

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
MARCH 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 6:05 p.m. by President Kaplan.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Flores Weisskopf

Staff Present: Executive Director McElroy; Deputy Director Donahue; Director Curtis; Manager Johnson; Assistant Director Carr; Assistant Director Smith; Director Romes; Manager Grill; Director Voss; Director Gogola; Superintendent Ochs

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

GOLF MECCA PROPOSAL

Executive Director McElroy introduced Keith Bank, Dave Esler and Dave Fairman who gave the Board an overview of the proposed Golf Mecca. The group has asked the Park District to consider this venue as part of the phase for the Highland Park Country Club. Mr. Bank gave the initial presentation and Mr. Fairman took questions from the Board. Mr. Bank explained that the Golf Mecca had nine golf components learning and practice areas.

Commissioners Grossberg and Bernstein had questions and concerns regarding storm water management. Mr. Fairman stated that he and his team were aware of the storm water situation and would be willing to work with the Park District and be flexible on this issue. Commissioner Bernstein explained that there was a study occurring that would take up to five to ten years to complete and wanted to know how that would impact the plans for the Golf Mecca. Commissioner Grossberg raised the issue of parking and wanted to know how many parking spaces this project would require. Executive Director McElroy expressed a desire for connectivity between the Golf Mecca and open spaces for walking, biking, etc. President Kaplan discussed the surveys that had been done by the community regarding the plans for open spaces to be developed for this land. He stated that he had concerns with reconciling the Golf Mecca plan based on what the Park District has planned for the property. The Board thanked the group for the presentation and commented on the creativity of the plan.

PARKS OPERATIONS / GOLF OPERATIONS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Jeff Smith reported that the building is nearing completion. Over the past month, the stairway, elevator, ceiling tiles, and cabinetry in the training room were completed. Door hardware, AV equipment, security cameras, phones, internet and appliances were installed. Final inspections are currently being completed. Staff have begun the process of moving into the building and expect to be completed by mid-March. Outstanding items yet to be completed include installation of the entrance gate, chemical loading station and expansion gap at the upper lot entrance. In the spring, the asphalt surface layer will be installed and landscaping will be completed. It has been decided that the recessed sections of the building exterior will not be painted as planned. However, this will be reevaluated at a future date.

Executive Director McElroy thanked the Board for making this project a reality. Commissioner Bernstein added that need and good planning was the reason this project became a priority for the District.

SUNSET VALLEY GOLF CLUB UPDATES

A. CLUBHOUSE

Director Romes reported that the demolition on the exterior of the building is scheduled to begin next week as well as the removal of some of the existing landscaping.

B. GOLF COURSE

Superintendent Ochs shared that last month the District participated in the Chicagoland area Golf Show. Superintendent Ochs shared that holes 1 and 7, the last holes to be completed, were hydro mulched. As a result, the seed did not wash out and once temperatures begin to rise the seed will pop. He reviewed the planned landscaping, discussing some tree replacements and perennial plantings.

PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK SIGNAGE PROGRAM

Director Gogola explained that a planning initiative of the GreenPrint 2024 Master Plan calls for development and adoption of a standardized uniform park signage system. The Marketing Department has developed such a system that standardizes the District's signs within our parks.

The goal of the project was to develop a signage system that:

- Standardizes sign aesthetics, quality and messaging within our parks
- Easily, efficiently and clearly orients and directs visitors or alerts them to rules or hazards
- Consistently adheres to ADA, PDRMA and other regulations
- Is cost effective
- Consolidates messaging to reduce the number of signs within the parks
- Utilizes inspiration from the color palette and minimalistic signage at Rosewood Beach
- Extends the Park District of Highland Park brand to our parks

As part of this project, Woodhouse Tinucci Architects has developed three options for park and facility monument signs for the Board's consideration. Director Gogola presented the various signs and options for the monument signage. Vice President Ruttenberg suggested that some type of illumination be implemented for those signs used at facilities that are open after dark. Staff recommended that the blue/gray painted metal sign (option #3) be used for the monument signs. The Board concurred with the recommendation.

REVIEW OF VOUCHERS

Director Curtis presented bills for checks written February 23, 2018 through March 8, 2018 for an amount totaling \$1,405,447.18. There were no questions from the Board.

OPEN TO PUBLIC ADDRESS TO ADDRESS BOARD - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Vice President Ruttenberg, 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 8:05 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 by Commissioner Grossberg, seconded by Commissioner Bernstein and approved by unanimous voice vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liza McElroy, Secretary