMRF only covers a portion of the employee's salary. Director Myers added that benefit does not begin until after thirty days of leave.

Commissioner Owen asked if the definition of "immediate family" for the Employee Park District Programs and Facility Discounts benefit will change to include the additional family members that were added to the new Bereavement Leave guidelines. Supervisor Siamis said this discount only applies to immediate family members living within the employee's household. Commissioner Supplitt said the District should not use the same wording of "immediate family" twice in the same policy if they will have two different definitions. Executive Director Fullerton will talk with the attorney regarding this.

President Leno feels staff should pay the direct supply costs for a program that they, or a family member, participate in. The Board agreed with President Leno. Director Myers said he can explain to staff that they will be charged a fee for supply costs, but not indirect program costs.

Commissioner Supplitt asked why an employee is offered a floating holiday to participate in the wellness screening. Supervisor Siamis replied that once a floating holiday was offered to staff, there was nearly a 50% increase in participation. Commissioner Supplitt would like to see the District move away from this reward. Instead, he would like the District to work with the insurance carrier to offer a discounted premium cost for staff that participate in a wellness screening. Vice President Gelinas said this was brought up during the RFP interviews, and it was determined the District does not have enough employees enrolled in the District's insurance plans to make a difference in the premium costs.

President Leno requested the current list of benefits be included in the packet of the new proposed benefits.

JUNE AND JULY 2023 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Director Myers presented the Financial Reports for June and July 2023.

Commissioner Supplitt inquired about the additional money the Park District received from the Village of Arlington Heights. Director Myers explained that during Covid, the Park District and the Village made an agreement that the Village would give the Park District \$500,000 as part of a cooperative agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF JUNE AND JULY, 2023 VOUCHERS

Commissioner Nesvacil questioned the high Nicor Gas bill on the June voucher for 1436 Davis Street. Director Myers will look into it and get back to him.

Vice President Gelinias moved, seconded by Commissioner Nesvacil, to approve the June 2023 vouchers.

Roll was called with:

Ayes – Gelinias, Nesvacil, Owen, Supplitt, Leno

Nays – None

Absent – None

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0; MOTION CARRIED

Vice President Gelinias moved, seconded by Commissioner Owen, to approve the July 2023 vouchers.

Roll was called with:

Ayes – Gelinias, Owen, Nesvacil, Supplitt, Leno

Nays – None

Absent – None

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0; MOTION CARRIED

PARK FOUNDATION REPORT

Director Seklecki said the Foundation has been busy securing sponsors and auction items for the Foundation Golf Outing on September 28.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Fullerton updated the Board on the following:

- Irish Fest is set for Friday, August 25, from 5:00-10:00pm at the Historical Museum.
- Heritage Fest takes place on Saturday, August 26, from 10:00am-1:00pm also at the Historical Museum.
- A Community Meeting will be held at Happiness Park on Wednesday, August 23, to share drawings for the new playground and allow the residents to share feedback and vote on their color choice of the playground equipment.
- The OSLAD Phase II Grant application deadline has been extended to September 15, but the District still plans to turn the application in early.

- A Special Meeting has been added to the Board Meeting calendar. This meeting will be held on September 26, to discuss the Comprehensive Plan.
- Let Kathy Lydon know if you plan on attending the IPRA/IAPD Conference in January.
- Director Fullerton is meeting with two staff members from Congressman Quigley's office on Thursday, August 24 at 2:00pm. She will take them on a tour of the ARC, and introduce them to the Arlington Heights Park District. Director Fullerton extended an invitation to the Board to join her.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

President Leno thanked staff for being able to extend the hours of Pioneer Pool through Labor Day. She also thanked the Recreation staff and the Parks Department for their hard work this summer.

Commissioner Supplitt complimented staff on how well they managed the recent situation at Lake Arlington, and also for the thank you the District sent to the Fire Chief and Police Chief.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Owen moved, seconded by Commissioner Nesvacil, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:32pm On a voice vote, the motion was approved 5-0.

Maryfran H. Leno, President
Board of Commissioners
Arlington Heights Park District

Carrie A. Fullerton, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Arlington Heights Park District

Date Approved