

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

**February 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Jablonski called the meeting to order at 7:03 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, Cathy Marchese, Frank Noverini, Sylvia McIvor

**ABSENT:** Luanne Spiros

**Staff:** Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Matt Henderson; Director of Parks and Facilities, Blake Ertmanis; Superintendent of Parks, Jordan Rossi; Sportsplex General Manager, Nancy Strathdee; Superintendent of Finance

**PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Sylvia McIvor reported that she received communication from a resident at Southgrove Park who has communicated before that he would like to see a sidewalk by the park. She stated that she passed the information along to staff.

**COMMITTEE TOPICS**

- 1. Sportsplex**
  - a. Sportsplex Rental Rates**

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that she provided the Board with the Ice/Fieldhouse Hourly Rate Summary for 2022-25. She reported that the rates run from September through August the following year.

- b. Sportsplex Budget Draft 2022-23**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that staff provided detail of the budget. She reported that staff used current actuals and pre Covid numbers to provide a best estimate. She further reported that the debt payment will go up next year.

Commissioner McIvor questioned if there was any opportunity for cell tower revenue.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the vendor asked about adding to the height and changing the look of the flagpole. She stated that any change would have to go through the City process and that this is something that the District is not interested in. Executive Director Gurgone stated that any additional land lease would be something that the District is interested in.

President Jablonski questioned if there was interest in a new tower at any other locations.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that they had not received any inquiries about other locations.

### **c. Sportsplex Capital/Bond update**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she provided a summary of the Sportsplex Capital/Bond update. She reported that there will be no outstanding debt by 2028. She further reported that there are no plans to issue any other bonds and that the District will continue to work within the means at Sportplex. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the 2015 bond and the 2012 debt are callable in 2023.

## **2. Parks & Recreation**

### **a. Rental Rates for Parks and DPDCC**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that nothing has changed on the rate rentals. She stated that the rental hours are still limited, and that staff does not see extending hours on the weekends due to staffing. She reported that staff is limiting room rentals to those that do not require a lot of clean up. Executive Director Gurgone reported that Meyer Woods will not be available for rental due to construction.

## **3. Admin**

### **a. DPD Budget Draft 2022-23**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District budget is very similar to last year and that staff is projecting that the revenue will be higher but not quite back to before Covid. She stated that they will have a better idea of future estimates once things get fully back to normal.

President Jablonski reported that Commissioner Luanne Spiros was not present but she had no questions.

### **b. DPD Capital /Bond Update**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District issued no other bonds aside from the General Obligation bond each year. She reported that there is approximately \$300,000 available for capital projects this year. She further reported that Meyer Woods shelter and the pathways leading to the shelter are budgeted and that that a replacement vehicle has been moved to 2023-24 due to supply chain issues, as well as cost increases on other projects.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that Birchwood Park improvements and the 802 Plainfield demolition and regrading is also budgeted.

President Jablonski suggested contacting the fire department to use the house as a practice burn.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there has been no information received regarding the OSLAD grant but that the District is committed to do the Pickleball/Tennis/Basketball project, according to the capital schedule. She reported that the Driftwood Park playground is still on the calendar for 2025/26.

**c. Darien Community Action Group Meeting Report**

President Ray Jablonski reported that an Action Group was organized to look at how Darien can be a better place to live. He reported that the attendees broke into three groups and came of with ideas such as a Farmer's Market, enhanced downtown area, and more places to plant trees. He further reported that there will be monthly meetings and that a community calendar will be developed.

President Jablonski reported that he will attend the meetings. He stated that he will not commit the Park District to any activities during the meetings, but will pass along the information to staff.

**d. Announce Budget Display Date – by March 11<sup>th</sup> for public hearing on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Budget will be on agenda for approval on April 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the budget will be on the April agenda for approval.

**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 7:33 p.m.**



Ray Jablonski, President  
Darien Park District



Frank Noverini, Secretary  
Darien Park District