

Wauconda Park District
Board Meeting
February 27, 2024
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, Tallman and Bianco were present, along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator, and Island Lake resident was in attendance to observe the meeting and Daniel Atilano from FGM Architects was in attendance to present to the board an adaptive reuse study.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from February 13, 2024, was motioned by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

Comments from the Public

None

Communications

Executive Director Staton shared with the Board a thank you note from Carolyn Cox, a participant in our Heart Attack program for Valentines Day. She appreciated the effort that the staff put into the program.

Approval of Disbursements

Approval of Disbursements from February 14, 2024 – February 27, 2024, in the amount of \$46,109.17 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

Committee Reports

A. Recreation – Director Babicz provided the Board with an update on the District’s participation in this past weekend’s Chamber of Commerce Business Expo. She also updated the Board about the current 2024-25 Preschool registration. The program guide is due out the first of March.

Director Babicz confirmed with the Board that a small committee has been planning a staff appreciation outing to Side Outs on April 14. The night would include a pizza, salad, and pasta buffet as well as bowling.

B. Finance – Executive Director Staton share the end of January Budget Report along with total cash balances with the Board. He also reviewed his written report with them.

The District was recently assigned a new accountant from Lauterbach and Amen, Eric Nellesen. Staton and Nellesen have discussed creating a new monthly financial report based on Board input in the next few months.

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department has been taking advantage of the recent warm weather to continue rebuilding piers and begin putting piers out on the lake.

D. Wauconda Fest – The last Fest meeting scheduled for February 22 was moved to February 29.

E. Administration – Staton reviewed his written report with the Board.

He also provided the Board with a summary of the Osage Park Redevelopment Bid Opening results. Lacey Lawrence from Hitchcock Design will check references and review all bids and provide Staton with a summary. It is anticipated that the Board will approve the lowest responsible bidder for this project at the next meeting on March 12.

Staton reviewed with the Board a summary of the District's Worker's Compensation and accident reports for 2023. The District had no major worker's compensation claims. Most employee injuries involved cuts to their hands.

F. Comprehensive Plan – Bid results for Osage Park Redevelopment were given to the Board. Staton told the Board he was working on including projects outlined in the plan for the next year in the FY2425 budget.

Commissioner Carr provided the Board with an update on discussions that occurred at the recent Bangs Lake Advisory Committee meeting.

New Business

A.) **New Tent For Camp/Special Events** – The District's white tent used for camp and special events was damaged beyond repair at the end of summer 2023. Staff made a recommendation to the Board to replace the tent for this coming summer. A motion to approve the purchase of a 30'x45' classic series pole tent in the amount not to exceed \$6200 was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.

B.) **FGM Presentation – Adaptive Reuse Study** – Daniel Atilano from FGM Architects presented the study that his firm conducted establishing costs associated with an addition and adaptive reuse of the Village of Wauconda's Wellhouse #3 to a preschool facility. Commissioner Starkey and Director Staton will meet with Village of Wauconda officials to share the results of the study.

C. **Marina Signage** – Staff presented the Board with temporary signage ideas for the Bangs Lake Marina. This included two signs for the entrance and one sign for the side of the building. A motion to approve the signage request made by staff in the amount not to exceed \$2100 was made by Commissioner Carr and Seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

Unfinished Business

None

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Berrelez enjoyed helping with the Expo. It was good to meet a lot of people and talk about the Park District. She heard a lot of great stories from attendees about their visits to Phil's Beach in the past. She thought developing a program where people could share these stories would be a good Idea.

Commissioner Starkey suggested purchasing two booth spaces at the Expo next year because we had a lot to display, and additional space could make the booth more inviting.

Commissioner Berrelez also recommended a selfie station on the lake, possibly at Phil's Beach.

Executive Session

None

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

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.