

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

September 27, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

President Jablonski called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. at the Darien Park District Community Center, 7301 Fairview, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Ray Jablonski, Luanne Spiros, Cathy Marchese, Frank Noverini, Sylvia McIvor

ABSENT: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS

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

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to report.

COMMITTEE TOPICS

1. Parks & Recreation

a. Environmental Policy

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that the Board received a copy of the draft Environmental Policy. She reported that staff researched other cities and districts and have used portions to draft a policy that fits the District and also the framework provided by the Illinois Park & Recreation Association. She further reported that once approved staff would update including the "Sustainability Report" annually.

Commissioner Sylvia McIvor asked if there was a roof replacement tied into solar panels.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that yes, solar panels will be considered when the roofs need to be replaced at both facilities.

Superintendent Blake Ertmanis reported that the Community Center roof remains under warranty for another five years.

Commissioner Spiros stated that she would like to see a goal setting session and updates quarterly.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that quarterly may be a bit much and that annually is more substantial and meaningful. She stated that if approved, staff plans to provide information in the Winter Brochure regarding the Environmental Policy.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the policy will be placed on the agenda for the next Regular Meeting for approval.

b. Summer Camp 2021 Summary

Director of Parks & Facilities, Matt Henderson reported on Summer Camp 2021. He reported that the District employed 20 camp counselors, and 4 directors for 937 participants from ages 2-13.

Director Henderson reported on the pandemic challenges that they faced with many attending the facility and that the camp directors provided all the campers with a safe and fun summer experience.

c. Special Events 2021 Summary

Executive Director Gurgone provided a summary of the Special Events and notes for next year. She reported that this summer, staff organized smaller events in the neighborhood parks.

d. First Step Preschool Update

Executive Director Gurgone reported that full preschool is back. She reported that 129 students attended preschool last year and that the 2021-22 enrollment is almost back to pre-pandemic levels. She further reported that staff continues to look to hire more teachers.

2. Admin

a. DPD Capital Update

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported on the DPD Debt Schedule and the 2022-23 Capital Projects List. She reported that staff has budgeted \$210,000 payment for the purchase of the DuPage County facility which will be the last payment. She further reported that they staff budgeted to replace one vehicle, \$180,000 to replace the shelter at Meyer Woods Park as well as the pathways leading to the shelter, \$25,000 for sealcoating and repair of the Birchwood Park pathways, and demotion of 802 and renovation of the site into Garden plots as well as the purchase of a shed to store the mower and supplies.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the garden plots are anticipated to be ready by Spring 2023. She stated that the staff would begin gauging interest next year, but the property would be demolished and regraded regardless of the outcome.

Executive Director Gurgone provided an update on the Capital Budget Plan 2021-2033 noting that the schedule may change on an annual basis reevaluating the needs and the pandemic increase in pricing and installation costs.

b. Job Openings

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone provided a listing of the open positions. She reported that they are short staffed but that this is happening everywhere. She reported that current staff has been great and that they are multi-tasking to get the job done.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Noverini 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 6:50 p.m. Commissioner McIvor left at 6:45 p.m. to attend another meeting.



Ray Jablonski, President
Darien Park District



Frank Noverini, Secretary
Darien Park District