

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
PARKS AND BEACH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 31, 2017**

The Parks and Beach Committee Meeting of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Chair McKendry.

The following Committee Members were present when the roll was called: Susan Ehrhard, Kauri McKendry and George Russell.

Staff members present were Ron Salski, Executive Director; Rob Foster, Superintendent of Golf, Park and Facility Maintenance; Jim Lakeman, Superintendent of Recreation, Safety and Outreach Services; Noah Mach, Park Services Manager; and Micah Kamin, Facility Maintenance Services Manager.

Approval of Agenda

Member Russell moved, seconded by Member Ehrhard, to approve the August 31, 2017 Agenda.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Statement of Visitors – None

Executive Director Salski said he has received several complaints from a resident about noise coming from shelter parties at the beach and the gate being left open. He advised that staff will contact this resident to discuss their concerns.

Approval of Minutes

Member Russell made the following corrections to the May 18, 2017 Minutes: Page 2, under Recreation Center Lighting, should read adding another light fixture to several of the existing light poles, excluding the north end pole. Also, at the end of the same paragraph, Member Russell changed the sentence to read “There is \$950,000 in the Capital Plan Budget, which includes the OSLAD Grant and Executive Director Salski will provide a breakdown for members so it can be determined what amount is available for additional light fixtures”. He also suggested marking all minutes as a “draft” until they are approved.

Chair McKendry moved, seconded by Member Russell, to approve the meeting minutes of the Parks and Beach Committee Meeting of May 18, 2017, as amended.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

Recreation Center – Parking Lot Lights – Recommendation

Manager Kamin explained staff determined that the existing lights can be reused and a second light can be added to the other side of the bull-horn on the pole. An original concern was hot spots, because these lights go straight down into the parking lot, but there is also a full directional option to give a wider range. Changes to include the two lights would be done on eight light poles, excluding the pole on the far north end.

All Members agreed that this was a high priority and Executive Director Salski felt the Board of Park Commissioners would be in favor of this project because it is a life safety issue.

Member Russell asked for exact cost details and questioned if dollars were available in the current budget. Executive Director Salski will provide this information and said the project would be placed in the 2018 budget if funds are not available this year.

Member Russell moved, seconded by Member Ehrhard, to recommend to the Park Board of Commissioners that they approve the parking lot lights project for the Recreation Center, pending budgetary confirmation.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Manager Kamin exited the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Parks – Weed Control and Turf Maintenance – Discussion

Superintendent Foster explained that staff modified the Park District herbicide plan several years ago to use less toxic chemicals. Parks were closed during chemical application and reopened when the herbicide was dry. He said now they are seeing a lot of clover in the parks, which requires a stronger chemical to eradicate.

Manager Mach said that when the herbicide application is applied they will close the park, put up signs and send out an email blast. They will also call people on the herbicide application notification list. Chair McKendry suggested informing the public that there is no danger once the herbicide is dry.

Executive Director Salski said that final Board approval will be necessary to use the stronger herbicide.

Post Referendum Project – Knollwood Park System – Discussion

Executive Director Salski distributed a list of projects for the Knollwood Park System.

Regarding Sanctuary Park, Superintendent Foster said that walking paths need to be repaired and playground equipment should be replaced. Mulch could possibly be replaced with crushed stone. At Knollwood, the drainage of the path needs new drain tile installed to run into the drainage system and a new path needs to be installed in the low area. Members felt that toddler equipment is definitely needed at Knollwood and West Parks.

Superintendent Foster commented that Sanctuary Park is very well used. The shelter needs floor leveling, roof repair and replacement of benches.

Executive Director Salski said that there is \$55,000 in the budget. He will get price estimates for the various projects and report back to the Committee.

2018 Budget – Discussion

Tree – Removal – Superintendent Foster distributed a report on dead ash trees and said there are 147 in or near parks and 84 on or near the golf course. A lot of the dead trees are in wooded areas around Artesian Park and also on unmaintained borders by the golf course and by neighbors.

Superintendent Foster bid out removal of 40 trees on the golf course and said the approximate cost would be \$250 to \$300 per tree. The tree removal service would chip the limbs and the Park District would haul away the logs. Total for tree removal work amounts to approximately \$70,000.

The tree removal priority list was discussed and Members felt that the entire list should be high priority because of safety issues. Executive Director Salski said this project would be put in the 2018 Budget.

Superintendent Foster and Manager Mach exited the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Non-Resident Fees – Non-Resident rates were discussed in the past by the Board and they suggested that an increase was needed but no final decision was made. This needs to be discussed further by the Committee, along with parking issues. Member Russell suggested that a formal letter be written to the Village explaining that the Park District wants to control non-resident parking and see what ideas they bring forward. Comparisons should also be made to what other Districts are charging.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Paddle Board / Kayak Rentals – Superintendent Lakeman said the rentals had a net gain the last two years because of paddle boards being added, but more staff would be needed to increase the program further. There were 100 to 150 rentals over the last seven years and the program lost money. This is a service provided to the community, but in the future more money will have to be spent on safety issues.

Members felt that the program should continue, but needs further study.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Bluff Park Land – Executive Director Salski mentioned he would like to come back to this topic with the Committee.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Handrail – Executive Director Salski said that he received an accessibility complaint and met with the ADA consultant. There are missing handrails by the steps to the beach, which will need to be installed and will be paid for by the ADA fund. Concerns were raised with gravel around the steps and more information regarding costs for both issues will be brought to the Committee at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Member Ehrhard, seconded by Member Russell and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of November 2017
Lake Bluff Park District