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 6:00 p.m. by President Kaplan.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioner Grossberg, Commissioner Bernstein, Vice President Ruttenberg, Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, President Kaplan

**Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Executive Director Romes; Director Smith, Interim Director Becker, Assistant Director Maliszewski, Assistant Director Henriques; Manager Grill; Executive Coordinator Hejnowski

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** – None

**OPEN TO PUBLIC TO ADDRESS BOARD**

Daren Miller, 650 Green Bay Rd. of Highland Park, would like the District to invest in the development of public Paddle Tennis Courts and the appropriate facilities needed for play. He recommended development take place at the Recreation Center of Highland Park or Deer Creek. Lake Bluff, Glenview, Wilmette, and Winnetka Park District’s currently have courts and offer Paddle Tennis Leagues.

**ALBION RESIDENTIAL**

Commissioner Bernstein recused himself from the discussion and left the room at 6:17 p.m. Director Smith introduced Andrew Yule from Albion Jacobs. Andrew shared that construction will begin in November 2019 and that Clark Construction has been selected as the general contractor. A privacy screened fence will be erected around a portion of Sunset Woods Park which will limit access to the park during construction. The project should be close to completion in the Spring of 2021. Clark Construction and the Park District will communicate throughout the project to ensure the construction site remains protected while the public utilizes the park for programs and special events. Commissioner Flores Weisskopf brought up the annual 4th of July Festival since access to the park will be limited next summer. Vice President Ruttenberg asked if a passageway from Green Bay Rd. could be constructed during the festival. Andrew Yule recommended meeting in June of 2020, and stated if the site is safe, Clark Construction may be able to move the fencing which would allow one or both park pathways to open up from Green Bay Rd.
Discussion concluded and Commissioner Bernstein returned at 6:30 p.m.

ROSEWOOD BEACH SAND NOURISHMENT PROJECT UPDATE
Director Smith reported the project should take six weeks to complete and sand will be delivered starting on Tuesday October 22. Lower Rosewood parking lot and the Beach will be closed during this time. Director Smith introduced Margaret Boshek from SmithGroup. Margaret compared the two types of sand which will be spread across the Interpretive Cove and the Swimming Cove Beaches. She shared graphs indicating the project goal and what to expect over the course of the next year as the sand settles and flattens causing the appearance of the beach to evolve. The end result should be visible by summer 2020. It is recommended by SmithGroup to reevaluate at this time.

John Middleton, 17 Ridge Road Highland Park, suggested laying more rocks at the barrier instead of sand in the coves. Ms. Boshek of SmithGroup stated, the high-water levels and wave activity have washed away significant levels of the sand and drastically reshaped the shoreline. She stated that replenishing the coves with a more resilient and courser grain is the best path for stability at this time.

RAVINE 10 GLFER PROJECT
Manager Grill reported the overall estimated restoration is $6.5 million. This amount doesn’t consider the Federal share nor the shared cost between the District and the City of Highland Park. The Park District budgeted $375,000 for its share. The District is still in discussions with the City of Highland Park and the Army Corps of Engineers to determine shared costs and options.

SMC GRANT AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY PARK POND NORTH SHORELINE
The District received a $290,000 SMC 319 Grant for shoreline restoration work at the large pond at Community Park. The Lake County Forest Preserve District has been notified of the grant and the District is working with Hey & Associates for a construction phase services proposal.

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN
Director Smith provided a brief overview of the five year capital plan to the park board since the plan was reviewed in detail at the Finance Committee Meeting with Vice President Ruttenberg and Commissioner Bernstein on Wednesday October 2, 2019. Some of the highlighted projects included the compressor replacement at Centennial Ice Arena and the replacement of the filtration system at Hidden Creek AquaPark. The project at Centennial is only budgeted for the current sheet of ice. There’s no budget in place for a second sheet. The project at Hidden Creek AquaPark will require a general contractor to come in and replace the pool filtration system, so the District budgeted $425,000.

AUDITOR RECOMMENDATION
Interim Director Becker reviewed that at the July Finance Committee Meeting the Board recommended that Staff issue a Request for Proposal (RFP). Interim Director Becker stated that it is generally a good idea to change firms every so often. The RFP produced three responses: Miller, Cooper & Company, Sikich, LLP and the District’s current auditor, Lauderbach and Amen. Interim Director Becker expressed that they are all excellent firms, but that the District
should consider the two other firms. Commissioner Grossberg questioned the importance of a change. Commissioner Bernstein said it was time to change as the District should not become too comfortable with one firm only and noted this is not an indictment of Lauderbach and Amen as the District has had a great relationship over the past 9 years. It was agreed to consider the two new firms and notify Lauderbach and Amen of that decision.

REVIEW OF VOUCHERS
Interim Director Becker presented the vouchers for checks written September 26, 2019 through October 9, 2019 for an amount totaling $736,991.12. There were no questions from the Board. Vice President Ruttenberg reviewed the vouchers and had no further questions.

Commissioner Flores Weisskopf had a question about an entry having to do with photographers. Executive Director Romes commented, this was for an annual photo shoot at the Recreation Center of Highland Park.

CLOSED SESSION
Motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein, seconded by Vice President Ruttenberg 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 Grossberg, Vice President Ruttenberg, Commissioner Flores Weisskopf, Commissioner Bernstein, President Kaplan

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried

Meeting was adjourned into closed session at 7:47 p.m.

Meeting was reconvened into open session at 9:07 p.m.
ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION IF ANY
President Kaplan reported that the Board met in Closed Session under Section 2(c)5 – the purchase or lease of real estate including a discussion on whether a certain parcel of property should be acquired; Section 2(c)11 – litigation against or on behalf of the District or where the District finds that an action is probable or imminent.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice President Ruttenberg and seconded by Commissioner Grossberg and approved by unanimous vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Romes, Secretary