

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
MARCH 19, 2019
7:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present:

President Susan Aberman
Vice President Michael Reid
Commissioner Michael W. Alter
Commissioner Khemarey Khoeun
Commissioner Maureen Yanes

Others Present:

Executive Director/Secretary John V. Ohrlund
Superintendent of Business Services William G. Schmidt
Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Michelle Tuft
Superintendent of Parks Mike Rea
Executive Administrative Assistant Ann Perez

CALL TO ORDER

President Aberman called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice President Reid moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Khoeun seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted aye. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of minutes of the February 19, 2019; bills payable for the month of February/March 2019; Treasurer's Report; and Staff Reports.

TENTATIVE BUDGET & APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #19-001 FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

Treasurer Schmidt said following the budget presentation at the Finance Committee Meeting, the budget was put into a legal document (Ordinance #19-001) for public display for 30 days at Devonshire, Oakton and Weber Leisure Centers. This document mirrors the operating budget that was presented at the Finance Committee Meeting. A public hearing on the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will take place at the April Board meeting.

Commissioner Alter moved to approve the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #19-001 for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 so it can be put on public display for thirty days. Commissioner Yanes seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #19-002 PROVIDING FOR THE ABATEMENT OF CERTAIN TAXES LEVIED FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AND THE INTEREST ON GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2001B (CAPITAL APPRECIATION BONDS), (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE) SERIES 2011A OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT, GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2013B AND GENERAL OBLIGATION (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2015B OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT AND GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2017B OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

Treasurer Schmidt requested the adoption of Ordinance #19-002 for the abatement of certain taxes levied for the payment of the principal and interest on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2001B, (Capital Appreciation Bonds), (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011A and General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), series 2013B and General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015B of the Skokie Park District and General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017B of the Skokie Park District. These issues represent the bond issue for the Skatium Renovation Bonds paid from the Recreation Fund and the interest costs on the series 2013B, 2015B and 2017B to be paid from District funds. The approval of this Ordinance allows for the bond and interest costs to be removed from the District's tax levy.

Commissioner Khoeun moved to approve Ordinance #19-002 to authorize the abatement of certain taxes levied for the payment of the principal and interest on the Series 2011B Capital Appreciation bonds, Series 2011A General Obligation Bonds and the interest costs on the Series 2013B, Series 2015B and Series 2017B General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Skokie Park District. Vice President Reid seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #19-003 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,500,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION ALTERNATE PARK BONDS OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT SERIES 2019A FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR PARK PURPOSES

Treasurer Schmidt requested the adoption of Ordinance #19-003 authorizing the issuance of approximately \$2,500,000 General Obligation Alternate Park Bonds of the Skokie Park District Series 2019A for the purpose of financing capital improvements for park purposes. The new money issue will help finance various capital park improvements, building improvements and vehicle and equipment replacements. There will be a Bond Issue Notification Act (BINA) Public Hearing held at the April Board Meeting.

Vice President Reid moved to approve Ordinance #19-003 authorizing the issuance of approximately \$2,500,000 of General Obligation Alternate Park Bonds of Skokie Park District Series 2019A for the purpose of financing capital improvements for park purposes. Commissioner Alter seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE

Superintendent Rea reviewed the updated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan. Mr. Rea said the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan was created in 2011 and adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners in February 2012. Over the past eight years staff has addressed many of the items on the plan. A spreadsheet with the status of the items was included in the Board report. Mr. Rea spoke about the updates to the ADA Transition Plan this past year.

Where needed, asphalt pathways and concrete sidewalks with barriers have been eliminated by removing and replacing the settled asphalt or concrete. This is an ongoing process as new areas develop each year. Sidewalk settlement issues were addressed at the following locations, Emily Oaks Nature Center, Oakton Community Center, and Schack Parks.

A handicapped accessible playground was installed at Schack Park.

Engineered wood fiber (EWF) surfacing was added to the following playgrounds which kept them in compliance for ADA access: Channelside, Gleiss, Lauth, Lyon, Menominee, Seneca, Shawnee, Timber Ridge (West) and Winnebago Parks.

All Park District facility sinks were inspected for compliance with protective water line and trap insulation kits. Only one was reported missing and was replaced. These kits protect wheelchair patrons from burns caused by hot water in supply lines and drain traps.

Vice President Reid asked how far along is the District in completing the items. Mr. Rea responded that staff is making progress.

Commissioner Khoeun moved to approve the March 19, 2019 update to the District's Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan. Commissioner Yanes seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION FOR BUSINESS RELATED TRAVEL FOR PARK BOARD COMMISSIONERS

Treasurer Schmidt requested authorization for business related travel for Park Board Commissioners for up to four (4) Commissioners to attend the IAPD Legislative Conference in Springfield, April 30 – May 1, 2019.

