

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

August 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

President Ray Jablonski called the meeting to order at 7:01 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

ABSENT: Frank Noverini, Sylvia McIvor

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that she received correspondence from the Darien Police Department about the National Night Out Event at Westwood Park. They stated that the event was a success and worked out perfectly.

Commissioner Luanne Spiros reported that she has been working with the City regarding purchasing trees and increasing the tree canopy. She reported that the City may consider putting together a coop agreement that may benefit the City and the District.

President Ray Jablonski stated that he would like staff to review the agreement and plan to see how it overlays with what the District is doing.

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that the District does not purchase a lot of trees. She stated that she would work with staff, and put together a plan.

OFFICER REPORTS

- a. **President** – President Ray Jablonski reported that he attended the Community Action Committee Meeting and that the minutes were provided.

- b. Treasurer** – Commissioner Cathy Marchese presented the Treasurer’s report ending July 31, 2023.

Commissioner Spiros made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner McIvor to approve the Treasurer’s report ending July 31, 2023.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Spiros, Jablonski, Marchese

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

- c. Commissioner Reports** – There were no Commissioner reports.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Attorney Gina Madden had no report.

STAFF REPORTS

a. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that the next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2023. She reported that the draft Efficiency Report was provided and to email her directly with any questions or concerns.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that next month bids will be submitted to approve the Driftwood Park playground equipment. She reported that she provided information on Silver Sneakers and that Attorney Gina Madden is reviewing the contract to see if it is feasible to join.

b. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Antonio Washington reported that the annual audit draft should be available this month or next.

c. Sportsplex General Manager

General Manager Jordan Rossi stated that he would answer any questions regarding his report.

d. Director of Parks & Facilities

Director Matt Henderson reported that the Board received a short recreation report and photos. He reported that Meyer Woods is completed and Community Park is moving along with completion mid to late October. He further reported that staff spent a considerable amount of time this month on tree maintenance and removal and that they will need to look at budgeting more for this next year.

Director Henderson reported that staff reached out to District 61 to discuss the upcoming snow plowing season and IGA and that he provided a report on the native plantings.

Commissioner Spiros suggested highlighting the native area report on the Going Green section on the website.

Director Henderson reported that he provided the Annual Report. He reported that the programs have rebounded since Covid but that Fitness Center memberships are lagging. He further reported that the preschool numbers are increasing and that the summer camps are bouncing back.

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 Spiros moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Marchese to approve the June 12, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes, Warrants – July & August, Resolution 2023-24-05: A Resolution approving and ratifying the Natural Gas Supply agreement with NRG.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Spiros, Marchese, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution 2023-24-04: A Resolution to approve amendments to the joint agreement for the Southeast Association.**

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that Willowbrook is joining and that this must be done.

Commissioner Marchese moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros to approve Resolution 2023-24-04: A Resolution to approve amendments to the joint agreement for the Southeast Association.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

b. Approval of One-Time Vacation Buyout Plan

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that prior to Covid most employees were able to use their annual vacation time with limited carry over. She reported that since 2020, many of the long-term full-time staff have had difficulty using time resulting in large accumulations for some. She further reported that staff is proposing a one-time optional Vacation Buyout rewarding the long-term employees for their dedication during the last few years and allowing the District to benefit from them being in the office instead of taking extra vacation days off just because they need to use them.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that as of 8/8/23 there are 12 full time employees with more than 100 hours of vacation remaining.

Commissioner Marchese moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros Approval of One-Time Vacation Buyout Plan.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Jablonski

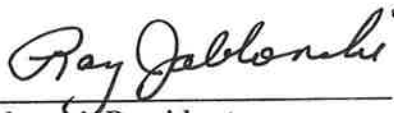
NAYS: None

President Jablonski 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 7:55 p.m.



**Ray Jablonski, President
Darien Park District**



**Frank Noverini, Secretary
Darien Park District**