



BUFFALO
GROVE
PARK
DISTRICT

**Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 22, 2021**

Due to COVID-19 and the Governor’s mitigation limiting public gatherings, the President of the Board of Commissioners declared it is not practical or prudent to meet in-person and stated the Board Meeting is to be held virtually online.

Commissioners Present: Tracy Bragg, Steve Cummins, Scott Jacobson, Adriane Johnson and Larry Reiner

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Director of Business Services and Human Resources John Short, Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe, Director of Recreation and Facilities Erika Strojinc, Superintendent of Recreation Chuck Burgess, Superintendent of Planning and Development Mike Maloney, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Mike Terson, Recreation Manager Diana Clayson, Recreation Supervisors Amanda Busch and Jessi Hersman, Aquatics Facility Supervisor Jenn Foreman, and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

Attorney Steven Bloomberg was present

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

President Reiner called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:17 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner answered present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests in attendance.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Cummins and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF STAFF RECOGNITION RESOLUTION

Resolution 21-2-1 Commending Erika Strojinc on 15 Years of Service

Commissioner Bragg read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 21-2-1
COMMENDING ERIKA STROJINC ON 15 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Erika Strojinc was first employed as Assistant Director of Clubhouse on December 8, 2005; promoted to Recreation Supervisor in May of 2008; promoted to Superintendent of Recreation in May of 2014; and promoted to Director of Recreation and Facilities in December of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Erika's dedication in leading her staff has allowed for the success in program areas such as aquatics, summer camps, seniors, early childhood, dance, theater, special events and more; and

WHEREAS, Erika earned the distinction of winning the Young Professional of the Year Award in 2010 from the Illinois Parks and Recreations Association; and

WHEREAS, Erika's dedication to the profession has led her to serve on multiple state association committees, including serving on the IPRA Board as Membership Council Representative; and

WHEREAS, Erika has ambitiously taken on new programming challenges throughout her career including Aquatics, Clubhouse, and Dance and Theater at the Community Arts Center. She has earned multiple certifications and received a Masters in Public Administration degree from Northern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS, Erika's support of staff can be witnessed in her willingness to lend a hand at any event or program, whenever needed, and in turn, has built excellent relationships with all staff; and

WHEREAS, Erika's unique ability to be hands-on and her get-the-job-done attitude, along with her strong staff relations, has made her an excellent leader who has improved the Recreation department and advanced the Park District to new levels; and

WHEREAS, Erika is one of the most highly respected and well-liked staff members in the Park District.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED by the President and Board of Commissioners of the Buffalo Grove Park District, Cook and Lake Counties;

- 1) That Erika Strojinc is commended on behalf of the citizens of Buffalo Grove for her distinguished career at the Buffalo Grove Park District.
- 2) That this resolution be presented to Erika with best wishes on her future.

DATED, AT BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS THIS 22nd DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

President Reiner moved to approve Resolution 21-2-1 Commending Erika Strojinc on 15 Years of Service, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Commissioner Johnson said she met Erika 27 years ago when her daughter was six years old and Erika was working for the Park District part time. She said even back then she was a good person to the core. Commissioner Johnson said Erika has flourished here and it is because of employees like Erika who have a spirit of excellence that make the Park District the premiere District it is.

Vice President Jacobson said that he and President Reiner were on the Board when Erika started working full time for the Park District. He said back then they heard from three different people that Erika was a rising star. He said she has been consistently promoted and he wishes her only the best moving forward. He said the Board is here to help her achieve her goals. He said Erika always has a smile on her face and he looks forward to working with her in the future.

Commissioner Cummins said it is meaningful, enriching and fulfilling to know someone who has been with the Park District for 15 years. He said he looks forward to working with her for 15 more years.

Commissioner Bragg said she has lived in the village for 11 years and when her son was involved in Park District programs Erika was always the go-to person at the Park District. She said Erika handles her job with grace and professionalism. She thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

President Reiner said he appreciates Erika's friendship over the years and said she has always cheered him up. He said she epitomizes what putting her heart into work looks like.

