



**MINUTES OF THE OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON MENOMINEE PARK IMPROVEMENTS
Oakton Community Center
4701 Oakton Street, SKOKIE, IL
NOVEMBER 2, 2021 - 6:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

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

Others Present: Executive Director/Secretary Michelle J. Tuft
Superintendent of Parks Corrie Guynn
Office Manager Park Services Dima Kirland
Landscape Supervisor Stephen Ames
Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker
Park Specialist III Jim Hallm
Park Specialist IV Peter Haben

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Ezra Jaffe called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the Menominee Park improvements to order at 6:34 p.m.

Commissioner Jaffe introduced himself, President Susan Aberman, Vice President Mike Reid, commissioner Mary Oshana, and Executive Director Michelle Tuft.

Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced Superintendent Corrie Guynn to present the concept for Menominee Park improvements.

PRESENTATION

Superintendent Guynn presented the design for the Menominee Park playground and other amenities. The new playground equipment will strictly be a tot lot for 2 – 5-year-old children that includes two swings. The camel will be staying, it is popular.

The surfacing will be turf, which is the same surfacing as Laramie Park.

New garbage cans and benches will be added.

Staff is working with an Eagle Scout to remove the old equipment and have it reassembled in Ghana. This is the first time working with the Eagle Scouts. Staff will supply them with the installation guides and other things they need.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

A resident inquired about the swings. Mr. Guynn said the swings would be replaced with two

swings to allow for additional playground pieces.

A resident asked what nearby parks have more swings. Mr. Guynn said McNally, Shawnee, and Lauth Parks are nearby.

Commissioner Jaffe inquired why the turf surface was chosen for the location. Mr. Guynn said that turf was chosen due to the size of the playground, the children's age group, and the surfacing is easier for strollers. Engineered wood fiber is used at most of the playgrounds and costs \$4 per square foot. Turf surfacing costs \$13 per square foot for turf surface and poured in place rubber surfacing costs \$23 per square foot.

Commissioner Oshana inquired about the QR codes that are being added to the parks and playgrounds. Mr. Guynn said the codes have been incorporated in 10 parks thus far and will eventually be incorporated into all parks. The QR codes have information about the trees and the amenities available in the park.

A resident asked about a rocker. Mr. Guynn said dolphin and zebra rockers will be added. The playground will have a zoo/animal them.

A resident asked if any woodchips would be installed so the kids could use them for digging. Mr. Guynn said staff would look at adding a sandbox near the playground if space allows.

A resident inquired about the drainage of the turf surface. Mr. Guynn explained the surface allows water to permeate for proper drainage. Additionally, new drainage will be placed in the playground area replacing the existing.

A resident asked if the guard rail would remain. Mr. Guynn said that it will, but the back fence will be replaced.


A resident asked if the picnic table will be replaced. Mr. Guynn said staff could look to replace it with a wooden picnic table.

A resident inquired about the timeline for the project. Mr. Guynn said the demo will be done late fall or early winter. Then the contractor can install the playground in May and hopefully be completed by June.

A resident inquired about the bench memorial program. Mr. Guynn told him about a page on the Skokie Park District website to purchase a memorial plaque or a memorial bench.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jaffe thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.



Susan Aberman
President



Michelle Tuft
Secretary

November 16, 2021

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