

Round Lake Area Park District
Regular Board Meeting
September 8, 2022
6:00 p.m.

PLACE OF MEETING:

Robert W. Rolek Community Center
814 Hart Road
Round Lake, IL 60073

I. ROLL CALL

Park District Board President Timothy Pasternak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners in attendance were Paul Hollingsworth, Christine Gentes, Sarah Green, and Nick Metropulos. Staff in attendance included Executive Director Bob Newport, Business Services Director Carl Hauser, Director of Operations and Recreation Katie Gamroth, Finance Department Manager Jennifer Baker, Superintendent of Parks Ane Olivarres, Superintendent of Recreation Ben Versnik, Human Resource Manager Jennifer Ruehrdanz, Guest Services Manager April Lohr, Marketing and Communications Specialist Melissa Hollander, and Building Services Manager Lyle Perry.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CONSIDERATION OF & POSSIBLE ACTIONS ON ANY REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING

None.

IV. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Newport stated that there were no changes to the posted agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of September 8, 2022, as presented.

SECOND: By Commissioner Gentes.

VOTE: By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

A. Hero Park Introduction

Gamroth reviewed a draft of the brochure to be used for fundraising that included various levels of financial donations for individuals and businesses or opportunities to sponsor a specific element, as well as donations of time or materials needed to construct the park. Gamroth stated that the park would be fully inclusive, cover an area of about 29,000 square feet, and replace the existing playground at the former Site II location. Gamroth added that the project is projected to cost \$2.5 million. Fundraising would kick-off on September 9, 2022 and would take a couple of years to complete. It is hoped that construction will begin in 2024, which is the park district's 50-year anniversary. Newport said that the district currently had approximately \$750,000 from the fund balance returned after the switch from the Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County to put some toward the fundraising target for the project. Gentes asked if an OSLAD grant could be applied for, and Newport said no based on some of the elements included in the park plan. Gamroth said that a goal was to get the community behind the project and that every donation helped. Gamroth added that donations would be able to be made online through the district's website. Olivares showed a design of a superhero character cut-out that her staff had been working on to communicate the progress of fundraising. Metropulos asked about the park surfacing. Newport stated that it would be the fully rubberized type. Metropulos asked what would happen to the existing playground equipment currently at the site. Newport responded that it would be donated overseas and that the existing park would be close to needing replacement by the time the project begins. Metropulos asked how the park name was determined. Newport responded that apart from the district's current naming policy, staff was brainstorming and wanted to have a cool theme for the park.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Comments

Gentes handed out a copy of the district's Policy 2.08 – Naming of Parks to the board and brought forth a request to name an area in honor of former Commissioner Jeanne Goshgarian, whose health was failing. Gentes added that she wanted to do something to honor her. Newport provided some background on Goshgarian's involvement in the growth of the district in its early years, and that she served as a commissioner for more than 20 years. Newport suggested naming the big pavilion at the top of the hill at the Rolek Center complex in her honor, which would also be very helpful to Guest Services when renting pavilions. He added that the board must wait 60 days before final action could be taken if they agreed to the request. He noted that the board could do a naming event in the spring. Gentes insisted on something soon where Goshgarian's family could be included. Newport said the soonest a naming event could be held would be December. If the board agreed by consensus to the timeframe, he could have Olivares start the process to have a sign made. Newport added that the policy would need to be reviewed and updated. The Board agreed to move forward with the request to name the pavilion in Jeanne Goshgarian's honor.

Pasternak wanted to thank Olivares for taking him to tour some of the parks.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2022.
- B. Approval of Cash Expenditure Transactions for the Month of August 2022.

MOTION: Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the Consent Agenda of September 8, 2022, as presented.

SECOND: By Commissioner Metropulos.

VOTE: By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance

1) Monthly Statements

Baker provided the monthly financial statements for August 2022. Pasternak asked Baker about the financial activity and position of the district's finances. Baker stated that transaction activity had been increasing from the Covid period and that the district's current reserves were good.

B. Program and Facility Monthly Reports

1. Recreation Services Report

Gamroth noted that the Superhero Training program was upcoming on September 9, 2022, and the Family Fishing Event on September 10, 2022. Gamroth said that the park district received a check in the amount of \$100,000 from The Huebner Fishery Management Foundation, and some of those proceeds would go toward a kayak kiosk. Gamroth added that Dena Krieger was hired as the Recreation Supervisor of the Children's Neighborhood and was working on rentals. Pasternak noted that the challenge course had been getting use from different groups. Newport said that the most recent group was from Northfield, Illinois. Gamroth added that the uptick in challenge course use may be the result of other courses closing. Hollingsworth asked about the pool closure on September 9, 2022, due to a guest vomiting in the pool. Gamroth said that due to the severity of the incident, the pool needed to be closed for a period of time to undertake proper cleaning procedures. Because the incident occurred close to the end of the second daily session, it was decided to close the pool for the day. Gentes asked staff if they were happy with the 2022 pool season. Gamroth and Newport both agreed it went well and attendance was good. Pasternak asked how the SRACLC programs were going. Gamroth said that the district hosted the inaugural pool party for SRACLC participants and their families and that there were more than 80 people were in attendance from all of the agencies that comprise SRACLC. Gamroth added that the SRACLC volleyball program had started and that SRACLC was also using Renwood for programs. Metropulos asked when the board would receive a report from SRACLC on programs. Newport responded that SRACLC's next board meeting was in September, after which time he would provide a report to the board. Gamroth stated that full-day preschool had begun, the classrooms were at capacity for the staffing level, and a waiting list had been started. Newport said that another room could be opened when there were enough individuals on the waiting list to cover the operating costs. Newport added that each room had a set capacity level set by the Department of Children and Family Services.

2. Parks Report

Staff provided a written report. Hollingsworth wanted Olivares to pass along to her staff that they did a great job lining the Harts Hill football field. Olivares stated that staff member Tim Pokorney did the work and that she would let him know.

3. Renwood Report

Staff provided a written report.

4. Safety

Staff provided a written report. Metropulos asked about the incident where a guest was photographing pool participants, which resulted in the police being called. Newport stated that the lifeguards and staff are trained not to confront guests, and to call the police using the 911 system if they feel uncomfortable with the activity of a guest. He added that there were no charges filed, the guest left, and then confronted other staff about the guards calling the police. He was informed that staff followed proper district procedure.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Commissioner Gentes moved to go into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Act Chapter 5ILCS Section 120/2 (c)(1) for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee.

SECOND: By Commissioner Green.

VOTE: By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

The Executive Session adjourned at 7:04 p.m. and the Regular Board Meeting reconvened.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Gentes moved to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of September 8, 2022.

SECOND: By Commissioner Metropulos.

VOTE: By Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion passed.

Park Board President Pasternak adjourned the Regular Board Meeting of September 8, at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

/s/Timothy Pasternak
Timothy Pasternak, Park Board President

/s/Carl Hauser
Carl Hauser, Park Board Secretary

October 13, 2022
Date Approved