

**MINUTES OF A THE FACILITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2023 5:34 P.M.**

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

Absent: None

Also, Present: Brian Romes, Executive Director, Mitch Carr, Deputy Director of Facilities and Operations, Dan Voss, Director of Parks, Liz Gogola, Director of Communications and Marketing, Jeff Smith, Director of Planning and Projects, Mari-Lynn Peters, Director of Finance, Chris Kopka, Director of Human Resources and Workforce strategy; Chris Maliszewski, Assistant Director of Recreation and Facilities; Amy Murrin, Assistant Director of Recreation and Facilities; Ryan Ochs, General Manager and Superintendent of Golf Operations; Debbie Pierce, Districtwide Rental Manager, Kari Acevedo, Aquatics Manager; Roxanne Hejnowski, Executive Coordinator

Guest Speaker: None

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Lakefront User Fees

Manager Acevedo reviewed the proposed fees for lakefront parking decals and beach passes, noting that resident beach passes for Rosewood Beach will continue to be free, however, staff are proposing to increase the Resident lakefront parking decal fees by \$5.00 in 2023. Non-Resident parking decal fees and beach passes will not increase to align with rates at neighboring communities and low usage in 2022. Lakefront decals go on sale March 1, 2023.

Commissioner Ruttenberg would like to know the Non-Resident parking decal and beach pass rates.

Manager Acevedo reported Non-Resident parking decals are \$285 and beach passes are \$100 for individuals and \$25 for each additional family member in the same household.

President Grossberg does not support the \$500 increase for Resident lakefront parking decals.

Manager Acevedo shared the rates of neighboring communities, noting that the Park District of Highland Park is much lower aside from Glencoe whose rates align with ours.

Executive Director Romes reported that the Park District of Highland Park does not charge a swimming fee, whereas the neighboring communities charge daily parking and swimming fees.

Assistant Director Murrin provided a brief overview of the daily launch and parking fees at Park Avenue Beach and Boating Facility, noting that weekday rates for parking are \$20 per vehicle, weekends are \$30 per vehicle. To park and launch your boat or is \$35 weekdays, \$65 weekends. Daily launch and parking

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not available on holiday weekends. New this year, boaters can scan a QR code for gate access (7.5% transaction fee).

Manager Pierce reviewed the proposed Park Avenue Boating Facility Launch and Storage Fees, noting that staff are recommending fees increase by 5% for residents and 10% for non-residents. Current loyalty members will not see a fee increase due to being locked in the 5–10-year rate agreement. Registration for returning boaters begins March 15, registration for new resident boaters begins March 30, and registration for new non-resident boaters begins April 6.

The Park Board of Commissioners supports the 2023 Lakefront operations and user fees.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Kaplan, seconded by Commissioner Bernstein 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; Section 2(c)6 – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District.

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 5:44 p.m.

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 6:48 p.m.

Action From Closed Session If Any

Vice President Freeman reported that the Facility and Recreation Committee 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; Section 2(c)6 – the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District.

No action was taken.

Danny Cunniff Park Pickleball Project

Director Smith reported that in the fall of 2022 the Park Board of Commissioners supported staff's recommendation to convert some of the existing tennis courts at Danny Cunniff Park into pickleball courts, so staff are here this evening to provide a project update. Currently there are six (6) pickleball courts and 10 (10) tennis courts at Danny Cunniff Park. Staff would like to convert four (4) of the existing tennis courts. This project is recognized in the Capital Plan, however it is unfunded, so the conversion would

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need to be fully funded by donations, so staff are developing a fundraising committee. Since the project is unfunded, staff requested feedback from the Committee to determine a start date for construction, Spring of 2023, Fall of 2023, or Spring of 2024.

Commissioner Kaplan would like to know how much the project would cost.

Director Smith reported that the project is unfunded and estimated at \$200,000.

Commissioner Bernstein would like staff to find the funds to cover the project. He would also like the area relandscaped and the restrooms repaired. He's hoping that could be done in house to save costs.

Commissioner Kaplan, Commissioner Ruttenberg, and Vice President Freeman would like staff to move budgets around to fund this project.

The Committee supports moving forward with this project in the Spring of 2023.

Commissioner Ruttenberg would also like staff to develop a plan for future amenities at the site to truly enhance it.

West Ridge Center Facility Planning Improvements Update

The Park Board of Commissioners received the feasibility study initiative from BerryDunn. There were no questions or feedback from the Committee.

Other business

None.

Open to the Public to Address the Board

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Hejnowski

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary