

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
MAY 11, 2021**

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Highland Park was conducted remotely due to the Governor's Declaration of Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Members of the public were able to view a live stream of the Annual Meeting.

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Executive Director Romes conducted the Oath of Office for Commissioner Re-Elect, Brian Kaplan, and Commissioner Elect, Jennifer Freeman.

Executive Director Romes asked Commissioner Re-Elect, Brian Kaplan, and Commissioner Elect, Jennifer Freeman, to raise their right hands and to solemnly swear or affirm, that he/she will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that he/she will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Park District Commissioner according to the best of his/her abilities.

Executive Director Romes congratulated Commissioner Kaplan and Commission Freeman and welcomed them to the Park Board of Commissioners for the Park District of Highland Park.

Commissioner Freeman reported that she is excited to be a part of the team and thanked everyone for their support.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

Staff Present: Executive Director Romes; Director Smith; Director Voss; Director Peters; Director Gogola; Director Dunn; Director Carr; General Manager/Superintendent of Golf Operations Ochs, Assistant Director Maliszewski; Manager Johnson; Executive Coordinator Hejnowski

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. President

Executive Director Romes opened the floor for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Commissioner Kaplan nominated Commissioner Ruttenberg for the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners and Commissioner Bernstein seconded his nomination. There were no other nominations for the office of President of Park Commissioners.

There was no discussion regarding nominations for President.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Grossberg, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Commissioner Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Grossberg to elect Commissioner Ruttenberg to the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Grossberg, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Commissioner Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

B. Vice President

President Ruttenberg opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Commissioner Kaplan nominated Commissioner Grossberg for the office of Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners and President Ruttenberg seconded his nomination. There were no other nominations for the office of Vice President of Park Commissioners.

There was no discussion regarding nominations for Vice President.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Grossberg, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Kaplan to elect Commissioner Grossberg to the office of Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

A. Secretary/Executive Director – Brian Romes

A motion was made by Vice President Grossberg and seconded by Commissioner Kaplan to appoint Brian Romes to the office of Secretary/Executive Director.

President Ruttenberg commended Executive Director Romes for the laborious efforts throughout the pandemic.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

B. Assistant Secretary – Roxanne Hejnowski

A motion was made by Vice President Grossberg and seconded by Commissioner Freeman to appoint Roxanne Hejnowski as the Assistant Secretary acting under the general supervisor of the Secretary/Executive Director to the office of Assistant Secretary.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

C. Treasurer – Mari-Lynn Peters

A motion was made by Commissioner Kaplan and seconded by Commissioner Bernstein to appoint Mari-Lynn Peters to the office of Treasurer.

Commissioner Bernstein commended Director Peters for her work, reporting she has done an outstanding job of managing the District’s finances throughout the pandemic.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

D. IMRF Authorized Agent – Donna Dunn

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Kaplan to appoint Director Dunn as the IMRF Authorized Agent.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

E. Auditor – Sikich LLP

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Kaplan to appoint Sikich LLP as the auditor for the Park District of Highland Park.

Vice President Grossberg would like to know how many years Sikich LLP has been auditing the District.

Director Peters reported that Sikich LLP has been with the Park District for 2 years, and they are currently under a three-year contract.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

F. Attorney – Ancel Glink

A motion was made by Commissioner Kaplan and seconded by Commissioner Freeman to appoint Ancel Glink as the attorney for the Park District of Highland Park.

President Ruttenberg reported that Ancel Glink operates under an open contract so their services could be terminated at any time.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Kaplan to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call:

Aye: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Freeman, Commissioner Kaplan, Vice President Grossberg, President Ruttenberg

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary