

HUNTLEY PARK DISTRICT
Regular Meeting
February 24, 2021
~ Via Zoom ~

President Jerry Nepermann called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Commissioners present included Bill Awe, Jim Blasky, Keith Wold, and Melissa Kellas. Also present were Thom Palmer, Laura Pisarcik, Paul Ostrander, Scott Crowe, Rick Walrath, John Cowlin and Matt Szytz.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Awe and seconded by Commissioner Wold.

Roll Call: Yes – All. No – None. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the January 27, 2021 regular Board meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Wold and seconded by Commissioner Blasky.

Roll Call: Yes – Wold, Blasky, Nepermann, Kellas. No – None. Abstain – Awe. Motion carried.

Laura Pisarcik submitted bills, additions, and purchase cards totaling \$109,103.48.

A motion to approve the submitted bills and additions listed above was made by Commissioner Wold and seconded by Commissioner Kellas.

Roll Call: Yes – All. No – None. Motion carried.

Staff Reports - The following Department Reports were reviewed:

Finance & HR: No comments were made in addition to Laura Pisarcik's submitted report.

Parks: In addition to Paul Ostrander's submitted report, Commissioner Wold complimented the idea of adding flowers around the facility.

Golf: In addition to Rick Walrath's submitted report, Commissioner Wold asked if he believed there would still be growth in 2021. Rick replied that it is difficult to imagine the number of playable dates being close to what they were in 2020, but many of the other area, such as events, will almost certainly improve with lesser restrictions. In terms of the golf simulators, the year ahead is looking to be quite promising.

Recreation: In addition to Scott Crowe's submitted report, the Board showed its pleasure with the amount of preschool registration that has already begun compiling for the upcoming fall.

Commissioner Awe asked if it is known that the Stingray Bay will be open as

expected. Scott gladly explained that based on the state's guidelines the Park District expects to open the pool.

Commissioner Wold asked Scott what the universal ID card will look like, and Scott replied that it will just be a simple logo and generic design without photos.

Commissioner Blasky asked how the workload has been over the last few seasons with staff. Scott explained that the volume of programming and work has been just as busy as normal, and programs are starting to pick up and return their normal pace as well. Many projects have also been accomplished amongst all the changes and challenges the Park District has faced regarding the pandemic.

Commissioner Wold showed excitement for the new live event coming in early March.

Commissioner Nepermann asked if there would be any increase to the plan to raise minimum wage among employees, based on the latest comments from the Governor. Thom Palmer explained that the Park District is on pace to meet all current requirements.

Scott gave a breakdown of the updated Stingray Bay schedule as well as the pricing changes that the public can expect to see this upcoming season. Commissioner Awe, Kellas, and Wold all shared feedback on how they view these changes and the potential impact they may have on the bottom line for the department.

New Business

2021 Public Hearing for Proposed Budget

The combined annual budget and appropriation ordinance appropriates the monies that are necessary to cover the projected expenses and liabilities the district may incur in the next budget year. The ordinance must be passed and approved within or before the first quarter of each fiscal year. The preliminary 2021 budget and appropriation ordinance was posted 2/22/21. Changes can still be made up until approval at the March Board meeting.

Review Operating and Capital Budgets

Finance Director, Laura Pisarcik, presented to the board. Further details were provided by Pinecrest General Manager, Rick Walrath, and Parks and Facilities Director, Paul Ostrander.

Revision to the Cooperative Use Policy

The change to this policy will establish direction by which staff can formally review and recognize certain groups as “Affiliates.” The policy defines what an “Affiliate Organization” is and allows HPD to review, and if appropriate, approve organizations to provide services on our property. The policy also spells out minimum residency requirements of each organization of 60%. Further, it provides a mechanism for staff to identify services provided to ensure that HPD resources can meet the demands of each organization, ensure that services are not being unnecessarily duplicated, and that property use is aligned to prioritize use of Park District property by its residents. This information was reviewed with the Program Committee (KW&JB) at a February 18, 2021 meeting.

A motion to approve the revision to the Cooperative Use policy 2.3 as presented was made by Commissioner Kellas and seconded by Commissioner Wold.

Roll Call: Yes – All. No – None. Motion carried.

Video Gaming Resolution

On July 13, 2009 Governor Pat Quinn signed the Video Gaming Act, making licensed video gaming terminals legal in Illinois. Since that time thousands of establishments in Illinois have installed video gaming terminals (VGT’s). As of February 2021, 13 establishments in Huntley have video gaming with 68 terminals in play. The combined amount played during 2019 in Huntley, was \$43,792,937, generating approximately \$1,157,943 in income for these 13 local establishments.

Public entities that have implemented video gaming at their golf courses include Hoffman Estates Park District, Joliet Park District, Foss Park District, Elk Grove Park District, and locally, the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County (FPWC). Using gambling proceeds to support public agencies, and in particular park and recreation agencies, is not uncommon.

If the Board chooses to allow video gaming, the revenues generated from said terminals can be directed to the betterment of the Pinecrest Golf Course grounds, facilities, and overall operation.

A motion to approve the resolution to allow video gaming at the Pinecrest Golf Club as presented was made by Commissioner Wold and seconded by Commissioner Blasky.

Roll Call: Yes – All. No – None. Motion carried.

Executive Session

A motion was made to enter into executive session to... in compliance with the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 2 (c) (c5 & c6) by Commissioner Wold and seconded by Commissioner Awe.

Roll Call: Yes - All. No - None. Motion carried.

[Executive Session]

A motion to reconvene the regular meeting at 8:52 p.m. by Commissioner Awe and seconded by Commissioner Wold.

Roll Call: Yes - All. No - None. Motion carried.

A motion to hold Executive Session minutes of January 31, 2018 and to approve and release Executive Session minutes of August 26, 2020 and December 16, 2020, and to dispose of verbatim recordings of fully released Executive Session meeting minutes dated prior to August 1, 2019 was made by Commissioner Wold and seconded by Commissioner Kellas.

Roll Call: Yes - All. No - None. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kellas seconded by Commissioner Awe.

Roll Call: Yes - All. No - None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54PM.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Szytz, Recording Secretary