



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners

Goldberg Administration Center
3301 Flossmoor Rd., Flossmoor, IL 60422

Minutes of June 21, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bachus. Commissioners Collins, Dennison and Bachus were present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Doug Boehm, Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Harwell, Marketing & PR Manager Bob Birgel, Racquet & Fitness Club Manager Michelle Artis, Coyote Run Manager & Pro Tom Denklau, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Gianatasio, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas, Visitors Marchelle Goens and Torri Clark, and Secretary Anne Brabec. Commissioners Johnson and Ojode were absent.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – Resident Marchelle Goens expressed concern regarding the condition of the tennis courts at Pheasant Trails Park. Visitor Torri Clark indicated she also plays on those courts and has concerns as well. Commissioner Bachus and Director Kopas reviewed the rotating court resurfacing plan and mentioned that the courts at Heather Hills were just resurfaced within the last month and that resurfacing of the courts at Orchard were being approved that night. They also indicated that they would look into moving the tennis lessons held at Pheasant Trails to a different court as well as have the Parks Department check out the Pheasant Trails courts.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes - May 3, 2022, May 17, 2022 and May 24, 2022
- b. Crisis Management Plan
A report from the Executive Director recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the updated Crisis Management Plan as presented.
- c. Sealcoating
A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the proposal from Pavement Systems the amount of \$8,317 for the 2022 sealcoating work at The Clubhouse at Dolphin Lake and the Parks Department.
- d. Court Resurfacing
A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the proposal from American Sealcoating in the amount of \$22,900 to complete the court conversion, repair, resurfacing and color finishing work at Orchard Park.
- e. Lions Club Pool Repair
A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the emergency repair to Lions Club Pool by Aleck Plumbing in the amount of \$19,850.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

a. Asphalt

Superintendent Boehm explained that this year's budget for asphalt work included a 25% increase in pricing; however, actual pricing was closer to 50% - 60% higher. Due to this, the work on the pathways at Hillcrest Park and the Parks Department lot will be postponed. This year's work will be finishing the walking path at Indian Trails Park and repairing the section at Patriot's Park that is crumbling. The low bid received was from Matthew Paving, who has done most of the park district's asphalt projects and the district has been happy with their work.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve Matthew Paving in the amount of \$27,500 for the 2022 asphalt work at Indian Trails and Patriots parks. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Willowview Park

Director Kopas indicated that last fall Homewood School District 153 Superintendent Scott McAlister talked with her about placing portable classrooms in Willowview Park. Kopas explained that the park is school district land that the park district has leased dating back to the 1950's when the park district did not own as much property and space was needed for programming. Since then, the lease has automatically renewed every 20 years.

With the need for space no longer an issue, as well as the difficulty in managing the turf at Willowview since treatments cannot be done when classes are in session, Kopas and McAlister mutually agreed that the lease agreement was no longer necessary and they would address its termination once the school year ended.

Kopas indicated that the park district will leave the basketball hoop in place and will continue to provide the free sled library. The school district will take over the maintenance, although until they are able to do so, Parks will continue to cut the grass this season for a fee. Parks will also remove the soccer goals.

Commissioner Bachus asked for confirmation that there are no financial or tax implications to the lease agreement termination; Kopas indicated there are not.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve a Memo of Understanding with Homewood School District 153 to terminate the Agreement dated February 15, 2011 for lease of Willowview Park. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioners had no comments or questions.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the claims list in the amount of \$934,174.87. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING May 31, 2022

Commissioner Bachus commented that it is nice to see the Racquet & Fitness Club off to a great start.

