

Regular Meeting
February 22, 2016

At the call of President Glen Marcum, the Joliet Park District Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016 in the Board Room of the Presence Health Inwood Athletic Club, 3000 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, IL. The meeting began at 5:00pm.

Pledge of the Flag

The Pledge of the Flag was led by Commissioner Gulas.

Commissioners Present: Marcum, Schultz, Broderick, Gulas, Mutz
Commissioners Absent: None

A. Approval of the minutes of Special Meeting and Executive Session of January 20, 2016, Regular Meeting and Executive Session of January 25, 2016, Special Meeting and Executive Session of February 4, 2016 and Special Meeting of February 11, 2016
A motion was made by Commissioner Gulas, seconded by Vice President Schultz, to approve the minutes of Special Meeting and Executive Session of January 20, 2016, Regular Meeting and Executive Session of January 25, 2016, Special Meeting and Executive Session of February 4, 2016 and Special Meeting of February 11, 2016. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

A. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of January 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Broderick, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to approve the bills and payroll for the month of January 2016. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

B. Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2016

Cash on hand	\$ 1,050,625.43
Receipts	\$ 4,002,130.79
Disbursements	\$ 4,094,707.02
Cash on Hand	\$ 958,049.20
Total Investments	\$10,840,722.26
Total Cash and Investments	\$11,798,771.46

Mr. Pehle, Interim Chief Executive Director / Director of Finance, stated that the total Operating Fund was \$975,024.57 compared to \$924,946.23 at the same time last year. The increase is mostly due to golf revenue and ticket sales for the Taste of Joliet.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mutz, seconded by Vice President Schultz, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2016. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

C. Opportunity For The Public To Speak - 3 minute time limit

S M Jarosinski asked the Board what does equality of life mean to them. To her it means that she is able to do what others can do despite her disability. Ms. Jarosinski stated she is a Chairperson of the Accessible Will County Working Group and Outreach Community and Board Member at the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living. Even though Ms. Jarosinski lives in Bolingbrook, she came to the meeting to share her reasons why the Joliet Park District should work on incorporating ADA rules and regulations and not change roads in Pilcher Park. Ms. Jarosinski stated that she and others need special accommodations to enjoy the park and asked the Board to not take out the roads which allow people with disabilities to see the park by taking a car.

At this time a representative from the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living handed to the Board and Staff a Pilcher Park Survey which the Center conducted.

Earley Coleman stated he is a member of the Pilcher Park Independent Oversight Community. Mr. Coleman is concerned about the park and is also here to support Pam Heavens, Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living, and the ADA 504 Federal Rehabilitation Act. Mr. Coleman stated there should be transparency and public input about the Pilcher Park plans. The tax payers are here to hold the Board accountable for the Board's promise to hold a public meeting to discuss the Pilcher Park plans. Mr. Coleman asked the Board to contact LaMellis McCormick, President of the Parkwood Neighborhood Watch Association, to plan a meeting to address the issues of Pilcher Park.

Pat Vahn stated that she participated in "walk in the park" through Pilcher Park and commented that she had to return to the Greenhouse because the trails were so bad. She asked the Board to address the condition of the roads so she could enjoy the park.

Elaine Sommer President of Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living grew up in the Forest Park and Pilcher Park area and has great memories. Ms. Sommer stated that she would like her park back. She expressed her concerns about the lack of accessibility at Pilcher Park and asked for better paths along with more benches and bathrooms.

John Sheridan stated that when the Bond Referendum was passed the Board talked and listened to the community and the referendum was passed by 70%. Mr. Sheridan requested that the Board meet with the tax payers and discuss the plans for Pilcher Park like the Board did with the Nowell Park project. Mr. Sheridan noted that he did not see one Commissioner at the "walk in the park" back in October. The Board needs to work with a committee on the ADA concerns in Pilcher Park.

