

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

The Workshop Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Highland Park was held in the Board Room at the West Ridge Center, 636 Ridge Road, Highland Park, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Kaplan.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Grossberg, Vice President Ruttenberg, Commissioner Bernstein, President Kaplan

Absent: Commissioner Flores Weisskopf

Staff Present: Deputy Director Donahue, Director Curtis, Manager Johnson, Assistant Director Carr, Assistant Director Smith, Director Romes, Manager Grill, Director Voss, Landscape Architect Evans

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

SUNSET VALLEY GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE RENOVATION UPDATE

A. LANDSCAPE PLAN

Director Romes introduced Landscape Architect Evans. Landscape Architect Evans explained that the Landscape Plan would address the following six areas: the cart barn area, the entryway to the clubhouse, the east parking lot, the area along the front and east of the clubhouse, the sign area at Court Avenue and the scoreboard area. Landscape Architect Evans explained that a combination of annuals, perennials, different tree types as well as planters would be used to provide color and coverage providing blooms throughout the year.

Commissioner Bernstein stated that he was happy with the plan and that he addressed some of his concerns with Park District Staff prior to the Workshop meeting. Those issues include: landscaping between the Clubhouse and the 1st and 8th tee, plans for the demolition of and landscape for the Parks Maintenance Building; long term, signage for the golf course at the south entrance, improving the signage on Green Bay Road, Bob-O-Link and Deerfield Road and the screening of the cart barn. Commissioner Bernstein explained that these issues would be moving into the future as the landscaping needs to mature, and that these items could be revisited in the future. Vice President Ruttenberg had a question about the consistency of the signage and asked that Director Gogola get back with the Board regarding the signage. Commissioner Grossberg

asked about the landscaping of the tee boxes. Deputy Director Donahue suggested that Manager Ochs give an update on the flowers in March.

PARK OPERATIONS / GOLF OPERATIONS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

In response to an earlier request, Assistant Director Smith provided an update on the security at the Park Operations/Golf Operations Building. He explained that cameras are mounted on the exterior of the building. They are placed to cover the upper and lower parking lot, ramp and exterior entrances. There are some cameras inside the building. All doors will be fobbed with card access. There is a sliding gate at the entrance and parking lot lights. Commissioner Bernstein asked if updates regarding motion could be made available with our current technology. Manager Johnson stated that it is possible.

Assistant Director Smith reported on the construction progress at the Park Operations/Golf Operations Building. He stated that work in the interior of the building included hanging of the doors and ceiling grid and the installation of the light fixtures, lockers, signage, blinds and restroom fixtures. Exterior work included installation of the guardrail along the east side of the parking lot, installation of the overhead doors and testing of the fuel tanks. Commissioner Bernstein suggested that the landscape plan be reviewed and further discussion should occur at a future meeting. Commissioner Bernstein shared his concerns that the building can be seen from Deerfield Road and the AquaPark and that the north side of the building should have larger trees as part of the landscape plan.

GREENPRINT UPDATE

Assistant Director Smith reviewed the GreenPrint Initiatives. Some items that are in progress include: Track 1 Sunset Valley Golf Course Clubhouse Improvements, Sunset Valley Golf Course Improvements, Land Management Strategy Plan, P.A Rezoning, Trail Plan, Natural Area Plan, Cultural Asset Plan, Disposal/Acquisition of Land, Programming, Services and Operations Strategy, and Scheduling Plan. Items in the planning stages are: Lakefront Master Plan Update and Track 1: Centennial Lobby Improvements. Assistant Director Smith provided a spreadsheet which outlined all the GreenPrint initiatives and the status of each.

HIGHLAND PARK COUNTRY CLUB PLANNING PROCESS

Manager Grill gave an overview of the Highland Park Country Club Conversion Planning Process. Manager Grill explained that a Community Engagement Approach will be employed. The purpose of Community Engagement will be to provide a framework for community and stakeholder input to inform conversion of the Highland Park Country Club Golf Course to passive open space in keeping with GreenPrint2024. There will be an Internal Planning Committee to oversee ongoing activities of community outreach, collaborate with stakeholders and an Advisory Committee providing the opportunity to provide input while the Park District of Highland Park remains ultimate decision maker. The committees will consult with the larger community in a focused way throughout the process. This may take the form of surveys, open

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public meetings or small group meetings. They will inform key players: Board members, Executive Staff and other Park District of Highland Park Staff. A Public Advisory Committee will provide input on amenities and activities that will complement the landscape and meet community interest and concerns. It will be led by Staff with guidance of the consultant. Potential Stakeholders will provide technical assistance, advise on specialized activities and potential support with resources of expertise or funding.

The Community Engagement Timeline (Planning Year 2018) is as follows:

Engage Staff, Stakeholders and Public	January-April 2018
Master Planning/Public Engagement/Design	April -Dec 31, 2018
Permitting/Construction Documents	August -Dec 31, 2018
Bidding	January 2019-February 2019

Manager Grill presented plans for a Demonstration Garden which will be located on the terrace behind the Clubhouse and will serve as a backdrop for photos for weddings. It will consist of a deliberate planting of native plants. There are plans to maintain the two greens and the tee behind the Country Club and keep that area green. The plan is to have this completed this year during planting season.

Manager Grill concluded her presentation by taking questions from the Board members. Vice President Ruttenberg wanted to know what authority if any, the City Design Review will have in this project as well as permitting for the project. Manager Grill stated that she was unsure but would check with the City on the design issue. As far as permitting, Manager Grill stated that the City would be involved. Commissioner Bernstein shared he felt the city's potential involvement would be contingent on how complicated this project was. President Kaplan wanted to know about the on-line Community Survey. Manager Grill explained that the Community Survey would go on the District website and that she was working with Director Gogola on this. Commissioner Bernstein asked if manager Grill's presentation could also be a part of the website. Manager Grill reported that she hopes to put a full-page on the District of the conversion project website which would include: project updates, surveys and the video of the project.

REVIEW OF VOUCHERS

Director Curtis presented bills for checks written January 5 through February 8, 2018 for an amount totaling \$946,727.25. There were no questions from the Board.

ROSEWOOD RAVINE UPDATE

Assistant Director Smith reported that there has been damage to the boulders on the north entrance side of the ravine at Rosewood Beach. Assistant Director Smith said that the south side can be repaired with replacement and repositioning of some boulders with no concern for the integrity of that area. Assistant Director Smith stated that the north side has significant damage

and that the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers has determined that a 3-foot high, 50- foot long concrete wall should be built along the length of the parking lot, go straight down and under the water with a footing. The Army Corp would do this work at no cost to the District. Commissioner Grossberg wanted to know how long the wall would last, if it would require much maintenance and if the south side of the lot should also have a wall for aesthetic purposes. Assistant Director Smith explained that the wall will last a long time, will need minimal maintenance to repaint and that in his opinion and that of the Army Corps only the one wall is necessary. Commissioner Bernstein asked if an engineer or the City should be called to assess the integrity of the parking lot. Assistant Director Smith assured the Board that the Army Corp does not feel the integrity will be challenged and that the flow of the water into the ravine would be improved with the construction of the wall.

OPEN TO PUBLIC ADDRESS TO ADDRESS BOARD

Mike Stroz addressed the issue of the Barge at Park Avenue Beach and that it appears to be deteriorating. He asked the Board if this issue was being investigated. He was advised that Executive Director McElroy and Staff were gathering information regarding this situation.

Commissioner Grossberg thanked the Board and Staff for the card, flowers and good wishes to his wife and their family.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein, seconded by Commissioner Grossberg, to adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of Section 2(c)(1) – the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline of the District including legal counsel for the District; Section 2(c)5 – the purchase or lease of real estate including discussion on whether a certain parcel of property should be acquired; Section 2(c)6 – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District; Section 2(c)8 – security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property; Section 2(c)11 – litigation against or on behalf of the District or where the District finds that an action is probable or imminent; Section 2(c)21 – the discussion of minutes lawfully closed under the Act, whether for the purposes of approval of said minutes or for conducting the semi-annual review of the minutes as set forth in Section 2.06 of the Act; Section 2(c)29 – for discussions between internal or external auditors and the Board.
Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Grossberg, Vice President Ruttenberg,
President Kaplan
Nay: None
Absent: Commissioner Flores Weisskopf
Abstain: None

Meeting was adjourned into closed session at 7:17 p.m.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

President Kaplan reported that the Board met in Closed Session under Section 2(c)5 – the purchase or lease of real estate including discussion on whether a certain parcel of property should be acquired; Section 2(c)6 – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made Vice President Ruttenberg, seconded by Commissioner Grossberg and approved by unanimous voice vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liza McElroy, Secretary