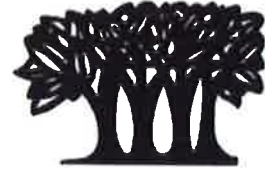


Morton Grove Park District

6834 Dempster Street • Morton Grove, Illinois • 60053 847/965-1200



**MORTON GROVE
PARK DISTRICT**

Minutes of the 822nd
Board Meeting
April 15, 2020
Held via Zoom

- I. **Roll Call:** Commissioner Minx called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Commissioners Present: Keith White, Erica Epperson, Steve Schmidt, Mazhar Khan and Paul Minx

Staff Present: Jeffrey Wait, Executive Director; Marty O'Brien, Superintendent of Finance; Laura Kee, Superintendent of HR and Risk Management; Sue Braubach, Superintendent of Recreation; Keith Gorczyca, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities and Claudia Marren, Administrative Assistant

Attorney Present: Steve Adams, Robbins Schwartz

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- III. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** None.

- IV. **Citizens Comments on Agenda Items/Correspondence:** None.

- V. **Consent Agenda:**

Commissioner Minx made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Khan, to approve:

a. The Financial Reports:

1. The Cash Summary and Revenue and Expenditure Report dated March 31, 2020 and
2. The Invoice Distribution Report ending March 31, 2020 in the amount of \$134,456.36

Ayes: Commissioner Epperson, Schmidt, Khan, Minx and White. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

- VI. **Director Report:** Director Wait wanted to remind all residents that during this pandemic all parks are closed. All organized activities have been cancelled or postponed and the basketball and tennis courts are closed.

The District continues to prepare for the summer, knowing how important the programs are to the citizens, although start dates and locations may change and some programs will have to be cancelled. The District will notify the residents of any changes as soon as possible.

- VII. **Attorney Report:** Attorney Adams congratulated the District on the successful referendum noting it reflects the level of trust the community has for the Board and the District. Adams also noted he emailed a report to the Commissioners.

COMMITTED TO QUALITY PARK AND RECREATION SERVICES

VIII. New Business:

a. Administrative and Finance Committee – Commissioner Minx, Chair

Williams Architect Agreements: Director Wait noted he received a signed copy of the Williams Architect contract for Harrer Pool which is to be approved.

Commissioner Minx made a motion, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the Williams Architect contract for the new Harrer Pool. **Ayes: Commissioner Schmidt, Khan, Minx, White and Epperson. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

COVID-19 Shut Down Cost Estimate: Director Wait commended Superintendent O'Brien, Superintendent Braubach and the entire Recreation staff for identifying the loss of revenue due to the COVID-19 shut down. The District is losing approximately \$105,000 per month. The District thought it best to discontinue paying part-time staff after April 24th and have the Administration and Recreation staff take either a furlough or vacation day, once per week.

Commissioner Minx made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Khan that during the Covid 19 crisis the Park District will pay part time employees until April 24th and have all full time Administration and Recreation employees take one furlough or vacation day per week. **Ayes: Commissioner Khan, Minx, White, Epperson and Schmidt. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

Tax Appeal Resolution #R-02-20: The District is requesting approval of an ordinance that will allow Robbins Schwartz to represent the District for tax appeals in order to save money. The District has received several tax appeal complaints regarding the assessed value of properties. If these complaints are not contested it could cost the District a great deal of money down the line. Attorney Adams further explained several Morton Grove property owners objected to the equalized assessed value, as determined by the Cook County Board of Review. These objections go to an administrative process and its at that point which the property owners try to convince the Board of Review that they erred in how they calculated the assessed value. If the residents convince the Board of Review that there was an error in the calculation of the assessed value it would cost the District approximately \$10,000-\$20,000 in refunds for 2018 and the District would lose the tax revenue from the adjusted values for the rest of the triennial. Adams also noted he will prepare an analysis of the revenue impact and compare it to the legal fees and only move forward with the cases that would have a meaningful economic impact. Superintendent O'Brien also noted we do not want to set a precedent. Also, this resolution would allow Robbins Schwartz to represent the District whenever needed in tax appeal cases.

Commissioner Minx made a motion, seconded by Commissioner White to approve Resolution #R-02-20 authorizing Robbins Schwartz to intervene, on the Park Districts behalf, for property tax appeals. **Ayes: Commissioner Minx, White, Epperson, Schmidt and Khan. Nays: 0. Motion carried.**

IX. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None.

X. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner White: Thanked the staff for all their work in calculating the impact the COVID-19 virus is having on the District.

Commissioner Schmidt: Thanked everyone one for pushing through during these hard times.

COMMITTED TO QUALITY PARK AND RECREATION SERVICES

Commissioner Epperson: Echoed the same thank you and encouraged everyone to stay healthy.

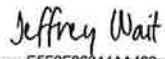
Commissioner Khan: Thanked the Board and the entire organization for all their hard work.

Commissioner Minx: Thanked the park staff for the tremendous job they are doing working from home. Everyone stay healthy through these times.

- XI. **Adjournment:** Commissioner White made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Epperson to adjourn the meeting. **Motion unanimous by voice vote.**

Meeting ended at approximately 6:52pm.


Board President, Paul Minx

DocuSigned by:

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Board Secretary, Jeffrey Wait