



**Buffalo Grove Park District
Board of Commissioners
WORKSHOP MINUTES
November 9, 2020
6 pm**

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 meeting is to be held online.

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

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Director of Recreation and Facilities Bill Heider, Director of Business Services and Human Resources John Short, Director of Parks and Planning Tim Howe, Superintendents of Recreation Chuck Burgess, Greg Ney and Erika Strojinc, Superintendent of Development Mike Maloney, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Mike Terson, Risk Manager Dani Hoefle, Recreation Manager Diana Clayson, Recreation Supervisors Amanda Busch and Jessi Hersman, Partnerships and Communications Specialist Wendy Friedman and Executive Assistant Beth Wanland

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

There were no guests to introduce.

APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP AGENDA

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

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson, Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no Topics from the Floor.

APPROVAL OF STAFF RECOGNITION RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 20-11-2 Commending Aleta Kahn on her Retirement

Commissioner Bragg moved to approve Resolution 20-11-2 Commending Aleta Kahn on her Retirement, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson, Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

**RESOLUTION 20-11-2
COMMENDING ALETA KAHN ON
HER RETIREMENT AFTER 29 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Aleta was first employed by the Buffalo Grove Park District as a Clubhouse Site Director on August 22, 1991; and

WHEREAS, Aleta was hired as a full-time Accounting Specialist - Accounts Payable on August 30, 1993; and

WHEREAS, Aleta has served as a loyal, dependable and dedicated staff member, always striving to do what was right for the Park District and the customer; and

WHEREAS, Aleta has worked with her fellow Park District colleagues to improve relationships with the vendors of the District; and

WHEREAS, Aleta has been a valued member of the Safety Committee and has worked along with the Risk Manager on ways to improve procedures with our vendors; and

WHEREAS, Aleta has been a strong advocate in working with our cell phone vendors to garner the best pricing and programs for all District cell phones; and

WHEREAS, Aleta's many years of experience with Buffalo Grove has made her a valuable resource to all staff.

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 Aleta be commended on behalf of the citizens of Buffalo Grove for her distinguished service to the Park District since 1991.
- 2) That she be able to fill her leisure time with family and friends for many years.
- 3) That this resolution be presented to Aleta with best wishes on her retirement.

DATED AT BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS THIS 9th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020 .

Resolution 20-11-3 Commending Terri Ebner on her Retirement

Commissioner Bragg moved to approve Resolution 20-11-3 Commending Terri Ebner on her Retirement, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson, Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

**RESOLUTION 20-11-3
COMMENDING TERRI EBNER ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER
22 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Terri Ebner was first employed by the Buffalo Grove Park District as a part-time Senior Coordinator, hired as a full-time Recreation Specialist in 1998, and promoted to Recreation Supervisor in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, Terri's creativity, enthusiasm, dedication and genuine personality has led to many unique services and programs to the Park District such as: Senior Expo, Veterans Day Celebration, Flag Day, AARP Driver Safety Program, Public Safety Breakfast Club, Life Line Screening, Secretary of State Jesse White's Mobile Driver Services, Super Senior Day, Mah Jongg tournaments, and Memory Café to name a few. During the pandemic, Terri was able to add new virtual programs along with adjusting many of her current programs to an on-line platform to keep adults active virtually; and

WHEREAS, Terri's involvement in community organizations helped her better serve adults and seniors in her position as Recreation Supervisor. She joined SAFER; a community program coordinated with the Buffalo Grove Fire and Police Departments and Township officials for the purpose of providing safety and social services for people over 50 years old. Terri joined SAGES (Senior Adults Growing & Exploring), and worked endlessly with other outside organizations such as Vernon Area Public Library, Indian Trails Public Library District, Belmont Village, Catholic Charities and Whitehall of Deerfield to enhance adult and senior programs; and

WHEREAS, Terri helped organize the aforementioned community group SAGES. This organization meets twice a month where retirees listen to motivational speakers and share their knowledge and experiences. She also played a key leadership role in the organization of Memory Café – Buffalo Grove where individuals with memory loss and their required care partners connect with others through conversation, arts, music and refreshments; and

WHEREAS, Terri applies her knowledge, experience, expertise and vibrant personality in all that she does. This is easily witnessed by her development of creative new opportunities and activities to attract and engage members and non-members alike, along with patience, an outgoing personality, and a special talent of displaying a warm and genuine "friendly" ear to all staff and residents alike; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Park District is dependent upon employees like Terri who have taken pride in the Buffalo Grove Park District and its accomplishments.

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 Terri Ebner 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 Terri with best wishes on her retirement.

