

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

April 8, 2019

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, Cathy Marchese, Luanne Spiros,
Frank Noverini

ABSENT: None

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Matt Henderson; Director of Parks and Facilities, Della Deldin; Superintendent of Finance, Blake Ertmanis; Superintendent of Parks, Jordan Rossi; Sportsplex General Manager; Gina Madden, Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS

Mr. Mike Kelly stated that he has been a Darien resident for 43 years and has had a business in Darien for 20 years as an exclusive Blue Cross Blue Shield agent. Mr. Kelly stated that the employees of the BCBS provide educational seminars and that they have been turned away by the Park District and that this is unfair. Mr. Kelly stated that he was angry and that his staff is perfectly capable of conducting seminars. Mr. Kelly further stated that the Park District is still advertising for seminars and that the seminar instructor is not even working for BCBS.

Mr. Kelly stated that he pays taxes as a business and questioned why he cannot do business with the Park District.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the seminars provided by the Park District are only informational and no products are allowed to be sold or advertised by any agents.

Mr. Kelly stated that he would like the District to reconsider the philosophy and consider moving forward.

a. Public Hearing for 2019-20 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance

At 7:12 p.m., Commissioner Spiros made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Marchese to open the public hearing for 2019-20 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

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

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is anticipating receiving \$2,918,603 in tax dollars in 2019-20 which is a 1% increase from the current year. She reported that in the Corporate fund, the District is budgeting approximately a 3% increase in revenues and expenditures and in the Recreation fund a 4% increase in revenues and expenditures and that both are balanced.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that in addition to paying down the outstanding debt, the District is anticipating spending approximately \$515,000 on capital projects next year including the replacement of Hinsbrook Playground, the DCP south parking lot and projects at the Community Center. She further reported that the budget includes \$210,000 towards the purchase and renovation of the DuPage County Maintenance facility.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Ordinance will be placed on the consent agenda for the May 13, 2019 board meeting for approval.

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

Commissioner Jablonski made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the 2019-20 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance Draft.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

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

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

OFFICER REPORTS

- a. **President** – None.
- b. **Vice President** – None.
- c. **Secretary** – None.
- d. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Marchese presented the Treasurer's report ending March 31, 2019.

Commissioner Noverini made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report ending March 31, 2019.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Spiros, Jablonski, Marchese, 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 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. She reported that the SEASPAR benefit concert featuring the Four C Notes will be held on Thursday, April 19th at the Tivoli Theatre and the Believe & Achieve Banquet on Wednesday, May 15th.

Executive Director Gurgone thanked the Board for submitting their Statement of Economic Interest documents.

b. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Deldin reported on the upcoming trips and that the summer brochure will be mailed out.

c. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that mowing will be soon weather permitting. He reported that they are also looking for summer staff.

Commissioner Spiros questioned the age of the replacement playground equipment at Hinsbrook Park.

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that the equipment is 22 years old and that equipment is usually replaced at 20 years.

d. Sportsplex the General Manager

General Manager Rossi reported that the spring high school hockey league started. He also stated that SRL started and that there are 95 participants.

e. Director of Parks & Facilities

Director Henderson reported that on the Easter Sunday hours and that Sportsplex will be hosting a tournament on Sunday. He further reported that a resident reached out regarding pickleball and that he and Superintendent Ertmanis are looking at possibly adding lines to the tennis courts to also

use for a pickleball court. He reported that they will not be official courts but a good temporary solution.

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 Noverini to approve the February 25, 2019 Committee Meeting Minutes, March 11, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes and the Warrants.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Noverini, Jablonski, Spiros, Sarocco

NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Award of bid for Hinsbrook Park playground replacement in the amount of \$45,925 to Parkreation, payment for which will be made in the 2019-20 fiscal year.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the funds for the purchase of the new equipment will come out of the 2019-2020 fiscal year and that the equipment will not be paid for until delivery. She reported that bids will be open for the install and approved at the May meeting.

Superintendent Ertmanis reported that the park should be done mid-July.

Commissioner Spiros moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Marchese to award of bid for Hinsbrook Park playground replacement in the amount of \$45,925 to Parkreation, payment for which will be made in the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Spiros, Marchese, Noverini, Jablonski, Sarocco

NAYS: None

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

b. License Agreement for Use of Darien Park District Property for Darien Fest 2019

Commissioner Marchese stated that as a representative of the taxpayers and her ties to the recent election, she would like to recuse herself from the discussion.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there was a lot of discussion regarding fees at the March Board meeting. She reported on three options for consideration – keep the rate the same at \$6,000, increase the rate to \$6,500 or decrease the rate. She further reported that staff recommends increasing the rate to \$6,500.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the rental fee is for the entire rental of the park. She reported that residents cannot rent out the pavilions, baseball field or soccer field during this time. She noted the fees collected for rentals and provided examples of expenses incurred such as seeding and staff labor as well as repairs such as parking lot damage, tree damage, etc. Executive Director Gurgone also reported that there are liability concerns and that staff has worked with PDRMA to have a solid agreement in place with appropriate levels of insurance but if a negative event would occur, the District would be sued and would have to spend funds through PDRMA for defense.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that from the information provided by the Chamber that the profits from the Fest go into the Chamber's operating budget to promote businesses in and outside of Darien. She reported that 35% of the Chamber's members have mailing addresses outside of Darien and 65% in Darien and under the 70% threshold that is used for residency requirements. She further reported that there is no data supporting resident vs. non resident attendance at the Fest.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District wants to work with the Chamber, but the fee is for the use of the park.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned if the City will be charging for Police protection.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she did not know but that the Board should make a decision independent of that information.

President Sarocco stated that Darien Fest is run by the Chamber and all of the profits go to the Chamber.

Commissioner Spiros stated that many communities have fests on concrete such as Downers Grove and stated that Darien Fest does not belong in Community Park and that the profile has changed from years in the past.

Commissioner Spiros stated that the risk is a huge issue and she would like to see the fee raised.

Commissioner Noverini and Commissioner Jablonski stated that they would like to keep the fee at \$6,000. President Sarocco agreed.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that if a motion passes, this year the fee will remain at \$6,000 but the staff will track expenses this year, and provide a report to the Board. The Board will then meet after Darien Fest to discuss if there will be a future fest in the park.

Commissioner Jablonski stated that the Chamber could use the parking lots at Hinsdale South.

Commissioner Spiros stated that she supports \$6,500.

Commissioner Jablonski moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the License Agreement for Use of Darien Park District Property for Darien Fest 2019 at a fee of \$6,000 and re-evaluate after Darien Fest in September for the future.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

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

Commissioner Marchese abstained. President Sarocco declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Spiros moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Marchese that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:4753 p.m.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

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

President Sarocco declared the motion carried.



Rob Sarocco, President
Darien Park District



Luanne Spiros, Secretary
Darien Park District