

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Highlights February 19, 2019



RECOGNITION – GLEN ELLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Park Board of Commissioners recognized the Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce for their continued partnership in planning, organizing and staging the 4th annual Chocolate, Cheese and Wine event.

The Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce, represented by Dawn Smith, the Executive Director and Steve Thompson, past President, has partnered with the Park District on the Chocolate, Cheese and Wine event since its inception 2016. The evening included a night of wine, chocolate and cheese tastings from around the world. The event took place in early February at the Village Links Reserve 22 Restaurant and the entire Village Links restaurant was closed to the public enabling the event to utilize the restaurant and banquet area which allowed an additional 50 tickets to be sold while increasing the number of vendors. The event was at capacity including 100 of whom were Glen Ellyn residents.

The Chocolate, Cheese and Wine event is a combined fundraiser for the Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce and the Glen Ellyn Park District and funds generated are shared among the two organizations each year. This year the event raised \$4,000 for the Park District with the funds earmarked for the scholarship program which enables residents in need to receive financial assistance for Park District programs and activities. The success of the event is due in large part to the efforts of Dawn Smith and Steve Thompson, the excellent staff at the Chamber and the committee of Chamber volunteers and merchants who work tirelessly negotiating contracts, securing sponsorships, and coordinating the logistics of the event. The Park Board of Commissioners and staff of the Glen Ellyn Park District thanked Dawn Smith, Steve Thompson and The Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce for their continued collaboration and gratefully accepted the \$4,000 check to aid the many children and families from the community who benefit from the Park District scholarship program.

ACKERMAN PARK O.S.L.A.D. GRANT

Executive Director Harris discussed the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant that was awarded to the Glen Ellyn Park District for \$400,000 by Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The OSLAD grant will fund a portion of the planned phase IV improvements at Ackerman Park, which includes renovation of the softball “hub”, an artificial turf athletic field, irrigation and drainage upgrades, bioswales, improved grass fields, an outdoor exercise area, and a trail system throughout the entire park. The OSLAD grant enables the District to implement long overdue and well-planned improvements to Ackerman Park while reducing the financial burden for the District and residents.

Harris reviewed the timeline of the Master Plan process for Ackerman Park describing phases I-III which took place from 2015-2018 and Phase IV construction which is anticipated to begin in June of 2019 and is expected to be completed in early 2020. As discussed for the past year and vetted through a planning committee comprised of stakeholders, Board members, staff and consultant several improvements were prioritized to be completed including improved playability for soccer and softball, the addition of a recreational trail system throughout the park, improved storm water management, expanded irrigation, environmental best practices and an outdoor exercise area.

Harris provided that after a highly competitive and extensive process, over 89 park districts, forest preserves, and recreation agencies throughout the state will receive a total of over \$28 million in OSLAD Grants in 2019. The improvement projects planned with these funds will benefit residents of Illinois by providing open space and new/improved recreational facilities and public parks while also generating additional revenue through job creation and the promotion of recreation.

O.S.L.A.D. – B.E.P. UTILIZATION GRANT

Executive Director Harris stated that recipients of an OSLAD grant are required to have a Business Enterprise Program (B.E.P.) plan in place. Harris discussed that the B.E.P. plan establishes a goal for the District to contract with businesses that have been certified as owned and controlled by persons who are minorities, female, or persons with disabilities on projects where State Grant Funds are used. Resolution 19-01 was presented to adopt such a plan and to authorize and direct the District to take the necessary steps in implementing this Utilization Plan. Following a brief discussion, the Park Board approved Resolution 19-01, a Resolution adopting a Business Enterprise Program Utilization Plan for the District.

ACKERMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Superintendent of Recreation Esposito briefed the Park Board regarding the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center Advisory Committee meeting that was held on Thursday, February 7, 2019.

Esposito shared some of the highlights from 2018 and projects planned for 2019. Executive Director Harris concluded the meeting and briefed the committee on the RFP for the Ackerman facility.

PURCHASE OF 2019 BUDGETED MAINTENANCE VEHICLES

Superintendent of Parks and Planning Hopkins discussed the Vehicle & Equipment program that was established within the Asset Replacement Fund (ARF) to accumulate reserves in order to have future funds available for the replacement of vehicles and equipment. Hopkins discussed the equipment that was recognized to be replaced as well as the new equipment that was recommended for purchase as this will allow staff to better meet the increased demands for maintenance activities district-wide.

Hopkins reviewed the joint purchasing program, Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS), sponsored by the DuPage Mayors & Managers conference and discussed the benefits of purchasing through this program. Following a brief discussion, the Board approved the purchase of the recommended equipment and vehicles.