

**MINUTES OF A THE LAKEFRONT, PARKS, & NATURAL AREAS
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
HELD ON APRIL 24, 2024, 5:06 PM.**

Present: Commissioner Bernstein, Commissioner Kaplan, President Grossberg

Absent: None

Also, Present: Executive Director Romes; Deputy Director Carr; Director Smith, Director Voss, Director Baird, Director Peters, Director Gogola, Assistant Director Reyes, Assistant Director Acevedo; Manager Ochs, Manager Nichols, Manager Schwartz, Manager Kutscheid, Coordinator Hejnowski

Guest Speaker: Jameson Skaife, Associate Principal Lamar Johnson Collaborative; Anezka Gocova, Senior Associate, Lamar Johnson Collaborative

Vice President Freeman joined the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Parking Lot Improvements Deer Creek Racquet Club/Jeff Fox Field

Director Smith reviewed the existing parking lot layout vs the proposed, noting that the proposed layout increases the number of parking spaces from 64 to 78 (74 standard spaces/ 4 ADA spaces). The bid is being released April 25, 2024. Staff plan to review and provide a bid recommendation at the May Finance Committee Meeting and request approval from the Park Board of Commissioners at the May 22, 2024 Regular Meeting. Construction is anticipated to begin in late July.

Park Avenue Boating Facility South Parking Lot Restoration Project

Director Smith reported that while construction was anticipated to commence on March 18, 2024, challenges have occurred due to piping from the North Shore Water Reclamation District. An analysis of the pipe was conducted to determine its tolerance to the vibrations from the sheet pile being drilled to restore the south parking lot. Staff determined that the project cannot commence until the winter or early spring. Staff are sending communications to the boating community.

Sunset Woods Park Improvements Project Update

The project scope includes converting the current basketball courts into multi-use courts, developing a game area, improving the skate park and adding a more inclusive wheel friendly skate plaza and more native plantings. Enhancements to the current tennis courts and surrounding lighting fixtures are also being studied.

Mr. Skaife and Mrs. Gocova, Lamar Johnson Collaborative, reviewed the community feedback from the recent meeting. Another community meeting will be held on May 2, 2024, to review proposed concepts for the Skate Park, Wheel Friendly Plaza, Game Area, and Multi-Use Court Area to gather votes from community members on preferred elements, styles, etc. Community feedback from the May meeting plan to be presented to the Park Board of Commissioners.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Bernstein and seconded by Vice President Freeman approved by a unanimous vote. The Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Hejnowski

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary