

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
MAY 25, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Ruttenberg.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Vice President Grossberg to allow Commissioner Kaplan to participate by electronic means.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** None

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

President Ruttenberg requested a moment of silence to honor the loss of the children and teachers in Texas.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**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 Grossberg for the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Commissioner Bernstein to close the floor for nominations for President of the Park Board.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

Annual Meeting Minutes  
May 25, 2022

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

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**B. Vice President**

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

Commissioner Kaplan nominated Commissioner Freeman for the office of Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Commissioner Ruttenberg to close the floor for nominations for Vice President of the Park Board.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

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

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**A. Secretary/Executive Director – Brian Romes**

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

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**B. Assistant Secretary – Roxanne Hejnowski**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Commissioner Bernstein 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 Kaplan, Commissioner Ruttenberg, Vice President Freeman, President Grossberg

**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.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**D. IMRF Authorized Agent – Chris Kopka**

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

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**E. Auditor – Sikich LLP**

A motion was made by Vice President Freeman and seconded by Commissioner Ruttenberg to appoint Sikich LLP as the auditor for the Park District of Highland Park.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**F. Attorney – Ancel Glink**

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

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

President Grossberg reported that the Park Board currently has the following Board Committees, Facility and Recreation, Lakefront, Parks, and Natural Areas, Finance, and Policy. Per Park District policy #2.05, the President of the Board appoints Committee Chairs. The established Board Committee Chairs shall advise the Board on matters presented at the Board Committee Meetings.

Executive Director Romes reported that appointments will be made at a future meeting, however he would like to take the opportunity to see which members of the Park Board would be interested in chairing our Board Committees.

Vice President Freeman would like to chair the Facility and Recreation Committee.

Commissioner Kaplan would like to chair the Lakefront, Parks, and Natural Areas Committee.

Commissioner Bernstein would like to chair the Finance Committee Meeting.

President Grossberg would like to chair the Policy Committee Meeting.

Commissioner Bernstein acknowledged and recognized the efforts and dedication former President Ruttenberg put in over the last 10 years, some of which was during the pandemic. On behalf of the entire Park Board, we appreciate all the work he did for the Park District.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Commissioner Bernstein to adjourn the meeting.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion carried.**

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Roxanne Hejnowski*

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary