



Elk Grove Park District Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2018

6:00 p.m.

President Walz called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

In attendance: President Walz, Commissioner Biedke, Commissioner Cooke,
Commissioner O'Malley and Commissioner Souder

Staff: Tom Busby, Rhonda Brewer (left at 7:00 p.m.), Tammy Miller, Jeff Collier,
Tom Klaas (left at 7:00 p.m.) and Jeremy Duncan (left at 7:00 p.m.)

Absent: Ben Curcio

Visitor: Chuck Kawalek (arrived at 8:27 p.m.)

DISCUSSION ON GRANT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH GAMETIME

Executive Director Busby stated in past years, we have received a grant from Gametime for playground replacement. This year, the deadline to apply was moved up to October 31, so we need would approval for the 2019 Capital Project Clark and Clearmont Park Replacement now to get this grant before the deadline. The consensus of the Board was to approve this project.

DISCUSSION ON REALLOCATING BUDGET DOLLARS FOR FOX RUN FENCE

Executive Director Busby explained that \$15,000 was budgeted this year for the replacement of the chain link fence on hole 18. Since receiving quotes in the fall of 2017, the cost of aluminum increased putting the project over budget. Director Busby requested permission to reallocate that money to replace the split rail fencing on hole 16 with white PVC fencing. This project can be completed this year for less that the amount budgeted for the fence on hole 18. The consensus of the Board was to allow reallocation of these capital funds.

DISCUSSION ON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

Executive Director Busby stated over the last two nights, he, along with several other staff and Commissioners Walz and Souder attended four Athletic Association meetings. They had a number of questions regarding changes due to PDRMA no longer insuring them. Director Busby wrote down his responses to those questions to share with the Board.

Question #1 – How would an advisory board would be formed?

- Director Busby stated initially we thought we would appoint people to the positions but some want to have an election. Director Busby said they could recommend the person and then we will appoint them as long as their background checks are clean and they have not had any issues with another association in the past.

Commissioner Souder stated he does not see the operations changing dramatically with their board and volunteers still doing the same thing. Director Busby thinks there will be some changes. Since they will be a park district program, we will have more control over who coaches and how their operations are run. Director Miller added we have to have a process in place so we know who all the coaches are. Commissioner Souder suggested requiring all coaching candidates to register at the District. Director Busby added they would still be allowed to pick their own coaches and hire trainers. Director Miller clarified that if they are a program of ours, the coaches would become an employee but only the head coach would be paid. Commissioner Biedke stated unlike house baseball, in soccer, most of the coaches are trainers. Commissioner O'Malley responded that staff would have to come up with the criteria to be called a trainer. Maybe their advisory board could help with making that decision.

Question #2 – If they were to run out of supplies for concessions, can they make a purchase and get reimbursed?

- The answer is yes, and Director Busby added they should encourage their advisory board to help run their own concessions.

Question #3 – What are the fees to go off on their own?

- If they become an outside program, they would be charged for field rental. They may get a discount if they meet the residency requirements.
- If they become a program, there would be no charge for fields or lights.

Commissioner O'Malley shared that RJ Gomez asked why there were only two options; becoming an in-house program or going off on their own. He wanted to know if they could get their own insurance and keep the affiliate agreement. Director Busby replied that he posed that question to PDRMA today. Their response was they did not think they could get their own insurance and operate the same but they will provide Director Busby an answer in writing. President Walz questioned why they would pay their own insurance if the District can provide insurance at no extra charge if they are a park district program. He added that he does understand the associations wanting to know all that is entailed with coming in-house.

SUSPENSION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commissioner Souder moved to suspend the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 7:00 p.m. until after the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting.

Commissioner Cooke seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Biedke, Cooke, O'Malley, Souder and President Walz

Nays: None

Motion Carried

RECONVENE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commissioner Souder moved to reconvene the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Commissioner Cooke seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Biedke, Cooke, O'Malley, Souder and President Walz

Nays: None

Motion Carried

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS

Commissioner O'Malley stated he still does not understand the options. According to the letter from PDRMA, they can get their own insurance. If they choose to do this, why does PDRMA care? Director Busby responded the current coverage states that programs are covered but the associations are not because they have elected boards and an affiliation agreement.

Commissioner Souder added that if PDRMA does not buy the argument that the associations have their own insurance, PDRMA will deny the claim and the Park District will be liable.

Director Miller asked if they were to get their own insurance, who are "they", and whose FEIN number would they use? Commissioner O'Malley responded they could use the Park District's number. Director Busby responded there would be a cost and a risk in allowing them to do so, such as worker's comp. Commissioner O'Malley commented that bringing them in-house would add more risks to which Director Miller responded they trust us to train, chaperone, etc.

Commissioner Souder said his assumption is we have a way to call them a park district program but let them run their program the same as they were. Director Busby replied that although most would remain the same, the District would have the final say on everything, but would not change the playing rules. He does not anticipate changing much to the program at all and would like the associations input on the advisory board. Commissioner Souder added he does not see any board position changing for anyone that wants to stay on.

Jeff Collier spoke up and said that staff did not want this situation with the insurance to happen and we are trying to figure out a way to make this a park district program that benefits everyone. Director Busby added that the current agreement states we have the final authority so why do the associations think we have a hidden agenda. Commissioner Biedke wanted to know why the clause "final say" does not prove these are park district programs already and asked why Attorney Hoffman and PDRMA cannot come to an agreement. Commissioner Souder responded the affiliate agreement is a contract; we cannot have an agreement with ourselves.

Commissioner Cooke suggested taking out the parts of the affiliate agreement that do not apply and calling it a policy instead. Director Busby replied that this solution might work. We can rename it a Letter of Understanding with ninety percent remaining intact.

Chuck Kawalek commented that it was always his understanding that the Park District had the final say. He feels the uproar among the associations was the November 5 deadline mentioned in the minutes. He added if the program could be run the same as now, there are already 47 volunteers. Jeff stated we need to look at the volunteer board manual and redefine what is important and all hiring has to be done in a format process in the manual.

Director Busby asked the Board if they agree with modifying the affiliate agreements and redefining the volunteer board manual with the input from the seven advisory boards. He added that the seven Associations need to turn in updated operating guidelines. He concluded the current affiliate agreements still need to be canceled or PDRMA will not insure us. President Souder asked if someone could notify the association presidents that we are taking the existing agreements and modifying them, leaving many of the same principles but incorporating the volunteer board manual into them. Director Busby stated he would like to get PDRMA's approval on the Letter of Understanding. He will also ask if they have any other suggestions.

Director Busby shared that a new website is in the budget for 2019. We could add the associations on the website with each team having the ability to make updates.

Director Miller thanked Chuck Kawalek for providing insight on the Association's needs.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Busby asked who has heard of Mark Hopkins Park. It is located on a triangle of land off Landmeier. The Village acquired this parcel of land in a trade with the Township and then in 1969 the Village deeded it to the Park District. Electronic recordings at Cook County do not go that far back so we have to hire a Chicago title search to find out if we still own this property or if we deeded it over.

Executive Director Busby spoke with MWRD twice this week. They did not see any more issues so he hopes to have everything signed off on by Monday or Tuesday of next week. If we receive the permit next week, he wants to hit the ground running in hopes of still getting the skate park built before winter. The pitch to the north was not in the original contract so we are trying to get quotes for better pricing. We still have money in contingency in case we have to move the fence line a little further to the north. Another cost could be additional dirt and reseeding or blanketing.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Souder moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Commissioner Biedke seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Biedke, Cooke, O'Malley, Souder and President Walz

Nays: None

Motion Carried