Director Strojinc said she appreciates this awesome, supportive Board and said she does not take it for granted. She said she plans on staying around for 15 more years and is excited about taking on her new role as Director of Recreation and Facilities. She said she has been meeting with recreation staff one-on-one and looks forward to moving ahead and taking big steps.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the January 11, 2021 Workshop Minutes

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the January 11, 2021 Workshop Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: Johnson

Approval of the January 25, 2021 Workshop Minutes

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the January 25, 2021 Workshop Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of the January 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the January 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of January 25, 2021 Executive Session Minutes

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the January 25, 2021 Executive Session closed meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no Topics from the Floor discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Risinger said that Congressman Krishnamorthi wrote back in response to the letter he wrote. Representative Krishnamorthi said he will continue to advocate for aid to state and local governments. Executive Director Risinger thanked Administrative Assistant Wanland for putting together a basket for IPRF to donate to their silent auction at conference. Last, he said we received a card from Kingswood United Methodist Church thanking the Park District for all we do for the community as essential workers.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Steven Bloomberg said that he will give his report in Executive Session.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

Finance

Approval of the February Warrant 2021

Commissioner Cummins moved to approve the February Warrant 2021 in the amount of \$879,457.41, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of the January Financial Statement and the January Year to Date Statement

Commissioner Cummins moved to approve the January Financial Statement and the January Year to Date Statement, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of the Amendment to Comply with the IRS Code for Flexible Spending and Dependent Care Accounts

President Reiner asked to reword the approval of the Amendment to add the words "to our plan" to comply with the IRS Code for Flexible Spending and Dependent Care Accounts.

Commissioner Cummins moved to approve the Amendment to our plan to comply with the IRS Code for Flexible Spending and Dependent Care Accounts, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of the 2021 Mowing Bid Contract

Commissioner Cummins moved to approve the 2021 Amendment to the Mowing Bid Contract with Gilio Landscapers, 3008 N. Schoenbeck Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004, in the amount of \$89,992, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Vice President Jacobson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as proposed, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, and passed with a roll call vote.

1. Third Quarter Administrative Work Plan Update
2. Third Quarter Departmental Goals and Objectives Update
3. Service Animal Policy/Ordinance Update

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Executive Director Risinger thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the virtual conference and thought they did a great job and enjoyed the sessions he attended. He said the Cook County virtual Joint Legislative Event is on March 15 at 9:30 am and asked the Board to let Executive Assistant Wanland know if they would like to attend. He said Fitness Center General Manager Joe Zimmerman started his paternity leave. His wife gave birth to their third child today, a boy. He said camp registration started today and registration is coming in. He said he is hopeful the trend continues.

Business Services and Human Services

Director Short thanked the Board for allowing him to attend conference and said it was done very well. He said President Biden changed the rules in our favor for FEMA COVID expense reimbursement and we will now be getting 100% reimbursement. He will be attending a webinar next week regarding updates from FEMA and hopes we can submit even more expenses for reimbursement.

Recreation Department

Director Strojinc said she, too, enjoyed attending the virtual conference but missed the in-person energy. She said she is finalizing budgets and it has been quite a task figuring out how to find a balance for next year. She said we have been seeing great numbers at the Golf Dome and we hope the trend continues for programming into the summer.

Parks Department

Director Howe thanked Commissioner Bragg for the kind words she said regarding his snow crew. He said they have been working weekends for the last four weeks doing a phenomenal job keeping our lots and side walks clear of snow and ice for our staff and customers.

Public Relations and Marketing

Superintendent Terson said he hopes the Board likes the new format his department is using for reporting numbers. He said the Golf Dome out performed every page on the website last month. In fact, he said it out performed any page, ever. He said this is extremely significant and said Facility Supervisor Brian O'Malley has done an exceptional job of working with the marketing department and the Golf Dome's results are indicative of his efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Preparation Calendar

Executive Director Risinger said we will get the budget to the Board before the next Board meeting. He said the budget will not look like anything it has in the past due to the restrictions we are under. Our goal is to approve the budget at the Board meeting on April 26.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Risinger congratulated our new Director of Recreation and Facilities Strojinc on her 15 years of service and said he is very happy for her.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Cummins moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Imminent Litigation at 6:56 pm, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Cummins moved to reconvene the Regular Board Meeting at 7:27 pm, seconded by Vice Present Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson and Reiner
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: *Johnson

ACTION TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Cummins moved that the Board of Commissioners authorize Attorney Bloomberg to work with Executive Director Risinger to file an additional appearance with the Lake County State's Attorney in response to a tax objection case. The motion was seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson and Reiner
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: *Johnson

ADIJOURNMENT

Vice President Jacobson moved to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 7:30 pm, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson and Reiner
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: *Johnson

*Commissioner Johnson voted in favor of adjourning Executive Session and reconvening to the Regular Board meeting while in Executive Session; however she experienced IT difficulty and was unable to log back on to the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary