

**Bloomington Park District  
Board of Commissioners SPECIAL Meeting  
May 11, 2020, 7:00 P.M.  
WebEx Video Conference**

**Meeting Called to Order**

President Burke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Buzz Puccio, Jerry Marshall, Karen Johns, Mike Vogl, and Andre Burke and staff members Joe Potts, June Fergus, Sandy Vangundy, Josh Hendricks, and Jackie Tithof Steere.

**Recognition of Visitors**

The Board recognized Bloomington resident Jennifer Capua, who was present to observe at the outset of the virtual meeting. Visitors joining the meeting later included Jon Patkowa and an unnamed gentleman. No questions or comments were submitted in advance by the public.

**New Business**

Oasis Operating and Budget Discussion

A discussion was held on the operation of and budget for The Oasis Water Park. Staff presented to the Board two budget scenarios, a proposed budget scenario projecting a \$104,150 loss should the pool delay opening until mid-June, and a worst-case budget situation of \$17,750 in losses if the pool does not open for the 2020 season. Commissioners had questions on what the projection numbers included and the cost of filling the pool and concerns about revenue projections, liability, uncooperative weather, and safety.

The Board carefully weighed the Park District's purpose of providing recreation to the public against the health and safety of patrons, COVID-19-related cases and deaths reported in DuPage County, and compliance with Governor Pritzker's Restore Illinois plan. Additional considerations included the difficulty of aptly cleaning locker rooms, the closing status of other neighboring pools, the effectiveness of chemicals in eliminating viruses, the inability to train lifeguards and instructors effectively with limited pool access, social distancing, and the safety of staff.

Approval of Closure of Pool Opening for Summer

Commissioner Puccio moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to not open The Oasis pool for the 2020 season. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

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

At this time, Commissioner Burke moved up on the agenda Item 6A.

Discussion of Clubhouse and B-Fit Center Potential Closures

Staff addressed concerns regarding the Clubhouse and associated difficulties of social distancing children and cleaning and disinfecting equipment appropriately, recommending continuing its temporary closure. The Board directed staff to discuss the closure and sponsorship implications with Eagle Falls Dentistry, the current sponsor of the structure.

At this time, the Board returned to the normal order of the agenda.

Approval of Cancellation of Summer Concerts

Staff briefed the Board on the impact of group sizes according to the various phases of the Governor’s Restore Illinois plan on summer concerts and other large gatherings. Because summer concerts are very well attended and Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois plan allow for groups 50 and under, social distancing is impossible. A virtual substitution for the concerts would not provide a beneficial experience and is not recommended.

Commissioner Puccio moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to approve the cancellation of summer concerts. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

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

Recommendations for Other Large Gatherings and Special Events Over 10 Persons

Special events such as Lunchtime Funtime, Kite Fly & Touch-A-Truck, and Family Fun Picnics will not be held in the same way as in the past. Alternatives are being considered to restructure these events and hold them in ways that meet requirements in the Restore Illinois plan. Recommended cancellations include rentals and parties until further notice, open gym and the Westfield Walking Track, and Splash & Dash. Splitting National Night Out into smaller groups is being discussed with the Police Department.

Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan will allow for group fitness classes to be held outdoors with groups of less than 10, one-on-one personal training sessions, exhibitions at the Bloomingdale Park District Museum limited to 10 people at a time with appropriate physical distancing, and Summer Day Camp if restructured to incorporate small group size and social/physical distancing restrictions. Camp registration has begun online.

Staff awaits additional guidance from the Illinois Association of Park Districts, as well as other organizations, on how to proceed with programming. Board Members offered suggestions on handling movies, camp, and other programs.

Approval of Resolution 2020-09: IMRF Benefit Protection Leave

Previously presented to the Board at its April Regular Board Meeting, Resolution 2020-09: A Resolution Approving Benefit Protection Leave for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) – Eligible Staff was brought back in a formal version for approval. The Resolution allows furloughed staff who are IMRF-eligible to continue earning service credit and receiving death and disability benefits for up to 12 months. The Park District and staff contribute toward the cost.

Commissioner Puccio moved, seconded by Commissioner Vogl, to approve Resolution 2020-09: A Resolution Approving Benefit Protection Leave for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) – Eligible Staff. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

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

## **Additional Items for the Board**

### Board's Guidance Appreciated

Executive Director Potts thanked the Board for its guidance through the COVID-19 pandemic and on some very difficult decisions. The Board and staff's efforts toward learning new rules and regulations are much appreciated.

### Talking Points

Staff will prepare statements and talking points for residents. The Board commended Josh Hendricks on the public statement he created for the closure of the tennis courts. The Board addressed a question from the public on the tennis courts situation. Based on guidelines from the state, federal government, and the United States Tennis Association, the courts will not open at this time.

### Comments from President Burke

Commissioner Burke thanked the staff and his fellow Commissioners for enduring the unpredictable technology and not being able to meet in person as well as the visitors who joined the meeting tonight.

### Accounting of Park District Reserves

If possible, the Board directed staff to provide a monthly report of the Park District fund balance in order to clearly understand how the COVID-19 situation is impacting the bottom line. Year-end projections for the next fiscal year are 53% reserve balance in the worst-case budget scenario and 48% reserve balance in the proposed budget scenario.

## **Executive Session**

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Puccio, to not enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues (5 ILCS, Par. 120/2 (c)(1)). On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

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

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Johns moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0. (The Board left the virtual meeting at 8:10 p.m.)

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Tithof Steere  
Board Assistant Secretary