

Minutes
REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 19, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Canterberry Room

1. CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND ROLL CALL

President Knitter called to order the regular meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners at the hour of 6:32 p.m. Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter answered "present" from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Commissioner Ivkovic Kelly was absent. Also present in Canterbury Conference Room were Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; Dave Thommes, Deputy Director and Bob Johnson, Director of Parks and Planning.

2. OPEN FORUM

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments. No one addressed the Board.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. APPROVAL OF JULY 19, 2021 AGENDA
- b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - i. June 21, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- c. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING JUNE 30, 2021
 - i. Warrant 649

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to approve taking a single omnibus vote on the Consent Agenda as presented.

There was no additional discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter.

Nays: None

Absent: Ivkovic Kelly

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

There was no additional discussion and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter.

Nays: None

Absent: Ivkovic Kelly

4. COMMUNICATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Board of Commissioners to share communications.

Commissioner Suleiman informed the Board she would be hosting a community garage sale, as she has done in previous years. All proceeds will go to the Universal Sandlot Playground.

Commissioner Suleiman would be asking the community to donate sellable items.

Commissioner Suleiman will host the sale on July 30th and July 31st. There will also be a lemonade stand. She believes this sends a good message out to the community. She is seeking volunteers to help her set up the night before. Anything not sold will be going to a charity.

President Knitter stated a resident approached her while she was playing golf. The resident informed her they walk their dog on the North Fields, there is a lot to do on the new property, and appreciates the hard work that went into the development.

Commissioner Truedson stated Christy Dolan informed him, the Oak Brook Park District Snapchat account only has two followers. He would like to know how the Park District could obtain more followers.

Haley O'Brien, the Marketing and Communication Manager, stated there is no capability to see who follows each other on Snapchat. The Park District strictly uses the social media platform to purchase ad space for open jobs, such as Lifeguard, as this media demographic aims toward teens.

Haley O'Brien mentioned the platform offers a "story" function. For now, ads targeting teens and 20-year-olds work well. Instagram has a better target audience for event promotion. Even Twitter has a difficult time reaching the teen audience and is a limited demographic.

President Knitter stated there is a good following on Instagram.

Commissioner Truedson clarified that Instagram was better.

President Knitter stated the Oak Brook Park District is an inclusive Agency and open to all things.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board this resident actively speaks up every two months about her displeasure with the Park District.

President Knitter reiterated the Oak Brook Park District is an inclusive group. Should the resident have additional concerns, they are welcome to voice their opinion at the board meetings.

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

a. None

6. REPORTS:

a. Communications, IT, and Administration Report

Dr. Laure Kosey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Dr. Kosey reported to the Board, the Marketing and Communications department is doing very well.

Dr. Kosey stated the research has been completed concerning the Little League Field usage; seeing what other communities in the area are charge for usage. Staff recommends twenty-five dollars per hour field usage.

Dr. Kosey and staff are getting ready to apply for the OSLAD Grant to finance phase two of the North Fields. The Park District will need to apply for this before September 1, 2021. At the second input meeting staff will share the survey's results.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board, a budget for the park will need to be made and all of the options are expensive. Noting there is a bond from 2012 which will be expiring in 2022. The Park District will need to resurface the synthetic athletic field and the HVAC system in the Family Aquatic Center needs to be replaced. The capital improvements are important; the Park District will need 1.8 million to use for phase two and the OSLAD Grant is only a four hundred-thousand-dollar grant.

President Knitter stated this was not a slam-dunk situation.

Dr. Kosey suggested to the Board, should the Park District not receive the Grant, the Park District should not proceed with Phase 2 of the North Fields.

Commissioner Truedson asked Mr. Salinas if they should go back in with the bonds.

Mr. Salinas stated they can issue new bonds.

Commissioner Truedson asked if the reserves fall off then cut and the Park District has their money tied into the bonds, what would the Park District do, as he is not confident the economy is as strong as the experts are saying. Should the Park District take the bonds out, they cannot be undone, this may be in the best interest of the Park District to hold off on the bonds for now.

Commissioner Truedson asked about potential high inflation. Should the Park District take the money out, and the economy takes a turn for the worse. The Park District would sit on the money and then pay it back with the same funds.

Mr. Salinas stated a lot of capital improvements needed to be replaced.

President Knitter explained they will not be frivolous with the money; the HVAC needs to be replaced. Whereas restrooms in the park do not have to be added. Should the Park District not get the OSLAD Grant there would be no need to move forward, with the project.

Commissioner Trombetta would like to know the cost of all the improvements.

Mr. Salinas stated the cost is two to three million dollars distributed over ten years. However, the money would need a purpose and be used for that purpose.

Commissioner Truedson stated if the Park District needs to make capital improvements the Park District should issue the bonds with no additional debt.

Commissioner Trombetta noted Commissioner Truedson had good points. The consensus in the room is to issue the bonds.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board of the new federal holiday Juneteenth. Remarking the facilities will not shut down, and proposed issuing a new personal day. The Park District facilities do not close on all federal holidays, such as Presidents Day or Martin Luther King Day.

President Knitter clarified, the personal day could be used anytime throughout the year, and questioned why not taking the day off as many other organizations will be observing the day.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board, June, July, and August are the Park Districts' busiest months. Making Juneteenth a floating holiday allows there to be an adequate staff to fill programming needs.

President Knitter stated supporting of the personal day as long as staff could use it on Juneteenth if requested.

b. Finance & Human Resources Report

Mr. Marco Salinas presented his report, which can be found in the Park Districts records.

Mr. Salinas reported on the additional new column requested by the Board, the year 2020 is isolated due to the irregularity caused by the Pandemic. The comparison is with 2019.

Mr. Salinas stated the General Fund is doing well.

Mr. Salinas stated the Tennis and Recreation Fund is lagging in revenues. Memberships are lower than expected.

President Knitter explained how difficult it must be for tennis, however, historically tennis memberships are lower in the summer and perk up in the fall.

President Knitter inquired if the Lifetime Fitness at the Oak Brook Mall has affected fitness memberships.

Katie Basile, Superintendent of Facilities, stated the Park District recently tripled their membership. Additionally, people are taking their memberships off hold.

c. Recreation & Facilities Report

Mr. Dave Thommes presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Mr. Thommes reported on several updates, not in the Board Packet. Such as the Bath and Tennis Center at the Village Sportscore. An additional pipe has burst on the main supply line that pumps the water into the waiting pool. Public Works is fixing it.

President Knitter stated a lot had happened this year at the Bath and Tennis Center.

Mr. Thommes agreed.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board, the Village had not even ordered food for the concession season.

Commissioner Trombetta would like to know who hired the contractors for the Village Pool.

Dr. Kosey informed him the Village hired the contractors.

Commissioner Trombetta stated they were not experts.

Commissioner Truedson stated this was not a good situation.

Dr. Kosey stated the situation has been challenging and the Police Chief has become the interim Village Manager.

Dr. Kosey stated originally, they had sold 325 members, which was the most ever. Issuing 50% refunds because of the delayed start from Memorial Day opening.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board, the Park District has until September 1, 2021, to notify the village if they will renew or not.

d. Parks & Planning Report

Mr. Bob Johnson presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Mr. Johnson reported to the Board the Parks Department is doing well.

Mr. Johnson stated at the next Board Meeting there will be the final change order for Central Park North. There is a well that is not working properly, there is a fine limestone bed beneath the surface and is clogging the filtration. The change order will be to assist with the filtration.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance 21-0719: An Ordinance Declaring Surplus Personal Property and Authorizing Conveyance or Sale Thereof

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to approve Ordinance 21-0719: An Ordinance Declaring Surplus Personal Property and Authorizing Conveyance or Sale Thereof

There was no additional discussion and the vote moved by roll call.

Ayes: Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter.

Nays: None

Absent: Ivkovic Kelly

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Tennis Courts Resurfacing Project Bid

Mr. Johnson informed the Board the Park District will be going out to bid for the Tennis Courts Resurfacing Project.

- b. Little League Field Use

Commissioner Truedson stated that twenty-five dollars an hour for field usage is a great deal, compared to the eight-hundred dollars the league is charging per child.

Commissioner Suleiman agrees with Commissioner Truedson, charging twenty-five dollars an hour for field usage is a great idea, as he has a long-time relationship with the Little League, his input is valued.

- c. Personnel Request - Full-Time Parks Technician (**Requires Waiving the Board Rules to Approve at this Meeting.)

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to waive the Board Rules to approve at this meeting the Personnel Request – Full-Time Parks Technician.

Ayes: Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter.

Nays: None

Absent: Ivkovic Kelly

President Knitter stated the Park Department needs help.

Dr. Kosey stated the hiring process will start tomorrow.

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to approve at this meeting the Personnel Request – Full-Time Parks Technician.

There was no additional discussion and the vote moved by roll call.

Ayes: Commissioners Suleiman, Trombetta, Truedson, and President Knitter.

Nays: None

Absent: Ivkovic Kelly

d. Resolution 21-0816: OSLAD Grant Program Resolution of Authorization

Dr. Kosey informed the Board the Park District will need to apply for the OSLAD Grant.

Commissioner Truedson commented about the next phase in the development of the North Fields, stating he wanted to see more options in for the older resident's age category. He does not know what these options should be.

Dr. Kosey stated the options which were presented for these age categories were chess and bocci ball.

Commissioner Truedson stated he was not into these options and neither are the residents. However, he is not sure what he would like to see in the area.

Dr. Kosey noted there were options for the ginger creek, a sensory garden, and additional nature elements.

Commissioner Truedson informed Dr. Kosey, the options are not just about their ability to utilize the items placed in the park but also about the tax dollars. The amphitheater is a good idea but needs better visuals.

President Knitter expressed, as a grandparent she would love to bring a child to the Challenge Course, instead of taking them on another walking path.

President Knitter asked Commissioner Trombetta what he would like to see as he has a similar view as Commissioner Truedson.

Commissioner Trombetta stated he is not sure what he would like to see in the North Fields, but it should be curated for 55+ as this age group needs something to do, they are still very active.

President Knitter explained that the 55-age group has a lot to do already, should the Park District target 70-80 years old?

Commissioner Trombetta thinks the Park District should look at the number of people paying for this on their taxes. As 90% of the land comes out of the tax bill. A Challenge Course would mean 40% of the people would not get anything back from the area. Giving the area to children, may not be the best plan. Leave the planning to the professionals for the ideas.

Commissioner Truedson believes the presentation by Inland Design was good, but with a community of seniors and nothing for them to do but bocce and chess is not ideal.

Dr. Kosey stated the amphitheater was an option too.

Commissioner Truedson stated the seniors see nothing for themselves.

Dr. Kosey informed the Board, the restrooms are the biggest ticket item, taking half of the budget, and the Grant does not consider this item noteworthy by the grant committee.

Dr. Kosey stated on August 16, 2021, there will be a new presentation plan, emphasizing the pavilion and how programming can be outdoors.

Commissioner Truedson stated the Park District needs to bring people from outside the Village but needs to figure out how to integrate it in an accepted way.

Commissioner Truedson would like more information about the program offerings and how they will be utilized in the design, as a more visually appealing display would better showcase the offerings.

- e. Ordinance 21-0817: An Ordinance Authorizing the Destruction of the Verbatim Record of Certain Closed Meetings.

There was no additional discussion.

- f. Additional "Personal Day" Time Off Benefit in recognition of new Federal Holiday "Juneteenth."

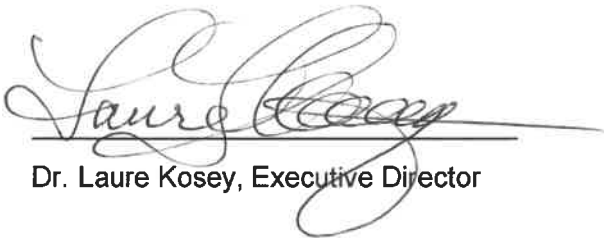
There was no additional discussion.

9. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 16, 2021

President Knitter announced the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District of Park Commissioners will be held on August 16, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Truedson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Trombetta to adjourn July 19, 2021, regular meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:27 pm.



Dr. Laure Kosey, Executive Director