

WAUCONDA PARK DISTRICT
Board Meeting
October 25, 2022
Community Center

At 7:00 pm, Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, and Micelli were present, along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. Commissioner Bader was absent due to a conflict with a work meeting.

Jim Davis from 3104 Lakeshore Well Lane, Island Lake was present at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Regular Session Minutes from October 11, 2022 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

Comments from the Public

Jim Davis attended the meeting. He wanted to commend Carl Waggoner for his work at the Bangs Lake Marina this summer. Davis stated that the piers were always clean, and the facility was well kept. Mr. Davis also expressed his displeasure with the Marina closing so early this year. He felt that October 9 was too early to close and did not allow fishermen to take advantage of one of the best fishing months of the year. He also felt that he did not get his full use of the marina for the money he paid.

Executive Director Staton explained that this was the date that was advertised when selling the slips this past year and that the District went with the same dates that we have used in the past for taking out the piers at the Beach Park Marina.

The Board thanked Mr. Davis for coming to the meeting and stated that staff would investigate the possibility of extending the season in the future.

Communications

A letter and check were received from the Wauconda Women's Club. The \$280 check was a donation to the As We Grow Preschool to further early childhood reading in the preschool program.

Staff also shared the most recent copy of the employee newsletter, Park Post, with the Board.

Approval of Disbursements

Approval of Disbursements from October 12, 2022– October 25, 2022, in the amount of \$51,122.83 was motioned by Commissioner Micelli and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

Executive Director Staton explained to the Board that a clerical error resulting in the omission of the District's prepaid employee health insurance was omitted from the original report resulting in a change from the originally stated amount of \$31,947.15

Committee Reports

A. Recreation – Director Babicz has posted the vacant Recreation/Aquatic Supervisor position on IPRA's website. Jonathon Seidenzahl resigned from this position on October 21. Jon will be moving later this week. A small going away party, which mostly full-time staff attended, was held on October 25.

The second session of Fall programming will begin soon. Highlights include adult volleyball leagues and youth basketball skills classes. Staff is also preparing for the upcoming Trick or Treat on Main Street event. Staff would like to thank Linda Starkey, owner of Main Street Center, for allowing us to use an old garage on Murphy St. for the haunted house and a portion of the parking lot for the mini golf course.

B. Finance – Executive Director Staton provided the Board with a summary of the District's current cash balances, along with current balances in each of the District's funds as of September 30, 2022. Staton also reviewed with the Board the performance and future expectations of several key funds. The District is currently in good financial shape.

Commissioner Carr suggested the District investigate the Silver Sneakers program to boost fitness revenues.

Commissioner Starkey asked staff to include comparable figures from previous years to compare the cash balances summary year to year.

The District recently received a substantial portion of the year's anticipated tax funds and closed on the 2022 General Obligation Funds earlier today.

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department has been busy taking the marina piers out of the water. They are also winterizing Phil's Beach and the various bathrooms in the parks. While turning the gas on at the apartments located at 231 East Liberty Street, several gas leaks were found in the house resulting in NICOR being unable to turn the gas back on. The apartments and houses are currently vacant. Director Drinkwine will investigate insulating pipes and using space heaters to keep the water from freezing since the water main to the bait shop and maintenance garage are in one of the apartment buildings.

D. Risk Management – Facility Manager Ftacek submitted a written report. Ftacek's report outlined the closing of the marinas and bait shop for the season, along with an update on

rentals. October is fire safety month and a link to the monthly 10-minute trainer video was shared with the Board.

E. Wauconda Fest – At the October 18 meeting, the Committee discussed bands and admission fees for the 2023 Fest. Commissioner Starkey asked Staton for notes from annual wrap-up meeting.

F. Administration – Executive Director Staton provided the Board with a written report. Staton reported that the Bait Shop would be open for the annual LVVA fishing tournament.

Staton reported to the Board that the Village of Wauconda would like to move forward with the Path of Honor connecting Memorial Park to the 9-11 Memorial. Included in the Board Packet was a letter from the Village of Wauconda asking the Wauconda Park District to approve placing the path on approximately 36 feet of park land along with a drawing of the placement. After a brief discussion, the Board was in favor of this work. Staton will have the Village prepare a formal easement agreement to be approved at the November 8 Board Meeting.

New Business

A. Comprehensive Plan Update – Executive Director Staton provided an update to the Board of the District's Comprehensive Plan. He asked the Board to review the results of the statistically Valid Survey. Discussion was held on dates for upcoming community and stakeholders' meetings to gain more feedback. Commissioners were asked to rate days based on what was best for their schedule. Staton will reach out to Commissioner Bader for his feedback. We would like to complete this part of the process by November 18.

Unfinished Business

A. Tree Trimming – Executive Director Staton presented the Board with a proposal to trim trees at Phil's Beach and at the Liberty Lakes path. Staff recommended taking the old oak tree down at Phil's Beach versus stumping it for a future carving. A motion to approve the tree trimming work presented by staff in an amount not to exceed \$4360 was made by Commissioner Micelli and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

B. Phil's Beach After Season Hours – Staff had nothing new to report on this topic and it was tabled until a future meeting.

C. Bangs Lake Marina Signage – Staff presented the Board with a suggestion for temporary signage for the facility. After discussion, the Board recommended investigating a more permanent solution. Staff will investigate this option further and take this item off unfinished business until a future recommendation is presented.

D. Frequently Asked Questions – Staff had nothing new to report.

E. Bangs Lake Marina Piers – Executive Director Staton presented the Board with a recommendation from Director Drinkwine to rebuild the service pier at the Bangs Lake Marina. The pier is in the worst condition of all the piers at this facility. A motion for staff to replace this pier in an amount not to exceed \$11,000 was made by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Micelli. Roll Call: all Aye.

Commissioners Comments – Commissioner Starkey asked that the Board review dates for 2023 meetings at the next Board Meeting.

Not seeing a need to go into Executive Session, Commissioner Starkey reported that he has gathered the necessary documents for Staton’s annual review and will forward them to all commissioners for review at the November 8 meeting.

Executive Session

None

Issues to be voted on by the Board that were discussed in Executive Session

None

Adjournment

At 8:35 pm a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Micelli. Roll Call: all aye.