



**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, January 18, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice President Wessel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Director Garvy Called Roll:

Commissioners Present In-Person: Wessel
 Hummel
 Tapella

Staff Present Included: Director of Parks & Recreation Garvy
 Superintendent of Finance, Golf Operations & IT Silver
 Superintendent of Recreation & Marketing Pratscher
 Superintendent of Parks & Facilities Cerutti

II. REMOTE ATTENDANCE AUTHORIZATION

Permit the attendance and participation of Commissioner Dombroski and President Altpeter by remote means.

Commissioner Hummel moved to permit Commissioner Dombroski's and President Altpeter's attendance at the January 18, 2024 meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners by remote means in accordance with section 7 of the Open Meetings Act and the Lisle Park District Remote Attendance Policy. Commissioner Tapella seconded the motion.

Roll:
Ayes: Hummel, Tapella, Wessel
Absent: President Altpeter, Commissioner Dombroski
Motion Passed.

Commissioner Dombroski joined the meeting at 7:01 pm by remote means. The Board of Park Commissioners acknowledged that President Altpeter was not able to attend the meeting due to illness and therefore was absent from the remainder of the proceedings.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Wessel led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

The winners of the 2023 Lisle Park District photo contest were presented. The Board acknowledged and congratulated the following participants:
1st: Corrine Garvey 2nd: Andrea Castro 3rd: Barb Risner 4th: Blair Bennett

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VI. APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

Commissioner Hummel moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Tapella seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hummel, Tapella, Dombroski, Wessel

Nays: None

Absent: President Altpeter

Motion Passed.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Hummel moved to approve the Consent Agenda items, including the voucher list in the amount of \$232,564.55. Commissioner Tapella seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hummel, Tapella, Dombroski, Wessel

Nays: None

Absent: President Altpeter

Motion Passed.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. *Green Trails Pathfinder Article – Illegal Dumping in Green Trails Parks*

Commissioner Hummel inquired whether there had been any recent situations related to illegal dumping. Superintendent Cerutti responded that the issue is ongoing and stated there had been an issue of illegal dumping at Kingston Park most recently that had to be addressed.

Commissioner Tapella asked whether submitting an article was the common practice to address these types of issues when they occur. Director Garvy said that staff often utilize their contacts within the Homeowners Associations and surrounding neighbors.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. *Video Recording and Posting of Park District Board Meetings*

Director Garvy introduced Park District Legal Counsel, Andrew Paine, and explained that he was present during the meeting to help answer questions and offer guidance.

Commissioner Hummel stated he was in favor of video recording the Park Board meetings and commented that there had been a couple emails earlier in the day in support of video recordings as well.

Commissioner Tapella asked if there was anything staff or the Board should be aware of before taking such an action. Mr. Paine stated he did not have any concern and said that video recording public meetings seemed to be the way the world was trending, whether recorded live or posted publicly afterward. He recommended there be a policy in place to govern the process and expressed that most people appreciate transparency.

Commissioner Tapella acknowledged that the cost of the video recording and the staff time involved is believed to be minimal, which Director Garvy confirmed.

Commissioner Dombroski reiterated the desire to formalize procedures. Director Garvy stated that staff will provide details for this to be an action item at the February meeting. Commissioner Tapella asked about whether documented procedures should include the specific steps of how

staff manage the video content. Director Garvy responded that he felt that information was implied given the role and duties of staff. He summarized how the process would work and compared it to how the meeting minutes are currently posted, stored, and removed at the designated timeframes.

Commissioner Dombroski requested that all recordings are kept unedited. The Board agreed with this, and Director Garvy confirmed that would be included within the draft policy. Commissioner Tapella asked about whether there should be a public notice at the start of each Park Board meeting to inform the public that the meetings are being recorded. Mr. Paine stated that there is no expectation of privacy during public meetings, but a notice could be included as a footnote on the agenda or within the Park District website.

Commissioner Hummel inquired about the cost of utilizing YouTube for video broadcasting. Director Garvy stated that staff would look into that question and provide updated information to the Park Board in order to collect feedback and then provide a draft policy for the meeting next month.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. *Wheatstack License Agreement – discussion*

Director Garvy provided an overview of the status of the current License Agreement and requested consensus regarding the desired next steps. Commissioner Tapella asked for confirmation that the current Licensee is contractually obligated to fulfill the financial terms of the agreement. Director Garvy confirmed that was correct. Commissioner Tapella stated she did not want to set a precedent for future agreements if other contractors decide to opt out of their contractual agreements early. Commissioner Tapella stated she was in favor of pursuing the financial review of the Licensee to best understand the situation while also taking steps to move forward with requests for proposals from other prospective restauraners.

Commissioner Hummel stated he is looking at it in two ways. He stated that December 31 was the termination date of the contract and that the District was owed 5% of gross sales over 1.1 million dollars according to the contract for 2023. Commissioner Hummel inquired whether the District was legally entitled to collect that money. Director Garvy confirmed the agreement and reminded the Board of the payout received based upon sales from 2022. Director Garvy stated that staff intend to send invoices for the license fee according to agreement until the Board authorizes any change. Mr. Paine confirmed Director Garvy's comments regarding the rights of the District in relation to the agreement and that the Licensee is required to abide by the full five years of the current license agreement. He also stated that the District is legally obligated to mitigate its damages and stated that shutting off utilities to the extent possible is an example of a reasonable action to take.

Mr. Paine provided a summary of potential ways the District may mitigate damages. He advised that the Board needs further information and context regarding the Licensee's request in order to fully consider the requested release from the agreement. Conversation ensued regarding the forensic auditing process and the appropriate next steps to consider. Mr. Paine advised that the first step would be to examine the financial status of the limited liability corporation (LLC). Commissioner Dobrowski commented that he would be in support of releasing the Licensee from the agreement if the investigation did not uncover any wrongdoing by the Licensee. The Board provided direction to staff to pursue the forensic accounting process.

B. *Wheatstack Move Forward Strategy – discussion*

Commissioner Tapella acknowledged the idea of a teen center that someone from the public shared. She stated that option did not fit appropriately for the actual space. Vice President Wessel agreed and commented that a restaurant is ideal as it serves as a compliment to the golf course. Director Garvy also commented that there was also an idea offered regarding

converting the space to a golf simulator but that after staff investigated the physical space requirements of such an amenity, the current facility is not adequate and could require significant renovation in order to accommodate that type of service.

Commissioner Dobrowski commented that he agreed with the comments already made and inquired about the previous ability to host events such as wedding showers and brunches. Director Garvy provided some examples of such services that had been offered. Conversation ensued about which methods would be used to promote the request for proposals from other groups. Mr. Paine provided clarity on the difference between lease and license agreements.

Director Garvy commented that once the proposals are received, all terms within the license agreement are negotiable. Conversation ensued regarding the contents and terms of the requests for proposals (RFP) documents. The Board confirmed their interest in moving forward with the RFP process. Commissioner Hummel and Commissioner Tapella offered to serve on the internal committee to review proposal submissions.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

Commissioner Hummel inquired about the process for a beaver that was relocated from a park district park. Director Garvy reported staff contracted that service but removed the dam by in-house personnel and equipment.

XII. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Treasurer, Superintendent Silver

Financial Reports ending December 31, 2023. Superintendent Silver confirmed that all assets are FDIC and/or collateralized. Superintendent Silver indicated that the Park District finished the year in a positive position, which is prior to any year end adjustments that have not yet been made. He commented that the financial auditors will be on site in the coming weeks.

XI. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Vice President Wessel stated his son attended the winter break camp and expressed gratitude for the staff who help manage that program.

Commissioner Tapella also commented on winter break camp and how much her daughter enjoyed the program.

Commissioner Hummel reported he visited the Lombard Park District to observe their holiday lights.

Commissioner Dombroski stated his appreciation for the sled hill at Community Park.

XIII. ADJOURN OPEN MEETING

Commissioner Tapella moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Commissioner Hummel seconded.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Tapella, Hummel, Dombroski, Wessel

Nays: None

Absent: President Altpeter

Motion Passed.