Rhonda Price stated she is a citizen of Joliet and a board member for the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living. Ms. Price noted she is a person with disability who needs to use a wheelchair. She asked the Board to please hear our thoughts about doing the right things. Taking out a road and putting down gravel is not the right thing for people with disabilities.

Susan Rink stated she is a Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living board member and the survey the Board received tonight are responses regarding Pilcher Park. Ms. Rink shared

some of the responses. There were concerns about the roads needing to be repaved, roads being closed and not being accessible to everyone, need to maintain park not change the park, need for more working bathrooms and benches and to reopen Snake Hill and the Flowing Well.

Pam Heavens, Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living Executive Director, stated she has concerns about the Pilcher Park plan to take out roads. The Board needs to have a meeting on the Pilcher Park plans and to use us as a resource to make sure the park is accessible to people with disabilities.

Sam Knight stated that he is here about the accessibility concerns at Pilcher Park. Mr. Knight also participated in the Stroll and Roll on October 3rd and would not have been able to participate if someone did not assist him by pushing him in a manual wheelchair. He would like to visit the park again on his own with no assistance so he would like to see the roads remain and to make the trails more accessible.

Missy Martin, Program Manager at the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living, read comments from the survey. Comments were to keep the roads and maintain them, bring Pilcher Park up to ADA standards, keep park clean, upper loop needs to be paved and eliminating features is not fixing the problem but ignoring it.

Olivia Cruickshank, Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living, read comments from the survey. Do not remove roads, please leave the dam, we love the park but eliminating roads is not good and the park is part of childhood memories and should not be altered.

John Depue, stated that he has lived near Pilcher Park for over forty years and he is here to voice his objections to closing the access road. Before the Referendum was voted on, there was all this talk about improvements but now the improvements are reducing access and eliminating access to some of the wooded areas in the park. This may be improvements to the park district maintenance cost but not improvements for user friendliness.

Tabitha Boshears, Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living, spoke about some of the key information in survey. There are 326 surveys in front of you and 76% of the respondents are people with disability with limited mobility. We are not asking you to put something in but to not take something away from us. The Board needs to listen to the taxpayers.

Marjueri Wanna, Will-Grundy Center for Independent, read some of the responses from survey. Asking for a nursing station, pavilions are in bad shape and are not accessible, cannot push son on unpaved trails, more benches, would like to drive through the entire park and more bathrooms. Please make the park a better place for all to enjoy.

Dr. Rita Rogan stated that she lives in the park and has benefited from working with Pam Heavens, Joliet Park District Staff and the Board. I know Staff has contacted Robin Jones, Region 5 ADA Center, to review the Pilcher Park plans along with hiring John McGovern as consultant. The letter of the law will be provided by them but the heart of the law will depend on program access. What are you offering to the public; offering access to the deep of the woods. Many people have come forward and gave their input about what is important. Thank you for listening to us and seeing the importance of this legislation.

Dr. Helen Straus stated that in the past I have spoken about the transparency of this Board so she was surprised to find out that the current option for Pilcher Park was already approved last summer. She does not remember a public meeting or discussion with the community. Now there are issues with people with disabilities and removing a part of the loop road. Please have the meetings and listen to the folks and what they are saying and follow the ADA.

A resident approached the Board and reviewed what was said about the lack of ADA compliance at the park and the need for bathrooms and benches. He stated that he had to use a wheelchair instead of his walker doing the October 3rd walk in the park and it was a slap in the face. He does not wish to go back to the park so he asked the Board to consider the people with disabilities who access your parks.

President Marcum stated that this Board does listen to its constituents and has agreed to have a public meeting regarding the Pilcher Park plans at the Nature Center in the next 30 days. The plan for Pilcher Park has been approved but has not gone out to bid at this time. There was a comment about if the plan is an open issue. President Marcum said it was an open issue at this time.

D. Communications

1. Staff Reports

Mr. Pehle stated that he and Larry Burich, Director of Planning/Parks, spoke with Robin Jones and Peter Berg from Region 5 Great Lakes ADA Center regarding the Pilcher Park plans. Ms. Jones will be in contact with us once the plans are reviewed.

