

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2018**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Lake Bluff Park District Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Vice President Gordon.

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called: S. Ehrhard, B. Gordon, K. McKendry, C. Mosbarger and B. Wallace.

Commissioners R. Douglass and F. Pitera were absent with prior notice.

Staff members present were Ron Salski, Executive Director; Jim Lakeman, Superintendent of Recreation, Safety and Outreach Services; and Marcia Jendreas, Recording Secretary.

Also present was Committee Members George Russell; and Jill Allread and Jeremy Andereck from Public Communications, Inc.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Wallace moved, seconded by Commissioner Mosbarger, to approve the January 22, 2018 Agenda as submitted.

On the roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: S. Ehrhard, K. McKendry, C. Mosbarger, B. Wallace, B. Gordon

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: R. Douglass, F. Pitera

Motion carried.

Statement of Visitors – None

NEW BUSINESS – BOARD AND STAFF WORKSHOP

Board Training

Jill Allread, from Public Communications, Inc. stated that for several years, the Lake Bluff Park District has been going through an extensive process of analysis and planning for all of its programs, facilities and services. The goals include determining a future vision and direction that maximizes the number of Lake Bluff residents who can participate in and enjoy recreational opportunities and allocating the community's resources responsibly.

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Executive Director Salski stated that the Park District has retained Public Communications, Inc., throughout 2018, to assist with districtwide communications related to success stories, challenges and opportunities such as the capital plan, cost of services, beach and golf club.

Ms. Allread was advised that there have been persistent financial challenges of the Lake Bluff Golf Club. She believes it is important to communicate to the residents about the Board and Staff's commitment to be fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars as it provides quality facilities and parks that support the health and well-being of the community.

According to the results of the recent Community Wide Survey, Ms. Allread noted that Lake Bluff residents show strong community interest in and use of Sunrise Park and Beach, open space, trails and the Park District's Health and Fitness Center. The Park District is committed to listening to and engaging residents in a process to determine what recreational opportunities should be provided by the Park District. She felt it was important for the Board to communicate if there are any facilities, programs or services that have a significant annual operating loss.

In particular, Ms. Allread recommended that public meetings be held for residents' comments regarding the golf club. These meetings should focus on statements only allowing for the website to be the central communication channel for questions and answers. These public meetings should be announced in the media, website, emails and by any other means currently available to the Park District.

Executive Director Salski advised that representatives from Sikich LLP will be giving a draft presentation on the Capital Plan and net cash flow of the districtwide financials for the next 12 years, with and without the golf club, at the February 5, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting. At that meeting the Board will decide whether to hold public meetings at the end of February and early March. Commissioners agreed that if they are not comfortable with the draft numbers, then any public meetings regarding any program or facility should be postponed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Vice President Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Mosbarger to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Approved this 26th day of February 2018
Board of Commissioners
Lake Bluff Park District