COMMUNICATIONS – Board & Administrator – June 2022

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Executive Director Kopas

- U Matter 2's Juneteenth event was held on Sunday at the high school and was very well attended. Commissioner Collins, Superintendent Gianatasio, Manager Davenport and Manager Harwell represented the park district; thank you to them for giving up part of their Father's Day/Sunday. The ice arena parking lot, which was the food court area, needed cleanup on Monday by Parks staff.
- Notification was received from the Homewood Fire Chief that a resident has complained about the larger tent set up at Irwin Center for Stomping Grounds campers. Due to the age of the tent, it is a fire hazard, and there is a code that indicates that it is out of certification. The chief asked for a plan to correct this; Kopas let him know that funds were not currently available, but the tent will be replaced over the winter, and he was fine with that.
- Explained that the Juneteenth bookmark given to each commissioner was also given to part-time and full-time staff along with an ice cream treat to help staff learn about the holiday and to show appreciation for their work with the park district.

Commissioner Collins

- The park district had great placement across from the stage at the Juneteenth celebration. People were happy and having a good time and it was nice to be part of the event.
- It was nice to see so many people out for Starry Nights. The music was good and it was a great night.
- Kudos to all of the camps that are full and overflowing and to all of the maintenance done to keep water flowing and the pool open.

Commissioner Dennison

- Attended the PDAC meeting and thinks it is off to a good start.
- Wasn't able to attend Starry Nights but heard it was fabulous.
- Thank you to Superintendent Boehm and the Parks crew for all of their hard work on the pool, including the new Umbrella and rules & regulations signs, Juneteenth and 60422
- Wondered if the Rain Out Line was operational this year; Manager Birgel indicated it is
- Welcome to Bob and congratulations on his promotion
- Asked if the business office is fully staffed. Kopas indicated it is not yet, however the newest employee, Nikki, is doing a great job.
- Asked about the success of the litter campaign; Superintendent Boehm said there is a small difference in the parking lot area at Millennium Park. He will give it more time and look into expanding the campaign to Patriots and/or Apollo. Dennison mentioned she has noticed a lot of litter in Lions Club Park near the pool.
- Congratulations to Irons Oaks on the success of the Outdoor Tea Party as well as full Nature Kids Camps.
- The golf course is beautiful; she drove around it while friends played.
- Happy to see the Ice Arena is still scheduling tournaments and that The Beast Obstacle Course at the Racquet Club was successful.
- Asked about Woodborough Park; Superintendent Boehm indicated Parks will be cleaning up the overgrowth along property lines. He is still working with Public Works and the Village to rectify the water issue that interferes with grass cutting and the walking path.

Commissioner Bachus

- Bob, congrats. You have big shoes to fill, but at the same time, part of the reason the park district has been so successful from a marketing and PR standpoint is because of what you have brought to the table. We know we are very good hands and congratulations to you.
- Feels like everything in the park district has just exploded in the past few weeks. Great to see all of the activities, the rentals being up, and the great month at RFC.
- The Lions Club pool opening day saga was like an Oceans Eleven movie saga. Amazing, and thank you to

everybody who was involved from so many different areas who pitched in to make it happen. The Lions Club pool numbers are great to see.

- Starry Nights, Juneteenth, 60422 – it's been a busy few weeks. Thank you all for what you are doing day in and day out and juggling the priorities.

COMMITTEE APPONTMENTS

Committee appointments were postponed to the June 28, 2022 meeting when more commissioners would be in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:27 pm, Commissioner Collins moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of 2(c)(1) discussion of the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Meeting reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

Commissioners asked Director Kopas about discussion topics planned for the July Committee Meeting. Since there were no pressing topics, it was decided to postpone them to a future meeting and cancel the July 5, 2022 meeting.

Director Kopas shared results of Ice Arena bids opened that day with results quite a bit over the budgeted estimates, especially for the electrical work. The bids will be reviewed by WB Olson, they will work to understand why the estimates were so off, and then recommendations will be prepared for approval at the June 28, 2022 special meeting. Ideas for cutting costs are being discussed, including with the companies who are being awarded the various bids, although many feasible cuts have already been made. Ideas for obtaining funds to help with the project were brainstormed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Kopas

Debbie Kopas, Secretary