

**February 2022
Board Briefs**

FEBRUARY 9 FACILITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee support staffs recommendation for the Centennial Ice Arena site improvements which includes installing additional underground piping to prevent and mitigate flooding along the north and west sides of the facility, adding nine light poles to the south parking lot, seven to north lot, and three to the turnaround.

Staff received an updated cost for pre-design work from Architect consultants, Holabird and Root, for the West Ridge Parks and Site Project. The project scope includes re-establish West Ridge Center vision and alignment with GreenPrint Master Plan and Sports Field Master Plan, Site Selection Services to determine a location on the existing site, Preliminary Design Services to develop project programs through community engagement, and Design Documentation and Administration, to begin construction.

FEBRUARY 9 WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE PARK BOARD

The Park Board of Commissioners approved Policy #7.13 – Website Privacy Policy. A Website Privacy Policy informs customers what type of data the District is collecting and what is being done with that data.

The Park District launched an updated website and new mobile app. The app is available on the Apple and Google stores.

FEBRUARY 16 LAKEFRONT, PARKS, AND NATURAL AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING

Staff provided information on The Park Avenue Site Plan initiative from the Lakefront Master Plan Update that consolidates the various lakefront planning efforts to develop a holistic, sustainable, conceptual site plan for Park Avenue Beach and Boating Facility. The plan considers access, boat storage and amenities, passive and active recreation, infrastructure repair and replacement and is consistent with the District’s Beach Management Plan. The Lakota Group continues to work on the Summary Plan Document which details in a report format the process of the elements of the plan.

Staff has been working on the Millard Bluff grading plans to develop grading plans for the areas at the top of the bluff.

Sunset Woods playground equipment has arrived and is anticipated to be completed by Memorial Day with a grand opening date in June.

Staff would like to remove the current monument sign at Sheahan Woods and replace it with an interpretive sign to tell the story of the Sheahan family and their history in the park, as they own this portion of the property at Sunset Woods Park. Staff are in discussion with the Sheahan family.

Staff met with the City of Highland Park and the Highland Lakes Property Owners Association to further discuss the termination agreement and transfer of management and maintenance to the Property Owners Association for the Rory David Deutsch Tot Lot.

FEBRUARY 16 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Staff reviewed the Five-Year Capital Plan and highlighted projects occurring this year and in 2023. This year, staff will install pickleball sound reduction screens at Danny Cunniff Park, conduct a feasibility study of Old Elm, and complete the first phase of the Sunset Valley Bridge Replacement Project. In 2023, the slide and shade structure along with the concrete deck and sound system will be replaced at Hidden Creek

AquaPark; the pool deck and Dectron system at the Recreation Center of Highland Park will be replaced; and due to the in-depth design and planning process, construction will occur in 2023 for playground replacement at Moroney Park.

FEBRUARY 23 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Staff have been meeting with District 113 Administration to discuss updated terms to the current intergovernmental agreement for maintenance and use of certain park and school property which will expire in March 2022.

Staff and the Board discussed the potential of conducting a Park Board Self-Evaluation with the Illinois Association for Park Districts (IAPD). The program evaluates the quality and effectiveness of the Park District and Park Board governance. IAPD recommends agencies periodically assess their performance by regularly re-examining their goals and processes and a review of the Board Manual and Robert's Rules.

An update was provided regarding the Park District's emergency operational plans and response efforts due to the SARS-CoV-2 (Corona) Virus related to the Governor's ruling to lift the indoor mask mandate, the Park District's Employee Vaccine and Testing Policy, and resuming in-person public meetings. As of February 28, the Park District moved to a "mask optional" position in facilities and programs, and the Vaccination and Testing Policy remains in effect and will be re-evaluated in 30 days.

FEBRUARY 23 REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARK BOARD

the Park Board of Commissioner's approved the Revised Full-Time Staff Salary Schedule in the Compensation Plan; Approval to Authorize the Professional Services Agreement with Holabird and Root; Resolution 2022-01 Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity for Park District Facilities and Meters and Authorizing the Director to Approve a Contract with the Lowest Cost Electricity Provider For a Period up to 3 years; Resolution 2022-02 Authorizing a Sole Source Contract for Procurement of the Centennial Ice Arena Zamboni Replacement; Resolution 2022-03 Authorizing an Increase in the Budgeted Year-End Fund Transfer Amounts; and Ordinance 2022-03 Authorizing and Providing for the Conveyance or Sale of Surplus Personal Property.

The Park District has an Agreement with the Highland Park Strings per the District's Affiliate and Sponsored Group Policy and in past years included a financial stipend. The Board Amended the 2022 Highland Park String's Agreement to include a \$10,000 financial stipend for one year. Staff will work with the Strings during 2022 to determine ways to utilize the Park District resources and relationships to help identify funding possibilities and/or help to reduce expenses for the Strings.

The Parks Foundation surpassed the \$300,000 fundraising goal to help support the construction of a new breakwater and boat ramp at the Park Avenue Boating Facility. Over 600 households have supported the campaign.

Respectfully submitted,



Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary