



**MINUTES OF THE OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT PAWNEE PARK
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
AUGUST 9, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present: President Mike Reid
Vice-President Minal Desai
Commissioner Susan Aberman
Commissioner Ezra Jaffe
Commissioner Mary Oshana

Others Present: Executive Director Michelle J. Tuft
Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities Corrie Guynn
Park Services Office Manager Anjum Hava
Horticulturalist Supervisor Jim Hallm
Park Specialist IV Peter Haben

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Susan Aberman called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Pawnee Park to order at 6:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Susan Aberman introduced herself, President Mike Reid, Vice President Minal Desai, Commissioner Ezra Jaffe, Commissioner Mary Oshana, Executive Director Michelle Tuft, and Superintendent of Parks Corrie Guynn.

Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced herself, welcomed the residents, and thanked them for coming. Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities Corrie Guynn to present the design for Pawnee Park.

PAWNEE PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Mr. Guynn presented the proposed design for the playground and other amenities. The new playground equipment will include a 2–5-year-old structure and a 5–12-year-old structure with climbing features and slides. The swings will include two belt swings, one tot swing, and one plastic molded swing (ADA swing).

New benches, garbage cans and larger picnic tables will replace the existing amenities.

The playground surfacing will remain as engineered wood fiber.

Staff will remove some existing plants and add new plantings throughout the park. No trees will be removed.

All the demo work will be done in-house; staff will remove the play surfacing, playground equipment, and the footings.

Demolition will take place in the fall of 2023 to enable the new installation to start as soon as possible in the spring. Completion is anticipated by late spring/early summer of 2024.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A resident asked if water fountains will be installed. Mr. Guynn said that it is not possible as there is not a current water line to install a fountain. Another resident commented that there was a water fountain long ago at Pawnee Park. Mr. Guynn stated that he will investigate the matter, and if it is a possibility to have a water fountain the Skokie Park District will make it happen.

A resident asked if all the parks have the same playground equipment and Mr. Guynn said not all parks can have the same equipment due to space limitations and the infrastructure of the park.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft thanked the residents for their questions and comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Guynn and Ms. Tuft thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m.



Mike Reid
President



Michelle Tuft
Executive Director

September 19, 2023

Vision Statement

The Skokie Park District envisions a community where all of its residents enjoy a high quality of life through leisure time pursuits, beautiful open spaces, and first-rate facilities.

Mission Statement

The Skokie Park District will realize its vision through teamwork, community partnerships, sound fiscal management, and creativity in every area of its operation.

Core Values

The Skokie Park District will fulfill its mission through:

- Commitment• Integrity• Innovation• Service •Openness •Environmental Stewardship •Inclusiveness