



**Westmont Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronald J. Gunter Administrative Center
55 E. Richmond St., Westmont, IL 60559
July 11, 2023 6:00 pm**

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

President Karesh called the Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

Commissioners: Mike Conneely, John Karesh, Karen Moffett, Sue Zapinski
President Karesh stated that Commissioner Belmonte would be late due to the WYBA tournament.

Staff Present: Bob Fleck, Executive Director, Joel Hymen, Supt. of Revenue Facilities & IT/Asst. Director, Luke Wyss, Supt. of Recreation, Rosy Fejzic, Finance Manager & Accountant, Lenore Farmer, Finance Assistant & HR, Zack Johnson, Recreation Coordinator, Taylor Siple, Fitness Manager

Guests: Yvonne Novak, RCP Insurance Services

Jeni Fabian, Holly DeMore, Debbie Dudek, People's Resource Center

Agenda Item #3 Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item #4 Consent Agenda

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – June 7, 2023
- b. Closed Session Minutes – May 10, 2023
- c. Claims Ordinance – July 11, 2023
- d. Other

Bob stated that Closed Session minutes of May 10, 2023 are tabled as we await submission from District Attorney Steve Adams.

A motion was made by Comm. Conneely and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to approve the June 7, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes and the July 11, 2023 Claims Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Conneely, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: Comm. Belmonte

Agenda Item #5 Open Forum and Correspondence

- a. General Public

There was no comment from the public.

At this point, at 6:07 pm, Commissioner Belmonte entered the meeting.

b. Written

Bob referenced an email from the Westmont Historical Society, addressed to the Park Board of Commissioners, expressing their appreciation for the Board's approval of the Gregg House Museum window restoration project.

c. Other

Bob thanked the Board and staff for their efforts at the 4th of July Event. In addition, President Karesh expressed his appreciation.

Bob thanked District staff Luke Wyss, Zack Johnson and Alice Krampits, and Commissioner Moffett, for their assistance with the Taiwanese summer camp program. President Karesh agreed that this is a beneficial program, and he thanked Bob for his efforts.

Agenda Item #6 Introduction of New Fitness Club Manager Taylor Siple

Taylor introduced herself, and the Board welcomed her to the District.

Agenda Item #7 2023 Race to the Flag Check Presentation to People's Resource Center

Zack presented a donation for \$8,244.32 to the representatives from People's Resource Center. The Board expressed their appreciation to PRC for their community assistance. CEO Jeni Fabian thanked the Board and staff of Westmont Park District for their support.

Agenda Item #8 IPARKS Annual Presentation

Yvonne Novak addressed the Board, explaining that she and Bob met in May to review coverages and make updates. She reviewed coverage limits, including legal liability for general liability claims, automobile claims, and public official wrongful acts. She noted the addition of a new communicable disease endorsement, and changes in cyber liability, both of which have new sublimits. There was discussion about the \$250,000 limit per each cyber breach event, which the Board agreed was not sufficient. According to Yvonne, a separate policy can be purchased. Yvonne will follow-up with the Board. Bob will contact other districts to learn of their cyber coverages.

There was discussion about the new building currently under construction at Veterans Park, which is still under builder's risk insurance. Yvonne assured the Board that we do have liability coverage.

She then reviewed loss runs, claim summary, and premium history dating back to 2013. The Board expressed their appreciation for this presentation.

Agenda Item #9 Unfinished Business

a. Grants Update

According to Bob, there is still no update on the grant from Senator Suzy Glowiak. He will follow up. Bob reported that we closed on 350 N. Grant St. on May 26. Recording still needs to be done at the County, and then submittal for final billing in August. Regarding COVID grants from the County, Bob explained that we received the grant for wages several months ago. In addition, we applied for \$122,500 for the new building at Veterans Park, however, based on tabulations from E.P. Doyle that amount is now \$100,415. According to Bob, that money should come within the next month or so.

