

MINUTES
St. Charles Park District Board Meeting
September 8, 2020

Call to Order

The St. Charles Park District Board met for a Regular Meeting at Pottawatomie Community Center on September 8, 2020. At 6:33 p.m. President Jim Cooke called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Administrative Assistant Jenny Santos called the roll.

Commissioners present: Bob Carne, Brian Charles, Jim Cooke, Peggy McCarthy and Bob Thomson

Commissioners absent: Karrsten Goettel and Mike Hoscheit

Administrative staff present: Director of Parks & Recreation Holly Cabel, Superintendent of Parks & Planning, Deputy Director Laura Rudow, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Kies, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Cathy Camm, Pottawatomie Golf Course Manager & PGA Golf Pro Ron Skubisz and Administrative Assistant Jenny Santos

Other Staff Present:

Consent Agenda

Mr. Charles moved and Mr. Thomson seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board approve the following Consent Agenda items, including the following:

- Approval of Minutes from August 25, 2020

A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Carne, Charles, McCarthy, Thomson and Cooke. Nay: none. The motion carried.

Public Appearances

None

Administration and Finance

Public Hearing for Bond Issuance

President Cooke announced that the purpose of this public hearing was to receive public comments on the proposal to sell not to exceed \$6,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving, and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto. There were no public comments.

Mr. Carne motioned and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the Hearing be adjourned. There was no further discussion and a roll call vote was taken. Aye: Carne, Charles, McCarthy, Thomson and Cooke. Nay: none. The motion carried.

Proposed Rate Increases for 2021

Ms. Camm presented fiscal year 2021 rates and fees for facilities, memberships and rentals. Ms. Camm first presented the fee changes for two pavilions and Paddlewheel Riverboats. Mr. Thomson asked why there was not a non-resident fee for cruises. Ms. Camm replied that the Park District needs to use the TicketLeap platform to sell tickets, which does not support a non-resident fee. Ms. McCarthy asked how staff chose what fees would be increased and Ms. Camm said the proposed increases were a result of a cost analysis and usage data. Ms. Rudow added

that the pavilion increase for River Bend is because of its capacity and usage. Ms. Camm shared the increases for greens fees and season passes for Pottawatomie Golf Course. Mr. Carne shared his concern for an increase for the 60+ season pass. Mr. Skubisz replied that there hasn't been an increase for the pass price in more than 3 years. Ms. Camm shared the proposed rates and fees for Swanson Pool and Otter Cove Aquatic Park, including fees if the state is still in Phase 4 of Restore Illinois. Mr. Thomson wanted to know if the Park District planned to sell season passes early like it has in the past. Mr. Kies said that he's not sure at this point in time. Ms. Camm shared the Athletic Field Use Fees and Ms. Rudow added that there has always been a fee schedule for the associated groups, but this is the first year they have been shared with the Board along with the other fees. Lastly, Ms. Camm shared fee increases at Baker Community Center, one for piano rental and the other for auditorium usage per hour for associated groups.

Recreation

No business.

Parks, Planning, and Facilities

Valley Recreation Center

Superintendent of Parks and Planning Laura Rudow presented pictures and specifications of Valley Recreation Center that had been previously leased to Two Rivers Head Start. Ms. Rudow shared that the building is in overall good condition, has parking for about 20 cars and the playground is less than 10 years old. She shared some ideas for possible usage of the building, including leasing it to another early childhood organization or FVSRA or waiting until the indoor space study is completed in 2021. Mr. Carne shared his ideas: put out an RFP and target early childhood businesses; reach out to our intergovernmental partners, such as CUSD303, FVSRA, Kane County Forest Preserve or St. Charles Township to see if they have a need for such a space, or sell. Ms. Cabel suggested doing the indoor space study before making final decision. The Board would like staff to come back with other suggestions for what to do with the building at a later meeting.

Correspondence

Ms. Cabel shared a letter from the Red Cross to Ms. Piner thanking the Park District for hosting two blood drives this summer, during which over 200 donors gave blood.

She also shared a letter a resident wrote to Rosie Edwards thanking her and the aquatics staff for staying open this summer.

Director's Report

Ms. Cabel said that NBC was out earlier this month filming at the mini golf and peddle boats and the segment will be airing on Friday morning between 11 and 11:30 am.

Ms. Cabel shared the award that Jeff Essig was presented at the GMIS conference (held virtually) for his work with the City of St. Charles to bring the Park District onto their fiber network.

The Sculpture in the Park Committee voted to hold off purchasing a sculpture this year.

Ms. Cabel remind the commissioners that the capital workshop is next Wednesday, September 16th at noon at Hickory Knolls Discovery Center. The staff will bring a three year plan for the Board to review and discuss.

Administration is working on the application for Kane County CARES funds to cover expenditures related to the pandemic.

Commissioners' Comments

Bob Carne: Mr. Carne shared his appreciation for the facilities teams that clean the restrooms in the parks. He and his wife were at Mt. St. Mary Park and Pottawatomie Park this weekend and they were in awe of how spotless the restrooms were. He wanted to praise the staff for doing such a good job. He also congratulated the aquatics staff for a successful summer. Mr. Carne shared some of his ideas. He suggested that the sponsorship and partnership supervisor explore opportunities to drive up usage of the Paddlewheel Riverboats next year. He said he would like to see more companies renting the boats for team-building events or employee outings. Another idea he encourages the staff to explore is how the Park District can give something back to the taxpayers that will expose them to different facilities, tied into a gift of some sort. His last idea was centered on the patrons of the AAC. He recently saw a news piece about how retirees wish they had a way to find a sense of purpose during retirement and volunteer positions are one way to fulfill that need. He suggested that the Park District explore the possibilities of engaging older adults in Park District by creating regularly scheduled volunteer positions.

Brian Charles: No comments

Bob Thomson: Congratulations to Mike Kies on being elected to the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

Karrsten Goettel: Absent

Mike Hoscheit: Absent

Margaret "Peggy" McCarthy: Ms. McCarthy commented on the FVSRA fundraiser two weeks ago and how good the food was. She also shared that she to a walk on the Bob Andrini Trail in near Hickory Knolls Discovery Center. She said that it was a beautiful walk and really fun to follow along the trail. She mentioned that her friends who are members at Norris Recreation Center are very impressed with how clean it is. She reminded the commissioners about the Fox River Clean-up on Saturday, September 19. She will be at Boy Scout Island at 8:30 am and will be a location leader.

Jim Cooke: No comments

Executive Session

Mr. Thomson moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board temporarily adjourn to a closed session for the purpose of considering the following subjects, per the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2(c) exceptions: (1) litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; and (2) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body,

including meetings held for the purpose of discussion whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Carne, Charles, McCarthy, Thomson and Cooke. Nay: none. The motion carried. At 7:12 p.m., the Board temporarily adjourned to proceed to the Executive Session.

Other Business

At 7:19 p.m., Mr. Cooke called the meeting back to order. Mr. Cooke asked the staff to think about what one thing they would do or create for the Park District if money wasn't an issue. He would like staff to bring out-of-the-box ideas to the Board during the Capital Workshop. He would also like to know what staff's priorities are.

Adjournment

There being no further or other business, Ms. McCarthy moved and Mr. Carne seconded to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, unanimous affirmative votes were cast, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.