

**Minutes
Bloomingdale Park District
Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 21, 2022
Johnston Recreation Center and Via Zoom Video Conference**

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board, staff, and visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomingdale Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Burke at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Jerry Marshall, Karen Johns, Mike Vogl, and Andre Burke, and staff members Joe Potts, Jennifer Vale, Sandy Vangundy, Lonna Converso, Mesha Hadzic, and Jackie Tithof Steere.

(The Board authorized in advance the absence of Commissioner Puccio.)

(Commissioners were able to hear and see one another as well as the staff.)

Recognition of Visitors

The Board welcomed the following visitors: Dan Leahy, executive director of the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA), present to give an annual WDSRA update to the Board; Adam Hoover of the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC), in attendance to answer questions regarding a Resolution on the agenda; Corben Sadowski of Links Technology, present to address any technological issues during the meeting; Kathy Jecmen, present to receive an anniversary award; and Lonna Converso, introduced as the Park District's new director of marketing communications.

Opening Statement

At 7:03 p.m., President Andre Burke recited the following statement related to meeting virtually during COVID-19:

This meeting will be conducted by video conference and in-person possibly without a physically present quorum of the Bloomingdale Park District Board of Commissioners because of a disaster declaration related to COVID-19 public health concerns affecting the jurisdiction of the Park District. The President of the Board of Commissioners has determined that an in-person meeting at the JRC with all participants may not be practical or prudent because of the disaster. Commissioners, the Executive Director, staff and chief legal counsel may not all be physically present at the JRC, due to the disaster. Physical public attendance at the JRC may be limited or not feasible, so alternative arrangements for public access to hear the meeting are available here (on Zoom). This meeting is also audio and video recorded and made available to the public, as provided by law. All votes will be by roll call. The public has submitted any questions in advance to staff.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2022, meeting as presented. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Johns, Vogl, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

At this point, Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Johns, to move up on the agenda Item 8A. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Marshall, Johns, Vogl, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board

Observation of 15-Year BPD Anniversary of Kathy Jecmen

The Board and staff recognized Kathy Jecmen for reaching a significant milestone of 15 years with the Park District. A solid member of the staff who is knowledgeable and comes through for people, Kathy is depended on by her colleagues for many things. Kathy thanked the Board for the recognition and stated it has been a pleasure to work at the Park District for so long – to be near her family, provide fun for the neighborhood, and help people from the front desk. An award was presented to Kathy.

(Kathy left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.)

At this point, Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to move up on the agenda Item 8B. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Marshall, Vogl, Johns, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Visit from Dan Leahy, WDSRA Executive Director

WDSRA Executive Director Dan Leahy updated the Board on the year's happenings at the special recreation agency. Eight months into his new position, Dan is building results through 30-60-90 goals, being active in meetings related to legislation, and realigning the agency's organization chart. Last year for the Bloomingdale community, WDSRA provided programming, support, and disability education as well as hosted a volleyball tournament and SRA art show at BPD facilities. The Park District, in turn, supported WDSRA through golf outings and the BASH fundraiser.

The WDSRA report card reveals a raising of the bar in terms of an increase in 1.) access (to waiting lists, scholarships, and new sites), 2) activities (trending, pricing, and life cycle), and 3.) awareness (outreach and marketing, advocate and network, and presence in Park Districts). According to Dan, the agency does not want to be the best kept secret around. They have received great feedback from their virtual programming and will

continue to offer it post-COVID-19. Virtual programming has proven to be low cost, an easy way to accommodate participants, and crucial to the quality of life for those families participating.

(Dan left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.)

(At this point, the normal order of the agenda was resumed.)

Staff Reports

The Board commented on an imminent shortage of staff in the gymnastics program. Staff is working on filling the upcoming vacancies due to the retirement of two key personnel.

At this point, Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Johns, to move up on the agenda Item 7B. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Marshall, Johns, Vogl, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

New Business

Approval of Resolution No. 2022-01 NIMEC Participation and Bid Approval Consent

Adam Hoover of NIMEC addressed the Board on NIMEC services, which are intended to help non-profits and municipalities secure better rates for power usage. The Resolution brought before the Board grants Executive Director Potts signing power on sometimes time-sensitive, competitive bids, the first of which for the Park District will take place on March 3, 2022. The Board inquired about cancellations and penalties, obligations, and rate expirations. It is anticipated a desirable flat rate can save approximately \$8,000 per year.

Commissioner Vogl moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to approve Resolution No. 2022-01: A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) and the Director to Approve a Contract with the Lowest Cost Electricity Provider for a Period up to 36 Months. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Vogl, Marshall, Johns, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

(Adam left the meeting at 7:36 p.m.)

(At this point, the normal order of the agenda was resumed.)

Approval of Multi-Day Conference Expenses for the Board

The Board had no questions or concerns regarding expense reports submitted by Board Members for the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference, held January 27-29, 2022, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. All reports for Commissioners who attended the conference were prepared in conjunction with staff and included in the Board Packet.

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to approve multi-day conference expenses for the Board for the 2022 IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Johns, Vogl, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board, Continued

Welcome to Lonna Converso, Director of Marketing Communications

The Board welcomed aboard Lonna Converso as the new director of marketing communications. She joins a strong team of professionals in her important marketing role. Lonna has a bachelor's degree in communications from Loyola University and a master's degree in speech communications from Northeastern Illinois University. Lonna is the former director of marketing and social media for Rockford's Midway Village Museum, where she built a marketing program from the ground up to include branding and an expansion of media relations and print collateral. Happy to be at Bloomingdale, she has touched base with staff and will be meeting with sponsors to continue those relationships.

2022 IAPD/IPRA Conference Review

The Board discussed this year's IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference. Overall, Commissioners and staff were glad to meet in person again and believed the conference to safe, informative, and productive. Commissioner Vogl was commended for his work as Chairman of the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) of the Board of Trustees, which involved emceeding the awards luncheon and hosting the Chairman's Reception, and for representing the Bloomingdale Park District so well.

Capital Project Review

The Board and staff discussed the status of capital projects and funding through the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant program. This year's grant writing expenses of \$16,000 are over budget but considered an investment. This account has been budgeted for and unused for years. Staff will keep the Board posted on any new developments.

New Statement of Economic Interests Form

A discussion was held on the significant changes to the Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) form, a financial disclosure form that must be submitted to the County Clerk by elected officials and department heads of the Park District, in accordance with the Governmental Ethics Act. Overall, the Board believes it to be cumbersome and invasive. Staff will continue to forward written legal guidance for completing the form fully and accurately.

Additional Items to be Brought Before the Board

Conversion to Paylocity

The Finance Department continues to transition to a third-party payroll vendor, which will also assist with onboarding, reduce the paper process, handle status forms, and prepare W-2 and quarterly forms, among other things. Once implementation is scheduled, staff will be notified of the change.

Cameras in the Park

Staff discussed a memo detailing proposed costs to add cameras to a District park. Costs ranged from inexpensive trail cameras to expensive, solar-powered units. The Board suggested conferring with the Police Department for potential cost-sharing purposes, insight into product value, and additional knowledge on the matter.

Acceptance of Financial Reports

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to accept the Financial Reports dated January 2022. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Johns, Vogl, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Approval of Directive to Pay

Commissioner Vogl moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to approve the Directive to Pay dated February 21, 2022. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Vogl, Marshall, Johns, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Executive Session

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to enter not into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Johns, Vogl, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Adjournment

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:18 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

Aye: Johns, Vogl, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: Puccio

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Potts
Board Secretary