

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. President Grossberg.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Vice President Freeman to allow Commissioner Bernstein and Commissioner Kaplan to participate in tonight's meeting by electronic means.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** Commissioner Kaplan

**Staff Present:** Executive Director Romes; Deputy Director Carr; Director Smith; Director Peters; Director Voss; Director Gogola; Director Maliszewski; Director Murrin; Manager Schwartz; Manager Ochs; Coordinator Hejnowski

**Guest Speakers:** None

Commissioner Kaplan joined the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATES**

**A. Fink Park Athletic Field Development project**

Director Maliszewski reported that staff are bidding out the project on March 27. The Bid opening is scheduled for April 25. Staff will review the bid results with the Finance Committee and request approval from the Park Board of Commissioners at the May 24, 2023 Regular Meeting. If approved, construction will begin in July. Staff anticipates the project will be substantially completed in October. The anticipated grand opening on the new field baseball field is April 2024. Lastly, the Athletic Boosters have raised \$375,000 to fund this project.

Commissioner Ruttenberg would like to know staffs estimated total cost for the project.

Director Maliszewski reported that the total project is estimated to cost \$1.6 million.

**B. *Sunset Valley Golf Club Bridge Replacement project***

Manager Ochs reported that Phase Two of the Bridge Replacement project is complete and shared images of the new bridges.

**C. *Deer Creek Racquet Club Locker Room Improvement project***

Manager Schwartz reported that staff are looking to renovate the wet areas of the locker rooms with new fixtures, new tiles, new partitions, and new carpet. In addition to the locker rooms, staff are also looking to convert three of the racquetball courts to a pickleball court. There is \$200,000 in the 2023 budget for this project.

The Park Board of Commissioners would like to review the cost estimates for the locker room renovation and the court conversion with the Finance Committee. They feel the proposed design costs are too high.

**D. *Centennial Ice Arena Facility and Site Renovations project***

Manager Schwartz shared images of the interior renovations showcasing the locker rooms with team benches, windows and dry wall in the lobby, and rubber flooring around the rink. She also shared images of the exterior improvements showcasing the façade panels along the facility entrance and ADA spaces.

Commissioner Kaplan would like to know when the entire project will be completed.

Manager Schwartz reported that the facility will be open for program usage in April, however staff are anticipating the exterior improvements to be completed in June. Staff are taking the appropriate safety measures to ensure users can access the site during active construction.

**E. *Centennial Ice Arena Rink Floor Replacement project***

Director Smith reported that the project is complete and shared images of the rink floor with the ice. The tentative grand opening to showcase the new rink floor and the facility and site renovations is June 6, 2023.

Commissioner Ruttenberg would like to know if the Park District received a financial contribution from the Highland Park Giants.

Director Gogola reported that the Park District received a financial contribution from the Highland Park Giants.

**REVIEW OF VOUCHERS**

Director Peters reported that there were two remarkable items, a check for Lakes and Rivers to support the project at Park Avenue Beach and Boating Facility and a check to purchase shade structures at Hidden Creek Aquapark.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Commissioner Kaplan, seconded by Vice President Freeman, to adjourn into Closed Session for discussion of Section 2(c)5 – the purchase or lease of real estate including discussion on whether a certain parcel of property should be acquired.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned into Closed Session at 6:46 p.m.

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 7:45 p.m.

**Action From Closed Session If Any**

President Grossberg reported that the Park Board of Commissioners 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.

No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Vice President Freeman and approved by a unanimous vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Roxanne Hejnowski*

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary