

MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

Administration Center  
2000 Belvidere Road  
Waukegan, Illinois  
October 24, 2017

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President George Bridges called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

President George Bridges  
Vice President Marc Jones  
Treasurer Patricia Foley  
Janet Kilkelly  
William Sarocka

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director Jay Lerner  
Superintendent of Finance & Administration Jon Beckmann, Superintendent of Cultural Arts Claudia Freeman, Superintendent of Recreation Errick Beverly, Superintendent of Parks Scott MacLean, Community Relations Manager Teddy Anderson, Executive Assistant Sally Sandine, Quincy Bejster, and Attorney George Bridges.

**III. PUBLIC PORTION**

Alderman Edith Newsome, of 2014 W. Grove Avenue, Waukegan, thanked the Board and Director Lerner for meeting with Clearview Park residents and reaching a solution to their concerns.

**IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

Ms. Anderson spoke about the Waukegan Parks Foundation contributions that support the District efforts related to teaching all Waukegan School children how to swim. Mr. Bejster provided a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the recent training involving Carmen Buckner School students. Commissioner Kilkelly asked if the current Foundations program involved students who are homeschooled. Mr. Bejster stated while they have the resources to include homeschooled students they do not as of yet.

**V. REVIEW / DISCUSS / DECIDE**

A. Approval of Ganster Pool Closing.

Mr. MacLean advised the Board that since the closing of the Ganster Pool it has become quite apparent

the infrastructure of the pool is in poor condition and in need of repair. He stated they identified a significant water leak located under the pool deck, in addition to the numerous concerns identified by OSHA's inspection. He said the estimated repair costs are between \$10,000-\$15,000. Commissioner Sarocka asked if Ganster Pool is not open during the 2018 season could they advance the renovation schedule of Belvidere Park. James Johnson of AT Group, Inc., stated there are few things such as demolition they can start at Ganster Pool if it is not open next season. President Bridges stated his concerns are what services would be provided to the residents and the various camps that currently use Ganster Pool. In addition, he asked had any thought been given to providing shuttle service to transport children to the Field House. Director Lerner stated both Gurnee and Zion Park Districts have agreed to allow the District to use their swimming pools while Ganster Pool is closed. Mr. Beverly stated he would explore the use of buses and a shuttle service as well.

Motion by Commissioner Sarocka, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve the closing of Ganster Pool for the 2018 Season. There was no further discussion on this matter. On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Kilkelly, Foley, Jones, Sarocka, Bridges

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

B. IAPD Credentials Certificate.

Director Lerner presented the IAPD Credentials Certificates, for the Board to name the delegate and alternate for IAPD's upcoming conference. Motion by Commissioner Kilkelly, seconded by Commissioner Foley to name President Bridges as the Board's delegate and Commissioner Jones as the alternate delegate. There was no discussion on this matter. The matter carried by unanimous voice vote.

C. Update on Belvidere Park Renovation.

Mr. Johnson provided an update on the Belvidere Park renovation. He stated in light of the Commissioners comments a number of changes have been incorporated into the design; namely, they moved the bathrooms, consolidated the bathroom and concession, so it is accessible from the pool and Park area. Commissioner Kilkelly asked if additional parking could be added to address the need of Park Place. Mr. Johnson said they would incorporate additional parking.

D. Update on Bank Building Renovations.

Director Lerner stated he and Staff have toured the new facility, and are now working on developing the layout for the new administrative building. He stated a more formal update would be provided once Legat Architects are done with their initial assessment.

E. Update on the Park Grand Openings.

Mr. MacLean stated he was hoping to advise the Board of the upcoming Ribbon Cutting date for

Country Lane, Adelphi, and Washington Parks; however due to weather related issues, they have postponed establishing any dates.

F. Update on Bonnie Brook Exterior Staining.

Mr. MacLean stated they would be modernizing the Bonnie Brook Clubhouse not only with the additional new roof but also with new exterior staining to match the gutters and lawn furniture at that facility. He said an Exterior Designer had been consulted to assisted them in selecting colors to achieve a more contemporary look for the project.

G. Sport Park Award from Sports Turf Managers Association.

Mr. MacLean advised the Board the District had received one of the highest awards from a national organization for its environmentally sustainable Sports Park. He stated the award had been presented to the District from the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA), and that the District is only one of two Sports Parks in the nation to achieve this nationally recognized certification. He said STMA chose the District because of its commitment to environmental stewardship.

H. Presentation of Staff Ideas and Recommendations.

Director Lerner presented a summary of Staff ideas and recommendations. Director Lerner stated this survey is only the beginning of his efforts to lead and manage the district. He said he plans to continue to communicate with Staff to ensure they are involved in enriching the District.

## **VI. COMMISSIONERS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS**

Commissioner Kilkelly stated the award from STMA is a very big deal and that the District should be proud to be the recipient of that award. She said it is with great sadness that she share the news of the passing of Jan Knobbe, a great patron of the arts and supporter of the District. Commissioner Foley stated she was encouraged by the various responses given by Staff to the survey, and that she found all of them to be very good comments.

Commissioner Jones thanks Staff for continuing to make the District's Parks reflective of its Gold Medal Award. Commissioner Sarocka said he was excited about the new Administrative Building and the cost savings the District will recognize in light of its purchase. He also stated he was encouraged by the expansion of the Belvidere Park mix usage design which would consist of a pool, splash pads, and shelters. President Bridges thanked Staff for changing the procedures to address prospective employees of the District by keeping them abreast of their submitted applications.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Bridges moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

George Bridges  
Secretary