Vice President Reid moved to approve business related for up to four (4) Commissioners to the IAPD Legislative Conference in Springfield, IL April 30 – May 1, 2019. Commissioner Alter seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

REVIEW STATUS OF 2018 – 2019 GOALS

Executive Director Ohrlund requested the Board to review the status of the 2018 - 2019 District goals. Most of the goals will be completed at the end of the fiscal year. The final report will be presented to the Board in May or June, along with the new 2019 - 2020 District goals. Executive Director Ohrlund asked for questions or comments.

Vice President Reid asked about the flooring at Oakton Center. Ms. Tuft responded that it will be deferred until next fiscal year.

President Aberman asked about a goal for Devonshire Center for more diverse programming. Ms. Tuft responded that she would report back to the Board with specific information.

No motion required, for informational purposes only.

IAPD/IPRA CONFERENCE SESSION REPORT

Executive Director Ohrlund provided a report on educational sessions from the 2019 IAPD/IPRA Conference. Commissioner Yanes said that Breanne Labus, Weber Center Manager attended a walking program session. Ms. Labus and Ms. Tuft will be in the planning stages for this program for summer of 2020.

Vice President Reid commented on the Chicago Park District tours. Mr. Reid said the park tours are tremendous. The architecture and programs give you an appreciation for what the Chicago Park District does. The tour narrator is great. Ms. Tuft said Devonshire Center Manager, Robin Horwitz and Skokie Heritage Museum Manager, Amanda Hanson intend to contact the narrator to do some programming at the District.

Commissioner Khoeun mentioned community engagement. Director Ohrlund said it is part of the strategic plan to consider a community engagement position for the District.

Commissioner Khoeun said she attended a session regarding director evaluation forms.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Khoeun asked about plastic bag recycling. Executive Director Ohrlund said Superintendent Rea has researched the City of Evanston's plastic bag recycling program. Mr. Rea said there is a group of individuals that gather compost material and took on the responsibility for the City of Evanston to collect plastic bags to recycle. There are five facilities that residents can bring their plastic bags to for recycling. It is a function of the Public Works Department of Evanston. A private contractor recycles the bags and is paid for that process.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Rea provided an inventory of the surfacing materials of the various playgrounds and playgrounds with sand boxes. The types of surfacing are: synthetic turf, rubber tile and engineered wood fiber surfacing (EWF), rubber and sand surfacing, sand surfacing, engineered wood fiber surfacing.

President Aberman suggested discussing dogs on leash in parks. Vice President Reid said at the public hearing 52 residents approve of allowing dogs on leash in parks with 10 residents opposing. President Aberman said the public opinion is very different from 2002 when dogs in parks was previously discussed.

Vice President Reid said staff should compile information for the Board to consider. Ms. Tuft said she would prepare a tentative ordinance to permit dogs, on leash in parks with parameters of times, locations, and areas within the parks where dogs would not be allowed. Ms. Tuft and Commissioner Khoeun would like to involve residents who attended the meeting in the process. President Aberman said it was good to have dialogue with both views for and against dogs on leash in parks.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The date of the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was re-scheduled due to the need for thirty (30) days for the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance to be on display for public review. The regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Alter complimented Figure Skating Director, Christine Hathaway. Commissioner Alter said he is pleased with how she interacts with the skaters on the ice when practicing their routines.

President Aberman said the parents liked the online method of ticket sales this year for the Ice Show. Tickets were pre-sold to the skating families before being sold to the public.

President Aberman received a comment from a skating parent thanking the Board for allowing parents to participate in the selection of the new skating director and listening to their comments.

President Aberman attended "A Chorus Line" performance at Devonshire Center this weekend and said the teens were fabulous. The singing, dancing and choreography was great. It was a really nice production.

President Aberman received compliments on the Devonshire Dance Ensemble. The parent was raving about the dance program and the national competition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Alter moved to enter into Executive Session for review/approval of Executive Session Minutes; authorization to destroy verbatim records and semi-annual review of past Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Khoeun seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The regular meeting re-convened at 8:24 p.m.

Vice President Reid moved to approve the content of the Executive Session Minutes of September 17, 2018. Commissioner Alter seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Alter moved to approve Ordinance #19-004 authorizing the destruction of verbatim records for the closed session meetings of April 18, 2017 and June 15, 2017. Vice President Reid seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Following review of Executive Session meeting minutes dating to January 2004, Commissioner Khoeun moved to release the minutes from September 17, 2018 and to have those remaining minutes not previously released remain closed because the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of the minutes. Commissioner Alter seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Alter moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Yanes seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Susan Aberman

Susan Aberman
President

John V. Ohrlund

John V. Ohrlund
Secretary