Mr. Pehle noted that there will be a Joint Legislative Breakfast on March 14th and a Special Board Meeting on March 21st at 2pm for the May 1st – December 31st Budget.

Mr. Pehle informed the Board that the weigh out for the Weight Loss Challenge is March 2nd and 3rd. 722 people weighed in and each person who weighs out will receive a free t-shirt. Pioneer Day will only be one day this year on Saturday, March 19th. Also on March 19th, Nowell Park and Heggie Field will host an Easter egg hunt. Lastly, the Joliet Park District logo has been officially trademarked.

Ted Brodeur, Director of Revenue Facilities, updated the Board on the tree removal project at the golf courses.

Terry Keigher, Director of Recreation, informed the Board about SRJC's Polar Plunge on March 19th and the Luna Boxing event on February 6th was a great event and was well attended.

Mr. Burich informed the Board that he and Jennifer McFarland, Joliet Regional Superintendent, will be attending a drone seminar. Mr. Pehle noted that the General Use Ordinance may need to be updated to address drone usage at our parks.

Brad Staab, Director of Public Relations/Marketing, stated that the Splash Station will participate in the Chamber Expo this Saturday.

F. Action Items

1. Old Business

There was no Old Business brought before the Board for consideration.

2. New Business

- a. Resolution #16-169 – Approving Purchase and Sale Agreement
Between Joliet Park District and Iglesia Pentecostal Cristo Es La Roca

Commissioner Broderick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gulas, to adopt Resolution #16-169, approving purchase and sale agreement between Joliet Park District and Iglesia Pentecostal Cristo Es La Roca. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

- b. Resolution #16-170 – Authorizing the Second Amendment to Space
License Agreement with Presence Central and Suburban Hospitals
Network – Physical Therapy Room

Commissioner Mutz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Broderick, to adopt Resolution #16-170, authorizing the Second Amendment to Space License Agreement with Presence Central and Suburban Hospitals Network. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

3. Quotes – Award of Contract

- a. Garnsey Park Playground Renovation – Upland Design – \$19,830.00

Commissioner Gulas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to approve staff's recommendation to approve the contract with Upland Design for Garnsey Park Playground Renovation in the amount of \$19,830.00. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

- b. Heggie Field Playground Renovation – Upland Design – \$23,620.00

Commissioner Broderick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to approve staff's recommendation to approve the contract with Upland Design for Heggie Field Playground Renovation in the amount of \$23,620.00. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: All in favor

Nays: None

G. Board Comments

Commissioner Gulas presented a letter from resident Traci Jungles to the Board. The letter thanked the Board and Staff for working on a new policy allowing outside ice skating coaches to instruct at the Inwood Ice Arena.

Commissioner Schultz commented on a concern from a resident regarding the lack of benches at Paul E. Briese Park. Mr. Burich stated he would look into the concern along with another matter with the limited parking spaces.

1. Committee Reports

a. Policy

There was no Report for the Policy Committee

b. Joliet Park Foundation

There was no Report for the Joliet Park Foundation Committee.

c. Joliet Regional Airport

There was no report for the Joliet Regional Airport Committee.

H. Executive Session: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific Park District Employees; Collective negotiating matters between the Park District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees

At 6:03pm, a motion was made by Vice President Schultz, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to suspend the Regular Meeting and move into Executive Sessions to discuss consideration of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; pending litigation. The motion unanimously carried.

I. Action from Executive Session

At 6:40pm, a motion was made by Vice President Schultz, seconded by Commissioner Broderick, to exit executive session with no action taken. The motion unanimously carried.

The Board agreed to hold a Special Meeting on Monday, March 21, 2016 at the Nature Center regarding the Pilcher Park Renovation plans.

J. Adjournment

At 6:57pm, with all agenda items discussed, a motion was made by Commissioner Broderick, seconded by Commissioner Mutz, to adjourn the meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Talarico
Board Secretary