

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS
HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
536 EAST AVENUE, LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS**

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

President Vear called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Opyd*, Collins

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung, Superintendent of La Grange Fitness Jenny Bechtold, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jim Rock

President Vear welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Commissioner Jacobs motioned for Commissioner Opyd to attend the meeting telephonically due to an illness. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Opyd, Collins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/Participation (Board Manual Section # 152)

None

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Collins motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 14, 2019; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Reports dated September 30, 2019 and October 31, 2019; Item 3.3 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for November dated November 18, 2019. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Opyd, Collins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

Staff Reports

Director Dean Bissias

- La Grange Little League would like to make some changes to Sedgwick Park to allow the installation of an additional field and bathrooms. The baseball field would replace the existing basketball courts which could be replaced somewhere else. This proposal will be addressed at a later meeting.
- He is working on the PARC grant with Superintendent of Fitness Jenny Bechtold. We are waiting for the criteria of the grant which might be posted by December 2, 2019. They would like to expand the fitness center. If the Board agrees with moving forward, they must pass the resolution next month.
- He is working on restarting the foundation with Superintendent of Fitness Jenny Bechtold. There needs to be Board support to begin this project. Director Bissias discussed the process of setting up a foundation and how it would operate.
- He met with a representative from Nania Energy Advisors to investigate the possibility of installing solar panels on the Recreation Center roof. The cost estimate is \$800,000 and return on investment from reduced electricity cost is about 3 to 5 years.
- Maintenance changed the ceiling tiles at the Community Center after the new roof was installed.
- Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller is working on the brochure delivery problem. There were 187 La Grange residents who did not receive the winter/spring brochure.
- Director Bissias showed the Board the plans for the PARC Grant.

Staff Comments

Superintendent of La Grange Fitness Jenny Bechtold

- The fitness center is at 2585 members and growing.
- There have been no complaints about parking for the past two months.

Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung

None

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej

None

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn

- Replacement of the lights with LED's has begun at Sedgwick Park. We are expending \$16,000 of the \$28,000 budgeted for this project.
- The cost of changing the lights at the Recreation Center is high. He is investigating grants and changing the lights gradually in small sections.
- There are 14 to 16 parties every weekend and we are very busy.
- The rental coordinator position was filled, and the new employee will

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start December 2, 2019.

- Some of the staff attended the Legal Symposium in Oak Brook. It covered legal topics that will affect the Park District.

Attorney Report

None

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

Discussion and Possible Approval of an Updated Agreement with Chicago White Sox

Director Bissias stated the Bulls/Sox Academy name has changed to the Chicago White Sox. We must update the contract. Commissioner Collins motioned to approve an updated agreement with the Chicago White Sox. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Ordinance 19-10. An Ordinance providing for the issue of \$338,800 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2019, of the Park District for the payment of land for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding bonds of the Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to Republic Bank of Chicago, Oak Brook, Illinois

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej stated this is an annual rollover bond. Before we can issue the bond, we must approve the ordinance. Commissioner Jacobs motioned to approve Ordinance 19-10, an Ordinance providing for the issue of \$338,800 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2019, of the Park District for the payment of land for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding bonds of the Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to Republic Bank of Chicago, Oak Brook, Illinois. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd

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NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Acceptance of Official Bid for the Issuance of \$338,800 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds

Commissioner O'Brien motioned to accept the official bid for the issuance of \$338,800 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Discussion on Staff Presenting the Draft Proposal of Levy and Assessment of Taxes of the Park District of La Grange for the 2019 Tax Levy Year at the December Board Meeting

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej is proposing an increase of 1.58% over the prior year levy amount to capture the new growth in the village. Commissioner Collins motioned to allow Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej to proceed with preparing the levy documents for the 2019 tax levy year. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on SEASPAR Tax Levy for 2019

Director Bissias stated the SEASPAR tax levy went down from \$115,000 last year to \$109,000 this year. Commissioner Collins motioned to approve the SEASPAR tax levy for 2019. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Board Business
Old Business

None

New Business

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Board Meeting Dates for 2020

There was Board consensus to vote on the meeting dates. Commissioner Jacobs motioned to accept the board meeting dates for 2020 as presented.

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Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Parks and Open Lands

Commissioner Jacobs reviewed the minutes of her committee meeting of November 10, 2019. The committee members discussed their visits to the parks. There were many positive observations and some suggestions for improvement. They agreed to look at the Park District strategic plan and note if each park closely aligns with their observations. They also suggested seeking input from other residents on park perceptions as part of strategic planning.

Finance & Capital Project Committee

None

User Group Committee

None

Marketing/Social Media Committee

None

Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)

None

Board Comments

Commissioner Opyd stated he enjoyed the Halloween Party with his family and the Flashlight Candy Hunt.

Commissioner Jacobs stated she is getting valuable feedback from members of the fitness center. It is clean, and they love the instructors. The La Grange Environmental Quality Commission asked us to participate in Christmas tree light recycling. We will have a container in the Recreation Center lobby.

Commissioner O'Brien thanked Director Bissias and Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn for their prompt response on a Sunday afternoon to repair a burst pipe at Sedgwick Park.

President Vear thanked staff and Director Bissias for their pursuit of increasing their knowledge at the Legal Symposium in Oak Brook and the NRPA Conference in Baltimore.

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Executive Session

At 8:15 P.M. Commissioner Jacobs motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 12.2 Acquisition of Real Property, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5); Item 12.4 Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); Item 12.5 Review of Closed Executive Session Minutes, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21). Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Jacobs, O'Brien, Collins, Opyd
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

At 9:14 P.M. the Board resumed the regular meeting.

Commissioner Collins motioned to keep the Executive Session minutes closed. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Adjournment

Commissioner Jacobs moved for adjournment at 9:14 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Robert Vear, President

Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 12/09/2019