

**Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
October 19, 2021
185 Spring Avenue**

I. Call to Order

President Durham called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners

Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Weber, Stortz, Nephew, and President Durham. Commissioner Ward arrived at 7:14 p.m., Commissioner Bischoff arrived at 7:29 p.m., and Commissioner Cornell arrived at 7:40 p.m. Commissioner Nephew left the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Staff members present were Executive Director Harris, Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani, Project Manager Troia, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Miller, and Board Secretary & Executive Assistant Dikker.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

President Durham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda

None.

V. Public Participation

None.

VI. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Stortz moved, seconded by Commissioner Nephew, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$234,805.14 and minutes from the September 21, 2021, Regular meeting and the October 5, 2021, Workshop meeting minutes.

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Stortz, Weber, Nephew and President Durham
Nay: None*

Motion Carried.

VII. Old Business

A. Oak Wilt Update – Lake Ellyn

Project Manager Troia provided an update on the oak wilt disease which was discovered in Lake Ellyn Park just prior to the October 5, 2021, Workshop meeting. Troia stated that a couple of tests have been confirmed as positive on a few Oak trees within Lake Ellyn Park. Staff has met with specialists from Michigan and with the Morton Arboretum to receive more guidance and

information. One positive outcome is that the disease was discovered early. The next steps would be to verify samples of the trees and in the meantime develop a plan of action regarding mitigation. That will likely include removal, trenching, treatment and community education. The District is hoping to have a plan in place by November. The Park Board thanked staff for their time and looks forward to its updates.

B. Budget Discussion

Superintendent of Finance and Personnel Cinquegrani presented the 2022 budget. Cinquegrani discussed staffing levels for the upcoming year stating that two (2) additional full-time positions have been recommended for 2022 increasing full time staff to 31. The recommendations include the addition of a Park Specialist I position and an Assistant Manager of Natural Areas & Outdoor Education position. He then highlighted 2021 year-end operating surplus estimates and proposed 2022 estimates. Cinquegrani then reviewed the fund balances, property tax history and tax rate comparisons as well as provided information on non-referendum bond issues. Operational highlights were provided regarding program areas including athletics, arts and crafts, general recreation, and special events. Gross margins and operating contributions by program area were discussed in detail. Cinquegrani provided insight regarding other items including insurance, utilities, and IMRF expenses on Corporate and Recreation Administration.

Following, Cinquegrani reviewed the recreation, programming, and facility areas of the budget as well as the District's facilities including Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center, Lake Ellyn Boathouse, Main Street Recreation Center, Maryknoll Park, Spring Avenue Recreation Center and Sunset Pool. Cinquegrani presented the financial impact the COVID-19 mitigation has had on Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center and provided updates on future potential improvements and programming. Financial projections for 2022 were provided along with plans for continued improvements within the facility. Maryknoll Park facilities were then discussed which include Holes & Knolls, the Splash Pad and Platform tennis. Lastly, information on Sunset Pool was presented including the projected net loss for fiscal year 2021 along with proposed projections for 2022. The Park Board was pleased to see the various facilities resulting in better than projected numbers.

Superintendent of Finance and Personnel Cinquegrani then reviewed the proposed Capital Projects including the vehicle and equipment replacement program as well as various proposed improvements for Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center including fitness equipment replacement and the rehab of the previous Hard Gainers Athletics (HGA) room. Next, he discussed the non-referendum bond issue that will take place in Fall of 2022 that will be used to fund the District's long range capital plan as well as capital improvements to Ackerman Park, Sunset Park, Churchill Park, George Ball Park and Frank Johnson Center. Lastly, Cinquegrani highlighted improvements set for Lake Ellyn Park and Boathouse, Lake Foxcroft, Maryknoll Park, Newton Park's OSLAD improvements, Sunset Pool, Village Green Park, Spring Avenue and Main Street Recreation Center's improvements and various other District wide proposed improvements. Several additional items were highlighted for consideration including funds for oak wilt disease, Maryknoll pavilion improvements, ASFC rehab improvements of the former HGA room as well as improvements to the Platform tennis facility.