b. Capital Project Report

Bob explained that he has not been able to update the spreadsheet since last month. He then presented pictures of current projects: the newly painted little league building, Lou Cimera Field bleacher wall and dugout storage at Veterans Park, as well as work in progress at Kiwanis Park. According to Bob, there are not yet retaining walls at Kiwanis Park, as options are limited; however, Kenneth Co. is doing what they can until the retaining wall system is delivered. Bob reported on progress of the new building at Veterans Park. The retaining wall for the terrace has been excavated and poured, and will be backfilled. Steel should come mid-July, followed by masonry. The Gregg House Museum window project is scheduled to begin this winter, as TMC Windows currently has a backlog of work. Regarding the satellite garage, there is no update on the lease amendment. This is needed in order to move forward with planning and design. Bunkers are complete at the golf course, and Ty Warner Park playground will be a fall project. At the Fitness Club, two new treadmills are installed, the upper level women's showers were updated, and the front stairs were repaired and coated with new non-slip epoxy.

c. Other

There was no additional unfinished business.

Agenda Item #10 New Business

a. Board to Consider Updated Conduct Ordinance No. 2023-7

Bob explained that there were no significant changes, however, there were some additions, including a social media policy, and sections on Americans with Disabilities Act, and Non-Discrimination. Also, air soft guns have been added to the list of prohibited items. In addition, the Board expressed concern about electric bikes, scooters and skateboards on park pathways.

A motion was made by Comm. Moffett and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to adopt Conduct Ordinance No. 2023-7.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Moffett, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Belmonte, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

b. Board to Consider 2023 Personnel Policy Manual Updates and Revisions

Bob explained that most of the revisions resulted from State updates regarding leaves of absence, along with updates to the District's vacation and sick leave policies. Commissioner Conneely inquired about maternity leave. Bob explained that it can be paid with eligible accrued paid time off, or FMLA can be used.

A motion was made by Comm. Conneely and seconded by Comm. Belmonte to approve the updated and revised 2023 Personnel Policy Manual.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Conneely, Comm. Belmonte, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

c. Board to Consider Resolution No. 2023-3 Reflection Amendments to SEASPAR Agreement
Bob explained the two-step process regarding amendments to the agreement, and the revised agreement. The Village of Willowbrook will be added as a member entity, and billing was revised; however, as an original member, we are not impacted.

A motion was made by Comm. Moffett and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to adopt Resolution No. 2023-3 approving amendments to the SEASPAR Agreement.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Moffett, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Belmonte, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

d. Board to Consider Approval of Revised SEASPAR Agreement

A motion was made by Comm. Conneely and seconded by Comm. Belmonte to approve the revised SEASPAR Agreement.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Conneely, Comm. Belmonte, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

e. Staff to Present Bellerive, Diane Main and Veterans Park Development Opportunities

Bob began the discussion by stating that pickleball is offered in all of our surrounding communities, including the addition of 12 new pickleball courts in Downers Grove. Fritz Werley Park, the current proposed site for 4 courts, remains a neighborhood park, and there are parking concerns. Luke recently attended an NRPA pickleball webinar, confirming that noise is a big issue at neighborhood parks, resulting in complaints and added costs to create sound barriers. Staff is proposing the removal of the skate park at Bellerive Park, and converting it to 6 permanent pickleball courts. Bob explained that the current trend is razor scooters, not skateboards, which are causing a great deal of wear and tear on the skate park surface. Also, many of the patrons are not local and are causing many of the problems at Bellerive. In addition, this park already has lighting and adequate parking.

In order to still offer a skate park opportunity, Bob presented the following plan for Board consideration: repurpose the skate park to pickleball courts; remove the old preschool building from Diane Main Park and move all early childhood to Veterans Park and the Community Center; build a smaller skate park on the old preschool site; replace the old playground at Fritz Werley Park only.

