



Buffalo Grove Park District Board of Commissioners
Workshop Minutes
Alcott Center – Room 24
June 10, 2019
6 pm

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

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Director of Recreation and Facilities Bill Heider,
Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

President Johnson called the Workshop to order at 6 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Bragg, Jacobson, Johnson and Reiner answered present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE WORKSHOP AGENDA

Commissioner Reiner moved to approve the Workshop Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Deborah Harrison, coordinator from the AARP Tax Aide Program, was introduced.
Michael Walsh, the Park District summer intern, was introduced.

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

AARP Tax Aide Program

Deborah Harrison said the AARP Tax Aide program had their third successful year completing tax returns for low and moderately low income senior taxpayers. They prepared 161 tax returns this year which was a 14% increase over last year. Eighty-five percent of their clientele was over 60 years old. Commissioner Jacobson asked how the new tax law changes affected seniors of low to moderately low income. Deborah said that many of the seniors don't pay any tax so they did not see a change. Some seniors saw increases in their tax liability and others didn't. When there was a change, the person preparing the taxes explained in detail to the senior why there was an increase. Commissioner Reiner said he would like to know senior residents who live in Buffalo Grove who may qualify for fee

assistance from the Park District. Ms. Harrison explained that the AARP tax aide program keeps their clientele list confidential.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Ordinance 19-6-1 Sale of Property

Director Howe said that staff previously bought a Toolcat to replace the 2010 Bobcat and staff is asking permission to surplus it.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

2019-20 Staff Goals and Objectives

Commissioner Reiner asked Executive Director Risinger to highlight staff Goals and Objectives. Executive Director Risinger explained that these are the new, very comprehensive goals and objectives for the coming year put together by staff and said if there are any questions he would be happy to answer them.

Long-Term Departmental Goals

Executive Director Risinger said that the long-term goals are new this year and feels we have not been doing enough of this in the past. He said that a new long-term capital plan will be presented at the next board workshop. President Johnson commended Executive Director Risinger on including long-term goals into Park District planning. She said she was impressed at the continuing education and certification goals the staff presented as their future goals.

2019-20 Executive Director Work Plan

There were no questions or comments on the 2019-20 Executive Director Work Plan.

Resolution 19-6-1 to Close a State Highway

Executive Director Risinger explained that this is a resolution that we pass annually to close Route 83 during the Stampede.

Ordinance 19-6-2 Ethics Policy Update

Executive Director Risinger explained that the last time this policy was updated was in 2004. Nothing has changed in the policy but while going through Distinguished Agency we realized we should take a look at the policy and renew its passage.

Canvass of April 2, 2019 Consolidated General Election Results

The election results will be accepted at the board meeting in two weeks.

RECREATION

Program Participation Statistics

Commissioner Jacobson noted the Camp Connection numbers varied over three years and wondered if there is an explanation. Executive Director Risinger explained that there can be much fluctuation in these numbers because one child can account for 10 registrations a week depending if they go 5 days a week in the morning and the afternoon. He also said that he asked for these numbers earlier than last year and by the end of the summer the numbers may be comparable to recent years. Vice President Reiner said he thinks it would be helpful to track how many individuals are attending these programs separate from the total number of sessions an individual is attending.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Risinger reminded the board that the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Green Lake Pier is on Thursday, June 13 at 6 pm. The Flag Day program is on Friday, June 14 at Veteran's Park. At 4:45 pm free hot dogs will be served and the ceremony will begin at 5:30. He said the IAPD Leadership Classic golf outing is at White Pines Golf Club on July 11 and said he would like to know if the board is interested in playing. He said we received \$472,000 to \$559,000 in assistance from the recent capital bill in Springfield and will keep the board notified as he hears details. Executive Director Risinger said that he will be out of town next week and if there is an emergency, contact Executive Assistant Wanland. He also presented a timeline to fill the vacant commissioner position to the board. His rough draft included applications being posted the week July 8 and applications due July 31. The board would review the applications before the August 12 Workshop and decide who to interview at that meeting. They would then hold interviews the weeks of August 12 and 19, if needed, with the goal of making a selection by the August 26 board meeting.

Director Howe said that he and Michelle Kelly of Upland Design have been working on a timeline of the anticipated renovation of Green Lake Park. The months of June and July of this year will be spent on design development, September through December will be permitting, January and February will be spent bidding the job, and the goal is to start construction in May 2020. He also thanked his staff for the great job they have done with all the recent summer events.

Director Heider said that camps started today and thanked our newest employees, Recreation Supervisors, Jimmy Mix and Megan Kile. He said they did a spectacular job preparing, training and kicking off camps with the help of experienced staff.

President Johnson asked our intern, Michael Walsh, if he is enjoying his internship. Michael said that he has worked on the Huck Finn Fishing Derby, the Bow Wow event, the Uniquely Us event, and has spent a lot of time getting to know people who use our park district programming and services. He said that he is enjoying his internship very much.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Reiner said that Uniquely Us was a great event all the way around. He said that he will go back to Springfield and check on the exact funds allocated to us in the capital bill. He was pleased to see the resolutions from the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives in memory of Commissioner Drazner.

Commissioner Jacobson attended our Park Champion event, Kids to Parks Day, and enjoyed seeing State Representative Brad Schneider in attendance. He also attended the Bow Wow event after the rain storm. He thought the Uniquely Us event went really well considering there was no blueprint to follow. He mentioned the event needs to start earlier and he would like to see more ethnic food trucks. Superintendent Erika Strojinc is preparing a full report on the event and Executive Director Risinger will present it at the next board meeting.

Commissioner Bragg said that the Uniquely Us event was great and one thing she noticed was that everyone was asking for t-shirts. She said that the Village has a water truck that the Park District can borrow for the event next year. She attended the Bow Wow event and her dog had a blast playing

in the sloppy mud. She also attended the IAPD Boot Camp and learned a lot. Commissioner Bragg told the board she has been asked to serve on the IAPD Honors and Resolutions committee.

President Johnson gave kudos to staff for the amazing job they did at the Uniquely Us event and thanked staff for their vision. She gave kudos to Debbie Fandrei on the shark tank style event she hosted for the Longfellow School 3rd graders at the museum about inventions. Thirty kids participated and 9 will be displaying their inventions at the museum for a month. She attended the Pre-School Teachers Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, May 29 and the crisis training at Willow Stream Pool on Friday, May 31.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Risinger highlighted correspondence including the House and Senate Resolutions in memory of Commissioner Drazner. He highlighted the Best Friend Award nomination forms for a business or individual. Nominations are due to Executive Director Risinger on Monday, July 8 and Executive Assistant Wanland will send a list of previous winners to the commissioners.

OLD BUSINESS

Park Board Naming Policy

Commissioner Jacobson asked about our policy at the last board meeting. He brought up the discussion of what is namable and how to decide what should be named and for whom. Commissioner Bragg said that her experience downstate has been that naming privileges are reserved for those who donate money. Vice President Reiner said that there is no cookie-cutter template for a naming policy. President Johnson said she believes the Community Arts Center building should be off limits for naming. She believes the board should have discretion when making these decisions. A discussion was held and it was agreed that donations and service are valued but this is a very subjective topic. No decision was made and it was decided that Executive Director Risinger will work with staff and come up with namable amenities, facilities, and parks.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADIJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobson moved to adjourn the Workshop at 7:06 pm, seconded by Commissioner Bragg and passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Secretary