The Park Board expressed their appreciation for the efforts to compile the proposed 2022 Annual Budget. Director Harris stated further budget discussion will occur at the remaining Board meetings in 2021 as well as at our Strategic Meeting which has not yet been scheduled.

VIII. New Business

A. Place 2021 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance (21-02) on File

Superintendent of Finance and Personnel Cinquegrani presented the 2022 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 21-02 to the Board to be placed on file for public inspection.

Commissioner Stortz moved, seconded by Commissioner Nephew, to place on file tentative draft of the 2022 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (B&A Ordinance 21-02), a Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Purposes of the Glen Ellyn Park District for the year beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022.

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Stortz, Nephew, Cornell, Ward, Weber, Bischoff,
and President Durham
Nay: None*

Motion Carried.

B. 2021-2022 Outdoor Ice Skating

Executive Director Harris provided an overview of ice skating that has been provided within the Glen Ellyn Park District. Harris stated that skating within the District requires significant labor and resources and often results in limited skating opportunities activities as it is very weather dependent. To be transparent and forthcoming while managing expectations, staff is recommending the following outdoor skating opportunities for the 21-22 season.

Harris stated that Lake Ellyn Park, Newton Park Tennis Courts and Polar Plaza are the recommended locations. Harris discussed those areas in detail and then provided the challenges of various other proposed sites including Lake Foxcroft, Newton Park grass rink and Sunset Park Tennis Courts. Harris stated that Lake Foxcroft has not produced skateable ice in years as it has many challenges diminishing the ice from freezing. Newton grass rink is very labor intensive to establish and maintain, requires significant amount of water and is challenging to sustain. Lastly, Sunset Park Tennis courts is a possibility and similar to Newton Park Tennis Courts and could provide an option but with limited staff and the financial expense incorporated, staff is not recommending it at this time.

The Park Board discussed the proposed recommendations and agreed with staff to proceed with the three (3) recommendations for outdoor ice skating within the District - Lake Ellyn Park, Newton Park Tennis Courts and Polar Plaza in downtown Glen Ellyn.

C. Repurpose of HGA Site at Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center Update

Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Miller stated that the District will have exclusive access to the area formally rented by Hard Gainers Athletics (H.G.A.) as of November 1, 2021.

Miller along with Ackerman Sports and Fitness Facilities Manager Lim provided an update on the repurpose project for the Park Board.

Miller stated the area will be used for Glen Ellyn Phillies and Rebel team trainings, private athletic lessons and group trainings, speed and agility classes, group exercise classes, additional training space and outside rentals. Facility Manager Lim discussed future usage and programming for the room as well as provided a tentative schedule of its use. Superintendent Miller discussed some of the future improvements for the space, including lighting, flooring, painting, removal of one office and replacing current netting within the area. Miller stated that funding would be provided through the ASFC budget along with contributions from the youth baseball and softball programs. Lastly staff provided a proposed facility floorplan.

The Park Board had a brief discussion and appreciated the insight and creativity to the possible programming and use of this space.

IX. Staff Reports

A. Finance Report (For Information Only)

B. Staff Reports

Executive Director Harris stated that ASFC hosted This Run's for Jack this past weekend with approximately 600 runners present. Staff provided the stage, facility, and parking lot for this organization. Ackerman also hosted the DuPage County Cares Van which provided a walkup vaccination clinic for area residents. Lastly, Harris provided that this upcoming weekend is busy filled with Holiday events including - Boo Bash, Ackerman Spook Trail and Jack O' Lanterns on Main Street. Preliminary survey results are in from the Community Wide Attitude and Interest survey and a summary of the outcome will be presented to the Board at the November 16th Regular Meeting.

X. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Bischoff looks forward to the strategic planning session and was pleased to see frisbee golf in use at Maryknoll Park. Commissioner Durham was pleased with the outcome of the 2021 budget discussion and is looking forward to the upcoming Spook Trail at Ackerman Park.

XI. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Bischoff moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Bischoff, Stortz, Cornell, Ward, Weber, and President Durham
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Dikker
Board Secretary