



**HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT**  
Special Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners  
Goldberg Administration Center  
3301 Flossmoor Road, Flossmoor, IL 60422

**Minutes of May 2, 2023**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Bachus. Commissioners Dennison, Ojode and Bachus were present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Gianatasio, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Doug Boehm, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, Racquet & Fitness Club Manager Michelle Artis, Marketing & PR Manager Bob Birgel, Human Resources Manager Kelly Rose, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas, Commissioner-Elect Angie Coderre and Secretary Anne Brabec. Commissioners Collins and Johnson were absent.

**CHANGE IN AGENDA** – None

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. Consideration of Appointment of Executive Director and Approval of Agreement for Employment of Executive Director

Commissioner Bachus read a statement on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners reviewing the process followed in selecting Executive Director Kopas' successor and naming Doug Boehm as the next Executive Director of the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District. Commissioners and Commissioner-Elect expressed their congratulations and welcome to Boehm in his new position and their thank you to Kopas for her many years of hard work and dedication.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the appointment of Doug Boehm as the next Executive Director of the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Commissioners had no comments or concerns regarding the Agreement for Employment of the Executive Director.

Commissioner Ojode moved to approve the Agreement for Employment of Doug Boehm as the Executive Director. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Nicor Easement at Indian Trails Park

Incoming Executive Director Boehm reviewed the work Nicor would like to do at Indian Trails Park in order to improve their service in the area. Any problems or repairs to the installed equipment be will the sole responsibility of Nicor. Attorney Karas reviewed and approved the submitted Grant of Easement Agreement.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the Grant of Easement Agreement with Nicor for work at Indian Trails Park. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. Heritage Park Playground

Incoming Director Boehm reported a community meeting was held to obtain input on the Heritage Park playground equipment proposals submitted by five vendors. Turnout was good. Lead-time for delivery of the options varies. Commissioners discussed the presented options and the equipment proposal from NuToys was recommended. A formal bid will be prepared for the purchase and installation of this new playground equipment.

b. PARC Grant

Executive Director Kopas led a discussion on applying for a PARC Grant now that the IDNR website indicates open dates of May 1 – June 30, 2023. HFPD last applied for a PARC grant in 2020 for work at the Ice Arena, but did not receive a grant when they were announced in 2021. The park district has worked with architect Bob Ijams of Wight Co. on past grant applications, and he recommends that projects that add additional recreational space for active use are more likely to be considered for grant approval. Options at the Ice Arena, Racquet & Fitness Club, Irwin and Park Place were discussed, with consensus being to move forward on an application that focuses on updates at RFC.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

There were no additional comments.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Debbie Kopas*

Deborah Kopas, Secretary