

**PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. President Bernstein.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Labrador

Staff Present: Executive Director Romes; Deputy Director Carr; Director Smith; Director Peters; Director Voss; Director Gogola; Director Hall; Director Baird; Assistant Director Soto; Assistant Director Acevedo; Manager Schwartz; Manager DiTomasso; Coordinator Hejnowski

Guest: None

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF THE GMP AMENDMENT WITH W.B. OLSON FOR THE NEW RECREATION FACILITY AT WEST RIDGE PARK

Executive Director Romes reported that at the September 27, 2023 Board Meeting, the Park Board of Commissioners approved an Agreement with W.B Olson for Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) for the construction a new recreation facility at West Ridge Park. Per the Agreement, after W.B. Olson conducts bidding, the Agreement between the Park District and W.B. Olson is amended to establish a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP). The GMP includes all agreed upon costs for construction, including contingencies, allowances, and other CMAR's fees as detailed in the Amendment.

On November 22, 2024, bids were received for the various trade packages for construction of the New recreation facility at West Ridge Park. The Park District received the proposed GMP Amendment on January 6, 2025, which was then discussed with the Park Board Finance Committee on January 8, 2025. The proposed GMP is \$15,050,498 and the attached agreement reflects feedback from the Finance Committee as recommended by Corporate Council, Ancel Glink. The proposed GMP amount is consistent with the Park District's overall project budget and allows for the recommended owner's contingency.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Vice President Freeman for the GMP Amendment with W.B. Olson for construction of the new recreation center at West Ridge Park in the amount of \$15,050,498.

Roll Call:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Commissioner Labrador

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

CLUB PICKLE AND PADEL PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Manger Liewehr reported that a marketing campaign was released this month to promote the Club Pickle and Padel app. The app provides Deer Creek Racquet Club and Recreation Center of Highland Park members with a sneak peak of Club Pickle and Padel memberships, upcoming clinics and events at Club Pickle and Padel and Deer Creek Racquet Club, and the outdoor court reservation system at Danny Cunniff Park. May 1 - September 30, 2025, six (6) outdoor courts at Danny Cunniff Park can be reserved. Members can reserve up to 7 days in advance, nonmembers can reserve 1 day in advance. Court reservations are limited to 2 hours per day. Staff are exploring access control and display options for court reservations at Danny Cunniff Park.

Summer Registration will be available through the Club Pickle and Padel App. Registration for members opens April 23; nonmembers April 30.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATES

A. Club Pickle and Padel Facility Project

Director Smith provided an update on construction over the past month. He also reported that the Park District has been made aware of a concern the Illinois Department of Public Health has with a variance granted regarding restroom vents. Staff are working with consultants, City and State to resolve.

B. New Facility and Site Improvements at West Ridge Park

Manager Schwartz reported that staff are working on communications to the community regarding construction of the new recreation facility at West Ridge Park. Construction is anticipated to commence in March of 2025.

C. Recreation Center of Highland Park Construction updates

Deputy Director Carr reported that a water line at the Recreation Center of Highland Park cracked on December 02, 2024. The crack occurred over night, causing significant flooding to the fitness floor. Water leaked from the second level fitness floor into the ceiling of the indoor pool. There is no damage to the indoor pool. The following repairs are complete: drywall, baseboards, insulation, vinyl flooring, outlets, and painting. The Mondo floor in the free-weight area has been ordered. Flooring should arrive in late January. The Recreation Center of Highland Park should be back to normal operations in early February.

Workshop Meeting Minutes

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Director Gogola shared draft images of the proposed monument sign for properties at 1207 Park Avenue West. The Park District of Highland Park owns the Preserve of Highland Park and Park Fitness (rebrand of the Recreation Center of Highland Park). The City of Highland Park owns the Senior Center and the Moraine Events. This has been a collaboration between the City of Highland Park and the Park District of Highland Park, it's a 50/50 cost share for new signage. Final design will be approved by both parties in January.

D. Park Avenue Beach and Boating Facility Signage

Director Gogola shared draft images of the proposed monument sign at Park Avenue Beach and Boating Facility.

E. Park Avenue South Parking Lot Restoration

Director Smith reported that in February, Lakes and Rivers Contracting, Inc., will begin the reconstruction of the parking lot which includes a revetment installation to prevent future eroding and parking lot repairs. In order to not impact an existing sanitary sewer line, the reconstructed parking lot will extend further east than the original lot. Construction is anticipated to be completed in April.

REVIEW OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Ruttenberg reported that he reviewed the vouchers and found no discrepancies.

OTHER BUSINESS

Executive Director Romes reported that staff are ready to review the proposed changes to the Park District of Highland Park Policy Manual with the Park Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Labrador and Commissioner Ruttenberg will be the liaisons to review the manual before it's presented in it's entirety to the Park Board of Commissioners.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg, seconded by Commissioner Grossberg Section 2(c)1: The employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.

Roll Call:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Commissioner Labrador

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned into Closed Session at 7:48 p.m.

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The meeting was reconvened into Open Session at 8:06 p.m.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION IF ANY

President Bernstein reported that the Park Board of Commissioners met in Closed Session under Section 2(c)1: The employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruttenberg and seconded by Commissioner Grossberg and approved by a unanimous vote. The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roxanne Hejnowski".

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary