

**GRAYSLAKE COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT
PARK BOARD MEETING**

September 15, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Secretary Larson. Upon roll call the following were:

PRESENT: Commissioners Deal, Kennedy, Larson, Lashbrook, Toth. (Absent: Rodas, Ryan). Staff : Splitt, Regnier, VanZant. Guests: Mary and John Klees. Board Recording Secretary Shari Raven.

MOTION: by Kennedy that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the September 15, 2021 Park Board Meeting Agenda as amended. Under New Business, 7D. College Trail Playground Project will be tabled until further notice. Second by Lashbrook. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

MOTION: by Deal that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda to include the Payment of Bills and Payroll from 08-19-21 thru 09-15-21 in the amount of \$298,725,86, and approval of the August 18, 2021 Park Board Meeting Minutes. Second by Toth. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Larson mentioned that each year the district nominates a community member, community group, volunteer or employee who has provided outstanding service or volunteer work for the district/community for the annual prestigious friends of the park award. The recipient for the 2021 Friends of the Park Award is long-time community member Mary Klees.

Mary Klees: Mary, a long-time Grayslake resident spearheaded the idea of creating a bike share program back in 2017 and remained dedicated to seeing this program come to life in Grayslake. Mary worked tirelessly over the years with the Park District, Library, College of Lake County, the Village of Grayslake and many other organizations and businesses to see her dream of creating a community wide bike share program become a reality. Mary put an extreme amount of time and energy into this idea and if it weren't for her vision, dedication and leadership, this program would not exist in our community. The Grayslake bike share program launched in April, 2021 the first of its kind in Lake County, and has been widely successful in our community. We thank Mary for her outstanding service, vision and leadership in making a difference in our Park District as well as our community.

Board Members presented Mary a plaque and a bouquet of flowers and congratulated her on her award.

Board Members reviewed a Park Permit Use Application from Westlake Christian Academy requesting permission to use the performance pavilion in Central Park for a school picnic.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 18 from 4:00-7:00pm. They are anticipating approximately 200+ people in attendance. Parking will be available at Gelatin Park and the Pool. Vocke will be providing some additional trash cans.

Splitt received the certificate of insurance naming the park district additionally insured for this event.

MOTION: by Kennedy to approve the permit request by Westlake Christian Academy for the use of the Central Park Performance Pavilion for their school picnic. Second by Toth. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

MOTION: by Kennedy that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the 3-year Contract with Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc. for the annual fireworks display for 2022, 2023, & 2024 as presented. Second by Lashbrook. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Board Members reviewed Resolution R21-2 the Land Donation Agreement between the Park District and Northbridge Church. The agreement is for the ¼ acre parcel of land adjacent to Valley Forge Park on the NW corner of Washington and Lancer.

MOTION: by Kennedy that the Park Board of Commissioners adopt Resolution R21-2 approving the terms and authorizing the execution of a donation agreement between Grayslake Park District and Northbridge church, Inc. for certain property located at 19410 W. Washington Street, Grayslake, Illinois. Second by Deal. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Splitt updated Board Members on the Maintenance Garage/D127 Partnership. Vocke and Splitt met with High School District 127 Associate Superintendent Abe Singh, along with their engineer Glen Eriksson to discuss a possible intergovernmental partnership in regards to relocating our parks maintenance garage. They toured Grayslake North High School maintenance and grounds facility to get an idea of how big a facility the district will need.

Board Members directed Splitt to continue conversations with the High School going forward.

The board reviewed the report of the Executive Director.

Splitt stated GYBA has asked about the planting of a memorial tree in Jaycee Park in honor of Brandon Price who passed away earlier this summer.

Brandon, a senior at Grayslake North High School was a long-standing umpire for GYBA who worked the games held at Jaycee Park. Splitt will be working with John Klees from GYBA and Vocke on this project.

Splitt stated the Central Park Pickelball Courts is currently out for bid. There will be a pre-bid meeting on September 17th at 11:00am for any contactor wishing to bid the project. The sealed bid opening is to take place on Friday Sept. 24 at 11:00am at the Rec Center. Splitt would like to have this project completed before the end of the year.

Consensus among Board Members was to empower Splitt to sign the contract as long as it's within the budget.

Auditors, Lauterbach & Amen were onsite the week of Sept.7-10 conducting their field work for the FY 2020/2021 audit. Janet and her team did a great job at providing all of the information and documentation that they required. Splitt is hopeful that a draft copy of the audit will be available for the October board meeting or at the latest the November COW meeting. The board will need to approve and adopt the audit no later than the November board meeting as it needs to be filed with the county by November 30th.

The board reviewed the report of the Superintendent of Recreation.

Regnier stated that for the Winter Program guide, Registration will begin on December 7 and the guide will cover programs running January through March.

Staff is working on sponsorship outreach for fiscal year 2022-2023. The goal is to provide a sponsorship guide with information on the events that are offered to the community and how the Park District will promote their business.

Recreation is in full swing and we have 115 preschool students in our program for the school year. All classrooms from Young Three's to Pre-K Enrichment have strong enrollment.

Dance classes start Monday the week of September 13. Fall session has a total of 163 dancers currently enrolled.

Recreation programs across all the age groups and interest has strong registration. Classes in early childhood, youth general, t-ball, soccer and fall in-house softball. Also returning to the Rec Center this fall is Nifty Fifty Bingo, schedule for the third Wednesday of the month.

The record –breaking heat and humidity definitely impacted golf this month. The course had 2,141 rounds played. August brought the high school girls golf teams back to the course.

The board reviewed the report of the Superintendent of Parks.

Vocke mentioned the Prairie Crossing Basketball Court Renovations is complete.

The 2021 New Ford Escape will be arriving on Monday, September 13th.

The Board reviewed the report of the Business Manager.

VanZant stated that the overall total tax and program revenue combined is up 33% compared to the prior year.

Concession revenue is up 16% over budget. Day Camp and Preschool Camp attendances were larger than expected with revenues of 62% and 89% over anticipated budget respectively.

Larson stated that the October 20, 2021 Park Board Meeting will be at 7:00pm.

MOTION: by Lashbrook to adjourn at 7:50pm. Second by Kennedy. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted "aye" No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned 7:50pm.

Ray Larson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners