

Regular Meeting Minutes of the  
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners  
February 20, 2024

Vice President Paddock called the regular meeting to order at 6:59pm. The Vice President led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Gerry Crews, Vicki Paddock, and Chrissie Popper. Commissioners Absent: Jim Goshorn and Aaron Dalzot. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Mike Wick, Director of Recreation; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services; and Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations. Sabrina Hinkins, Majeeda Purnell, Mary Lester and Peyton Rollins were also present.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 16, 2024. The motion was seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Jim Goshorn, Aaron Dalzot. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$618,290.42 presented on February 20, 2024, was made by Crews and was seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Jim Goshorn, Aaron Dalzot. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

The Vice President opened the floor to visitors; there were no visitors present.

The IPAD/IPRA Community Service Award was presented to Barb Hooker.

Sabrina Hinkins, Youth Programs Supervisor, introduced Peyton Rollins the newly hired Youth Programs Coordinator.

Executive Director, Susie Kuruvilla introduced Neelay Bhatt and Jason Elissalde from Next Practice Partners LLC. and Joe Cogswell from Kimley Horne to present the initial findings of the comprehensive master planning process. Bhatt, Elissalde and Cogswell reviewed the statistically valid survey results, capital/infrastructure audits as well as plans to present the final plan to the Board for approval in April.

Department Directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report.

Director of Recreation Mike Wick reviewed the recreation report.

Director of Business Services Mike Szpylman reviewed the business services report.

Director Jennifer Gilbert reviewed the Marketing and Community Relations report.

Executive Director Susie Kuruvilla reviewed her report.

## ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Popper to approve the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Policy as presented and seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Crews to approve the revised Safety Manual as presented and seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the Leadership Succession Plan as presented and seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Crews to approve the Acquisition, Development and Maintenance of land Policy as presented and seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Crews to enter executive session at 8:26 pm to discuss:

- A. Semi Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes - Sec. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21)
- B. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)

Motion seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Crews and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Crews to return to open session at 8:42pm. Motion seconded by Popper. On voice vote, all voted aye and the Board returned to open session.

A motion was made by Crews to erase tapes of executive session tapes from March 2021 – July 2021 and was seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, and Popper. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn and Dalzot. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Crews and seconded by Popper. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

---

James G. Goshorn, President

---

Aaron Dalzot, Secretary