

**GRAYSLAKE COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT
PARK BOARD MEETING**

February 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Ryan. Upon roll call the following were:

PRESENT: Commissioners Anderson, Deal, Kennedy, Larson, Rodas, Ryan Toth. Staff: Splitt, Regnier, Van Zant. Board Recording Secretary Shari Raven.

MOTION: by Kennedy that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the February 28, 2024 Park Board Meeting Agenda as presented. Second by Rodas. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

MOTION: by Larson that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda to include:

- The Payment of Bills and Payroll from 01-18-24 thru 02-28-24 in the amount of \$368,549.32
- Approval of the January 17, 2024 Park Board Meeting Minutes.

Second by Kennedy. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Board Members reviewed the proposal from Terra Engineering for the site survey, civil engineering, and landscape architecture services associated with the complete renovation of the Cambridge Park tennis and basketball courts, including removal and replacement of the court area, fencing, new tennis and basketball standards, and court color coating.

The architectural services agreement includes surveying, construction documentation, bid assistance, construction administration and close out/post completion/warranty phase.

The total cost for the architectural services including the survey is \$19,000 plus reimbursables.

MOTION: by Deal to approve the architectural Services Agreement from Terra Engineering for the Cambridge Park Courts Renovation Project in the amount of \$19,100 plus reimbursables. Second by Rodas. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Board Members discussed a Possible Land Donation from a Grayslake Resident. He purchased 20 acres of land with the intention to preserve it as undeveloped land. It

was later determined that the land is located in a FEMA flood plain and has a large section within the “wooded” area that is a wetland.

Consensus among Board Members was to decline the land due to many environmental and future maintenance issues.

The board reviewed the report of the Executive Director.

Splitt mentioned the IAPD’S annual Legislative Conference will be held May 7 & 8 in Springfield. Tuesday, May 7th is the Parks Day at the Capitol followed by the Legislative Reception. Wednesday, May 8th is the conference at the Crowne Plaza. The IAPD Legislative Conference is designed to provide commissioners, directors and professionals with first hand up-to-date information on the association’s Legislative Advocacy Program and all pending legislative affecting IAPD’s membership. State legislators, state administrative officials and other recognized authorities present the latest techniques and materials to assist commissioners and directors with the tools they need to successfully meet and talk with legislators and be more effective in the legislative arena. Board Members should let Splitt know if they can attend.

The staff is actively working on the FY 2024/2025 budget for the new fiscal year. The first draft of the budget will be presented to the board at the April 17th meeting.

Splitt is in the process of setting up a Lake Management Committee meeting for some time in March to discuss lake treatment options for 2024 as well as the final report from the Zebra Mussels study that was conducted this past summer and fall. Commissioner Kennedy is our board representative for this committee. Once Splitt receives the final information and quotes from the Lake Treatment Company she will set a date for this meeting.

Splitt has been in conversations with Prairie Crossing HOA to lease Park District Property for an exclusive Dog Park for only residents of Prairie Crossing.

Board Members discussed several issues regarding fencing, maintenance and perception. Consensus is the board is not interested in entertaining the idea of leasing public park land for private use.

Splitt and John Buckner have been discussing options for a date for the Jones Island Inclusive Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. They are targeting a date in early to mid-May. They are inviting key donors to this ribbon cutting so they can be properly recognized for their generous contributions in helping to make this playground a reality. Splitt will keep the board posted as soon as the date has been set.

Regnier and DeHaan have been working with Pediatric Interactions on creating a communication board that will be installed at the playground this spring. This type of picture communication is used by those individuals who may be non-verbal so that they too can communicate their needs or wants with others.

PDRMA has released their most current five-year, loss to premium information for the agency. As a recap, over the past 5-years, the Park District has contributed \$336,570 in total premiums covering all 5 lines of coverage and have had \$15,152 paid out in losses. Our Loss-to premium ratio is 4.5%, for every \$1 paid to PDRMA in contributions approximately 4.5 cents are paid out toward claims. The PDRMA average is 56.36%. Our district falls well below the average.

The board reviewed the report of the Superintendent of Recreation.

Regnier stated staff is working on the program guide planning since Spring Program is right around the corner. The upcoming season program guide will launch on our website Tuesday, March 5.

Dance Winter/Spring session is in full swing. Costumes have been ordered and starting to be delivered. Spring dance recital is scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at Grayslake Central High School with rehearsal scheduled for Friday, May 17.

Camp Registration has kicked off. Families are registering and making their plans for the summer months. With record attendance last summer, staff are being proactive with alternatives to accommodate as many campers as possible.

January was a good month. Our website sessions were up 44% from December and our website total users was up 33%. More people are visiting our site and are getting their answers quicker. We have been posting less to social media to try to push less and create higher quality material.

The passing of Mike Perez will add to the complexity of opening the course this March but with the help of a few cashier's staff will be ready when the times comes to open. Golf Season Kick-Off meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5. Staff is in the beginning stages of developing a day to honor Mike's love of golf with a celebration event at the course. Staff are currently planning to offer 6 tournaments with two being sponsored by Edward Jones with a variety of one-day promotions.

The board reviewed the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Parks.

Throughout the winter, the trim crew has been hard at work pruning trees and beds within the parks. They have also been applying a herbicide (Triclopyr 4) to an invasive foliage. The goal of this is to, not only keep the invasive plants from taking over, but it also allows the crew to be more productive by getting to more trimming locations through the winter.

Due to this unseasonably warm winter, maintenance have begun working on several ball fields getting them prepared for spring play.

Staff has gone out to Avon Sports Complex to give a hand with weeding the front two fields. This was done about two weeks ago with our 5055 John Deere tractor.

Central Park baseball and Aquatic softball will be the first on the list of fields to hit. Aquatic softball will have the lips remove/tamped down so that the transition from grass to dirt is seamless.

The board reviewed the report of the Business Manager

Van Zant stated the next property tax receipts will not be received until May. Program revenue is at 86% of budget year. Green fees are 89% with spring golf season yet to begin.

Ryan announced the March 20, 2024 Park Board Meeting will be at 7:00pm.

MOTION: by Toth to adjourn at 7:45pm. Second by Anderson. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted "aye" No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned 7:45pm.

Ray Larson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners