

**Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Workshop Meeting
February 2, 2021
185 Spring Avenue**

I. Call to Order

Board Secretary, Kimberly Dikker, announced that the Park Board of Commissioners were participating in the February 2, 2021 Workshop meeting remotely via Zoom. All verified that they were able to hear the discussion clearly. President Ward then called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners

Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Cornell, Stortz, Nephew, Durham, Weber, Bischoff, and President Ward.

Staff members attending via Zoom but located at the Spring Avenue Recreation Center were Executive Director Harris, Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani and Parks Project Manager Troia. Executive Assistant and Board Secretary Dikker participated remotely.

Guest in attendance included Don St. Clair of the Citizens' Finance Committee, Gail Bernstein of the League of Women's' Voters and Sandy Gbur, Executive Director of WDSRA.

III. Changes to the Agenda

None

IV. Public Participation

None

V. Voucher List of Bills

Commissioner Nephew moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz, to approve the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$64,173.66.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Nephew, Stortz, Durham, Weber, Bischoff and President Ward

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

VI. WDSRA Review & Update / Sandy Gbur, Executive Director

Executive Director Harris welcomed the Western DuPage Special Recreation (WDSRA) Executive Director, Sandy Gbur, and stated that WDSRA is a recreation agency serving those with special needs. They provide support and assistance to people with special needs who reside in nine park districts including Glen Ellyn and services well over 4500 children and adults.

Sandy Gbur, who will be retiring in June of this year after a forty-four (44) year career at three (3) special recreation agencies with the last ten (10) years at WDSRA, provided a brief overview and update of the past year at WDSRA.

Gbur discussed the success of their last yearly fundraiser in March of 2020 which netted \$121,000 in donations and occurred just prior to the pandemic. The event will be revised due to the pandemic. The event will consist of a five (5) week appeal for donations through storytelling and providing information on the organization. It will then culminate with a live virtual celebration of this appeal on March 6, 2021. To date, \$60,000 has been raised with a goal of achieving \$100,000.

Gbur provided a summary of the past year's efforts including virtual and in person programming stating that staff continued to increase, revise, and adapt programming during the ongoing mitigations and the families were very appreciative. A video presentation was shown which provided further insight into the programming during 2020.

Gbur thanked staff and the Park Board for their support over the years and personally thanked Executive Director Harris for his time served as Chairman on the WDSRA Board.

Director Harris stated the Glen Ellyn Park District will be presenting Ms. Gbur with some small tokens of appreciation and will be planting a tree of recognition at Ackerman Park honoring her time served with WDSRA. The Park Board commended Ms. Gbur for her efforts and years of service and wished her well in her future endeavors.

VII. Glen Ellyn Park District Personnel Policy Updates

Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani presented proposed updates to the Personnel Policy of the Glen Ellyn Park District that have been approved and reviewed by legal counsel. Cinquegrani stated that all policies were based off a combination from previous District policies, recommendations from Park District Risk Management Association (PDRMA) and/or the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

The updates and additions to the Personnel Policy were provided for compliance, clarity, and to ensure consistency throughout the District. The Park Board of Commissioners posed questions to staff regarding the updates including inquiries regarding salary bands. Based on Board direction, further revisions will be made and brought to the Park Board for final approval on the February 16th Regular Meeting.

VIII. Section 125 Plan Document

Superintendent of Finance & Personnel presented the updated Section 125 Plan document that serves as the Flexible Spending Plan for full-time employees of the District. This plan enables employees to elect to pay healthcare premiums, qualified medical expenses, and qualified dependent care expenses as pre-tax payroll deductions in accordance with guidelines established under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code. The Plan document has been

reviewed by counsel and the Park Board had a brief discussion. The Park Board asked for further clarity on the timespan for use of those funds. Staff will research further prior to the February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting.

IX. Coronavirus (COVID-19) District Update

Executive Director Harris stated that Region 8 will move into Phase IV on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 and staff will be reviewing and implementing any changes within ongoing programs.

An update on the mitigations included in Phase IV and how that would affect the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center, programs, athletics, and events was provided. Additionally, a brief update on summer planning for the pool, camps and Maryknoll was shared, stating all can be subject to change should the State revise its current placement for DuPage County Region 8.

The Park Board was appreciative of the continued efforts to be creative, resourceful, and adaptable with the evolving mitigations.

X. Staff Reports

Executive Director Harris apprised the Board that the Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn will be collaborating on staging an ice-skating opportunity within the downtown area. The rink comprised of a synthetic skating surface should open mid-week next week and will be in the downtown parking lot just North of the tracks off Prospect Avenue. The site will also include holiday lighting, seating area and portable restrooms. Additionally, there likely will be some opportunity for food and beverages. Harris added that Project Manager Troia has been instrumental in the development of this project. Once all is finalized, marketing will be coordinated.

Other skating opportunities within the District were discussed as this season remains very challenging due to the significant snow and inconsistent temperatures. Harris said Newton Park East rink has had skating for the past ten days. The Park Board and staff discussed future opportunities with the synthetic ice rink and perhaps including them in future budgeting discussions.

Lastly Harris discussed the ongoing involvement with the Village, other governmental entities and the public regarding the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Project that has been ongoing. Harris thanked Commissioner Nephew for her participation and stated the District looks forward to the continuing conversations and seeing what the outcome is.

XI. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Bischoff was grateful for the perseverance of the District with the ongoing mitigations. Commissioner Stortz appreciated the creativity of staff while working within the guidelines and relayed that the sledding hill at Newton Park has been a well-used asset. Commissioner Weber and Durham thanked staff and Durham also enjoyed seeing the sled hill well occupied over the last week. Commissioner Nephew said her kids have enjoyed the sledding

and then thanked Director Harris for his continued representation on the WDSRA Board. Commissioner Cornell was appreciative of the WDSRA presentation and praised staff's ability and resiliency during these times.

XII. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Bischoff moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Bischoff, Durham, Cornell, Stortz, Nephew, Weber, and President Ward

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Dikker
Board Secretary