DATED AT BUFFALO GROVE, ILLINOIS THIS 9TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Director Risinger reviewed Board packet correspondence which included the IMRF 2020 Official Ballot for Executive Trustee. President Reiner said that he knows Jeffrey Janda, Executive Director from Streamwood Park District, who is running for trustee. He said Jeff has a lot of recreation experience and thought he would be a good selection. Discussion was held and it was decided staff will discuss the candidates offline and make their best recommendation. Executive Director Risinger

also said that included in the packet was an article from the Countryside on Commissioner Johnson's appointment to the State of Illinois Senate. Lastly, a congratulatory letter on the District winning two Best of the Best awards from State Senator Julie Morrison among the correspondence.

BUSINESS SERVICES AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Vista Insurance Plans

Commissioner Cummins noted there were no increases in the District health, vision and dental insurance for the 2021 renewals.

Post Issuance Tax Compliance Report

Director Short said that disclosure notices are placed on MMA, a municipal market place, and he works with Linda Byron with Raymond James for accuracy. He said we just disclosed the bonds we recently issued. He said next year the impact of COVID on our financials will have a detrimental effect. President Reiner pointed out that all municipalities will have withstood the COVID impact next year and under the circumstances we are doing quite well right now due to the leadership of Director Short and Executive Director Risinger.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Quarter B Status Report on Executive Director Work Plan

Executive Director Risinger said we are moving along as best we can and would welcome any questions from the Board. He thanked staff for all they have been doing and said staff will present Quarters C & D Goals and Objectives updates at the workshop of the next Board meeting.

Quarter B Status Report on Departmental Goals & Objectives

There were no questions on the status report of Quarter B Departmental Goals and Objectives.

PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Vice President Jacobson said that Green Lake Park has been reinvented and he enjoyed seeing it on the Park Tour. He said he thinks the park will become one of the more popular parks in the District. He also said there is someone who created a bracket for voting on different parks in Buffalo Grove on social media. Executive Director Risinger said we will take good press any time we can get it.

Commissioner Cummins thanked staff for the Park Tour and said it was a pleasure walking and talking with representatives from Indian Trails Public Library and Village Manager Dane Bragg while taking it all in. He also attended the IAPD Legal Symposium and thanked Commissioner Johnson for her role in putting it together and thought it was a seamless program. He enjoyed the Spooktacular Halloween event at the Community Arts Center.

Commissioner Bragg gave a shout out to staff and said that it is obvious with the increase in COVID cases recently, that enduring this pandemic is a marathon not a sprint. She thanked staff for everything they have done to keep our community safe, their positivity, and hard work. She thanked Executive Director Risinger and Directors Heider and Howe for organizing the Park Tour and said staff should be proud of all of the hard work that went into the park. She thanked all our veterans in the community for their service.

Commissioner Johnson thanked staff for all they have done and all they have accomplished during these trying times. She said the Park Tour was amazing and it was heartwarming to see Village Manager Dane Bragg, Indian Trails Public Library Executive Director Brian Shepard, and library

foundation members at the tour. She said Congressman Brad Schneider invited a few people to Veterans Park for a small, socially distanced ceremony at 2 pm on Veterans Day. Commissioner Johnson invited her fellow commissioners to attend. She said she also attended the IAPD Legal Symposium as did Commissioner Cummins. Executive Director Risinger and Commissioner Johnson attended the virtual Celebrate Ability Gala and she said it brought tears to her eyes when they highlighted their new facility at the Buffalo Grove Fitness Center. She informed the Board that legislators in Springfield may not go to the veto session before Thanksgiving due to the increase in COVID cases in the southern regions of the state. She said legislators have been told they can release three community grants and she will release one to the Buffalo Grove Park District. Finally, she thanked our veterans, our heroes, for their service and said that every day is Veterans Day.

President Reiner said that every time we think we have done something the best we can possibly do, we seem to do something better, even under these trying circumstances. He thanked Director Heider for all he has done for the Park District and said he has been a gift and phenomenal leader for us.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Risinger told the group that Tracy Bragg is celebrating a birthday on Thursday, November 12 this week. He said that because of increasing COVID cases we will reschedule Director Heider's and Accounts Payable Specialist Aleta Kahn's Open Houses. He said the Best of the Best video is being released on Thursday for anyone who is interested in watching. He thanked staff and Risk Manager Hoefle for all the work they did over the weekend with COVID related concerns. He said he and Director Short will have an updated financial forecast at the December meeting to present to the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Commissioners did not enter Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Johnson moved to adjourn the Board Workshop at 6:34pm, seconded by Vice President Jacobson and passed with a roll call vote.

AYES: Bragg, Cummins, Jacobson, Johnson, Reiner

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary