

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DUPAGE
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**

April 9, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

President Sarocco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Darien City Hall, 1702 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Rob Sarocco, Ray Jablonski, Frank Noverini, Cathy Marchese,
Luann Spiros

ABSENT: None

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Blake Ertmanis, Superintendent of Parks, Jordan Rossi; Sportsplex General Manager

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS

a. Rob Vuillaume, Gift of Carl Foundation regarding Chestnut Park proposal

Mr. Rob Vuillaume, Gift of Carl Foundation stated that he started the Gift of Carl when he tragically lost is 13 year old son on vacation. He stated that he has received tremendous support over the years from Darien and nearby communities.

Mr. Vuillaume reported that the current wet state of Chestnut Park would be a perfect location for a native area. He stated that the native plants would reach a maximum height of 4' and a walkway to allow residents to walk through the middle of the plantings. Mr. Vuillaume stated that the upper perimeter will be left mowed as a buffer zone for the area around the homes.

Mr. Vuillaume stated that there will be less maintenance to the area and no standing water. He stated that the plants take care of themselves. He further stated that the longer roots require less water and keeps geese away while enhancing the beauty of the area attracting butterflies and native birds.

Mr. Vuillaume stated that he met with the Darien Garden Club and that they are supportive of the project and willing to help out. He reported that Superintendent Ertmanis received a quote including 3 years of maintenance and that the Gift of Carl Foundation is donating \$4,000 plus the costs of signage.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that a letter was mailed to residents in the area and that the Board received a copy in the packet. She reported that resident was concerned with Coyotes which Superintendent Ertmanis addressed as well as a concern from a resident that she preferred to keep

the area for a play area for children. Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff informed the resident that the area is a retention area and not a designated area for play and recommended other open fields in Darien.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff agrees with Rob that this is a great trial and if successful could be an option for other detention areas.

Commissioner Marchese questioned if the area would be mowed.

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that the plantings would be mowed down once a year for reseeding.

Some members of the Darien Garden Club were present and stated that they were supportive and excited about the project.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the expenditure is in the maintenance budget and that the majority of the project will be financed by the Gift of Carl Foundation.

Mr. Vuillaume reported that the 3 year maintenance will include plantings from an outside source so that the plantings look good right away. He stated that it takes 3 years or so for the plantings. He further stated that the Foundation will be working with the area high schools for organized field trips.

Commissioner Spiros thanked Mr. Vuillaume. She stated that this is a great example of groups coming together.

b. Public Hearing for 2018-19 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance

Commissioner Spiros made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to open the Public Hearing for 2018-19 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski, Marchese, Sarocco
NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Notice of Public Hearing was given in the Chronicle Illinois newspaper and online through their website. She reported that the draft of the Budget & Appropriations ordinance was also posted and available for public viewing.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is anticipating receiving \$2,879,627 in tax dollars in 2018-19 which is a 2.72% increase from the current year. She reported that the District is budgeting approximately 1.8% increase in the Corporate fund for revenues and expenditures and 3% decrease in revenues and expenditures in the Recreation fund due to extended trips. She further reported that both fund budgets are balanced.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that in addition to paying down outstanding debt, the District is anticipating spending approximately \$1,050,740 on capital projects next year which includes renovation of the Community Center parking lot and also \$210,000 towards the purchase and renovation of the Dupage County Maintenance Facility.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Sportsplex budget has revenue and expenses slightly lower than last year. She further reported that the Sportsplex budget includes paying \$868,040 of principal, and \$253,060 of interest on outstanding debt.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

COMMUNICATION

Executive Director Gurgone reported that correspondence was received from the Darien Women's Club thanking the District for the use of the meeting room.

OFFICER REPORTS

- a. **President** – None.
- b. **Vice President** – None.
- c. **Secretary** – None.
- d. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Marchese presented the Treasurer's report ending April 9, 2018.

Commissioner Jablonski made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report ending April 9, 2018.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Jablonski, Noverini, Marchese, Spiros, Sarocco
NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

There was no report.

STAFF REPORTS

a. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2018 and no Committee Meeting in April.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that a SEASPAR fundraiser is scheduled for April 19th at the Tivoli. She reported that tickets can be purchased online.

b. Superintendent of Finance

Executive Director Gurgone reported that as of March 31st 99.83% of tax revenues was received. She reported that \$30,085 is expected in impact fees and will go into the Capital Fund.

c. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that the portable restrooms and waste receptacles will be placed in the park starting the week of April 16th. He reported that the restroom structure at Community Park will also be opened weather permitting the week of April 16th.

d. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Rossi reported that the spring session of SRL has started. He reported that the Fieldhouse is available for rent now at a reduced rate for teams because of the weather.

e. Director of Parks & Facilities

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff met with Wight & Company regarding the logistics of the Community Center Parking Lot. She reported that it was agreed that the project would start in mid-to-late May so that it does not affect the current preschool and summer programs. She further reported that the contractor is currently working on a timeline and that Wight is finishing up the permitting process with the City.

Executive Director Gurgone reminded residents to watch for signs and that Westwood Park will be available for parking.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR CONSENT AGENDA)

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Marchese moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros to approve the Consent Agenda: March 12, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes and the Warrants.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Jablonski, Noverini, Sarocco
NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Award of Bid for Darien Community Park South Shelter replacement in the amount of \$82,763 to Parkreation, payment for which will be made upon delivery in the 2018-19 fiscal year.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that this approval is for the replacement of the shelter. She reported that this is for the actual shelter (not installation) and that this needs to be ordered now because it takes approximately ten weeks to order.

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that staff discussed that the Lions Club bricks will be used along the pathway.

Commissioner Jablonski moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to Award of Bid for Darien Community Park South Shelter replacement in the amount of \$82,763 to Parkreation, payment for which will be made upon delivery in the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Jablonski, Noverini, Spiros, Marchese, Sarocco
NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

- b. **Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between Darien Park District and Cass Junior High School District 63 regarding the use of the soccer field located at Smart Oaks Park.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported Cass Junior High School District 63 has used the field for many years but it was determined that a new IGA was necessary to make sure everything was updated. She reported that the field is in need of renovation and that the school has been notified that it may not be available for games next spring. She further reported that they are looking into other options.

Commissioner Marchese moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between Darien Park District and Cass Junior High School District 63 regarding the use of the soccer field located at Smart Oaks Park.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Jablonski, Noverini, Sarocco
NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Spiros moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski, Marchese, Sarocco

NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.



Rob Sarocco, President
Darien Park District



Frank Noverini, Secretary
Darien Park District