Bob presented an overhead view of Bellerive Park, along with a drawing of 6 proposed pickleball courts and practice boards on the skate park site. He then presented an overhead view of the Twin Lakes Learning Center at Diane Main Park, explaining that the only program currently running out of this facility is Summer Fun Camp. This program can be moved to the new building or the Community Center. He then presented a drawing of this space indicating the location for a concrete skate park that can accommodate bikes, skateboards and scooters and not sustain much damage. Finally, he showed a picture of similar facility in Naperville, constructed by Spohn Ranch.

Bob requested Board feedback, and discussion began. In general, the Board was in favor of constructing pickleball courts at Bellerive Park and including a shade structure. It was also

suggested that there should still be two courts built at Fritz Werley Park, along with a small shelter. Concern was expressed that the old preschool site at Diane Main Park would be too small for a skate park; however, Bob confirmed that this area is 140 feet across, while the Bellerive skate park is 120 foot across. According to Bob, it would cost approximately \$20,000 to convert the existing skate park to permanent pickleball courts. Bob will proceed with this project per Board direction, which could potentially begin next spring.

f. Treasurer's Report

Rose reported that as of June 30, 2023, the checking accounts total \$6,725,029.46, bearing an interest rate of 5.36%. The interest total is \$26,422.58. The accounts payable total is \$635,051.73.

g. Revenue Facility Report

Joel updated the Board on projects completed during the Fitness Club annual maintenance closing, including refinishing the wood floors in the gymnasium. He reported that 43 light fixtures were replaced with LED's and he reviewed the shower project in the upper level women's locker room. Also at the Fitness Club, attendance remains steady with 715 memberships. June revenue was \$27,891. In addition, Joel has been training Taylor Siple, new Fitness Manager. Joel reported that the new security cameras at Bellerive Park were vandalized. He also updated the Board on the most recent podcast regarding the 4th of July event. At the golf course, there has been a great deal of positive feedback about the new bunkers, June revenue was approximately \$10,000 over June 2022, and the new lightning detection system has been a valuable safety resource. In addition, the refrigerator stopped working and will be replaced with a new food-safe unit. Finally, Joel updated the Board on the status of the three new trucks. They are currently being outfitted with the accessories we ordered and should be delivered in a few weeks.

h. Parks/Maintenance Report

Bob reported that restoration is complete at the Golf Course, so staff will now focus on athletic fields: restoration of worn spots, fertilization and aeration. Parks maintenance staff continues with landscaping, beautification, athletic field preparation, lighting and electric issues. Regarding memorials, Bob explained that benches are outpacing trees. Since there are no new locations for memorial benches, Bob has declared a moratorium on benches. At this time, we can only replace an old bench with a new one. Next year, prices will increase for both trees and benches. Bob informed the Board that there was more vandalism at Bernas Park; however, there is no camera footage. As a result, there is now a routine procedure for battery replacement of trail cameras. Bob then reported on Park Patrol staff who rescued a puppy from a pond at Ty Warner Park. According to police, this has become a recurring problem in the area. The puppy is doing fine. Finally, Commissioner Belmonte reported a light outage at the Little League Building. Staff will address.

i. Recreation Report

Luke updated the Board on current programs including Skateboarding Lessons, Day Camp, Summer Fun Camp, Pickleball instruction, and senior day trips. Planning is underway for Kids Club, and the Backstop concession stand has been very successful this summer. Take Me Fishing had 50 participants, and there are 15 registered for Camping under the Stars on July 14. Luke will present the 4th of July report at the August Regular Meeting. Recent Marketing activity includes editing podcasts, expanding the District's picture library and 4th of July promotions. Luke then reviewed the following information: social media followers and reach, park pavilion rentals, day camp registrations, Spray Park visits and revenue, Backstop concession revenue, Cabana rentals and revenue, and Splash & Bash rentals and revenue.

j. Other

Commissioner Belmonte expressed his appreciation to John Chorney and his parks maintenance staff for keeping the baseball fields well maintained for the WYBA tournament.

Agenda Item #11 Adjournment

Seeing no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Comm. Moffett and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.