

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT
Virtual Remote Meeting
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021 at 4:30pm
Public dial in provided

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31pm. The meeting was held virtually, in compliance with SB 2135.

All commissioners verified their identity, and ability to hear and be heard, by stating their name and position.

II. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

President Jacqueline Herrera Giron
Vice President Janet Kilkelly
Treasurer Jeremiah Johnson
Commissioner George Bridges
Commissioner Anton Mathews

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director Jay Lerner
Executive Assistant Sally Sandine, Superintendent of Community Relations Teddy Anderson,
Superintendent of Finance & Administration Jon Beckmann, Superintendent of Recreation Errick
Beverly, Superintendent of Parks Quincy Bejster, and Attorney Mandi Florip.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

- A. Employee Promotions – Parks: Chris Murphy, Recreation: Jen Dumas, Finance: Efrain Rodriguez, April Yarza
New Full Time Hire – Parks: Artemio Aguirre

Department heads introduced the promotions and new hires within each of their departments. Staff members responded. Board members offered congratulations.

V. REVIEW, DISCUSS, DECIDE

A. Carnegie Library Project Update – Ty Rohrer

Mr. Rohrer provided a presentation to the Board with an updated on the Carnegie Library. The schematic design phase was completed in April. They are waiting for construction estimates based on this design, which will help determine next steps. They estimate to start the detailed design phase in mid-June. The construction phase is anticipated to begin in 2022.

There will be four major changes to the exterior of the structure, the most noticeable being the front entrance, which will bring back the historical appearance of the building. They also plan to create a courtyard and gathering area. Mr. Rohrer explained the interior layout plans and exhibit designs. The historical society conducted a request for proposals and received seventeen proposals from around the country. They interviewed seven firms and selected Lucy Creative, a design firm based in Lincolnwood.

Mr. Lerner noted that the District is waiting to receive the IDOT properties as an essential next step. Staff is working to move this along as quickly as possible.

B. SplashZone Ribbon Cutting – May 27th

Ms. Anderson reminded the board about the ribbon cutting scheduled to take place this Thursday at 11am. RSVP's should be directed to Ms. Sandine. The SplashZone will open to the public on Saturday at 11am.

C. Town Hall Meeting Discussion

Staff recommends the Board consider holding a Town Hall Meeting to provide an update to the public on the status of various projects and enable community members to dialog with Commissioners and District staff. Additional byproducts of such a meeting are transparency and community building. Staff suggests moving the October Committee of the Whole meeting on Tuesday, October 26 to 7pm and hold the meeting at the Belvidere Recreation Center Multipurpose Room.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Upcoming Board of Commissioners Meeting: June 8, 2021 at 4:30pm

VII. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Mathews thanked staff for their assistance. He noted that he has no problem meeting in person.

Commissioner Bridges thanked staff for addressing the mask mandate issues within our facilities. He supports in person meetings when the staff feels it is safe. He also thanked staff for supporting current staff with internal promotions. He thanked staff for assisting with the community survey.

Treasurer Johnson also inquired about Victory Park. He noted that he has been hearing that Gurnee Park District's facilities have lifted the mask mandate and inquired why Waukegan has been unable to do so.

Vice President Kilkelly congratulated all of the employees in their promotions. She noted that she appreciated the internal advancement opportunities provided. She asked for a status update on Victory Park and inquired about moving the Board meetings from virtual to live. Vice President Kilkelly asked if arrangements were made for Mr. Foley.

President Herrera Giron congratulated the employees that were promoted, new hires, and graduates. He thanked Mr. Beverly for advising her on District issues. She noted that Field House front desk staff was supportive and helpful upon her visit.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Bridges moved, seconded by Commissioner Mathews to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

There was no discussion.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Mathews, Kilkelly, Bridges, Herrera Giron and Johnson

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mandi Florip
Secretary