

**WESTCHESTER PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2021, at 7 P.M.
Westchester Community Center
10201 Bond Street, Westchester, Cook County, Illinois**

Call to Order:

President Christopher called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Roll Call

Commissioner Derek Gordon – here; Commissioner Stanley Kolodziej – here; Commissioner Daniel Maldonado- here; Commissioner Steven Busa – here; President Joseph Christopher – here

Also present were: Executive Director Dean Hoskin; Board Secretary Laura Ball; Attorney Michael Muthleb

Audience: none

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence to the Board

None from President Christopher.

Public Comments

none

Meeting Minutes

Are there any questions, corrections, additions, or comments regarding the board meeting and committee meeting minutes on July 12, 2021 as well as the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes on July 12, 2021? There were none.

Finance

Financials: Commissioner Busa reported expense vouchers for the month of July 2021 in the amount of \$319,090.59 and the financial statements for the month ended July 31, 2021. The Park District currently has \$2,077,736.94 as the total fund balance. There were no questions.

Real Estate Tax bills will go out by the end of the month. They will have a due date of October 2.

Building & Grounds Committee

Commissioner Kolodziej asked if there were any questions in regards to the report. There were none. The Fitness Center will be closed from August 16-25 for renovations and new equipment.

Community Center Committee

Commissioner Maldonado asked if there were any questions. There were none. Thank you to Lianne for the work she's done with the pool and camp this summer.

Mayfair Recreation and Banquet Center Committee

Commissioner Gordon met with Nicole Chesak who is the Manager at Mayfair Recreation Center. Nicole is doing a great job and is bringing great ideas to Mayfair Center. There are new activities that are being planned. Commissioner Gordon asked Director Dean Hoskin if there was any progress with having concessions at Mayfair Park. Dean stated there has not been a change since last meeting – companies are not interested because they will not make money. Commissioner Gordon stated we do not need to make money but maybe it could draw more people to the games at the fields and that is why the building is there. Dean stated we are not pursuing anything right now but plan to in the future. Commissioner Maldonado recommended food trucks. President Christopher mentioned in the past girls' softball/boy's baseball would work the concessions as a fund raiser.

Policy Committee

President Christopher said he is working with Executive Director Dean Hoskin to bring the policies up to date.

Director's Report – Mr. Hoskin

Executive Director Dean Hoskin presented the list of closed session minutes from 2011-2019. Dean stated there are a lot more files to go through. Commissioner Gordon stated he may have documentation of closed session minutes that were released. Commissioner Busa stated why not just release all the closed session minutes prior to 2011. Attorney Muthleb stated the minutes should not be released until the Board of Commissioners know what is in them. Commissioner Busa believed passed on a current seminar that the closed session minutes should be routinely reviewed and released by the Board. Attorney Muthleb stated there are entities that do not release closed session minutes and he is also not aware of anyone who has gotten sued for not releasing closed session minutes. Commissioner Busa stated there would be information on what closed session meetings have been released in the monthly Board Meeting packets. President Christopher asked Dean to look through documents for Board packets that will contain the date of the last closed session meeting minutes that were released.

Engineering Firm Upland Design is charging \$42,117 to take core samples, survey, concept planning, costs and draw up plans for the Mayfair Recreation Center parking lot. This item does not need to go out to bid because its architectural. Considering a "green" parking lot once the engineering report comes back.

There was a lifeguard that was injured on the job. A letter was received from OSHA. Executive Director Dean Hoskin completed everything on the letter and sent it back. As of now, per OSHA, the matter is closed.

Executive Director Dean Hoskin reported on the Verizon GPS package that was sent to all Commissioners. Commissioner Gordon asked if it made sense to pursue the different package. Dean did not believe so.

Suggestion box comments. Courts at Mayfair are currently being resurfaced. Early Childhood Director is working with camp counselors. Resident suggestion of the Police and Fire Department employees receive free membership at Mayfair Recreation Center. Spelling error in ad-you will always have human error.

Attorney's Report

Nothing to report.

President Report

Nothing to report.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

Commissioner Gordon questioned canceling the school district leases. Westchester Baseball/Softball do not have the number of participants that they used to therefore they are not using the fields. Possibly enhance the fields at Westchester Primary School to get more residents interested in using the land. President Christopher stated due to COVID it may not be a good time to make a decision about canceling the leases. Maybe wait until things are closer to being back to normal. Discussion of spending money to enhance property the Park District does not even own. Commissioner Busa added if there is a community interest in enhancing these fields (possibly having a wiffle ball field) it should be looked into. Commissioner Kolodziej believed this conversation should be continued another time.

Commissioner Gordon asked about the batting cages at Gladstone Park. Executive Director Dean Hoskin stated the cages will be taken down and grass put in because Westchester Baseball does not want to invest money in replacing the batting cages.

Commissioner Busa spoke on businesses that are currently mandating COVID vaccines on their employees. Concerning the Park District - is this an Executive Director issue or a Board issue? The Board discussed the question. Executive Director Dean Hoskin stated the Board should not be involved with employment practices. The question was presented the Attorney Michael Muthleb and he believed that Dean would make the decision. Michael will prepare a legal memo stating this and present it to the Commissioners.

Executive Session

Motion to adjourn the Committee Meeting and enter into closed session under 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1); The appointment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employee at 8:45pm. Motion by Commissioner Kolodziej and seconded by Commissioner Gordon.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Commissioner Gordon – aye; Commissioner Maldonado – aye; Commissioner Kolodziej – aye; Commissioner Busa – aye; President Christopher – aye MOTION PASSED.

Motion to adjourn the Executive Session was made by Commissioner Kolodziej and seconded by Commissioner Gordon.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Commissioner Gordon – aye; Commissioner Maldonado – aye; Commissioner Kolodziej – aye; Commissioner Busa – aye; President Christopher – aye MOTION PASSED.

The Executive Session meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the Committee Meeting was made by Commissioner Busa and seconded by Commissioner Kolodziej.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Commissioner Gordon – aye; Commissioner Kolodziej – aye; Commissioner Maldonado – aye; Commissioner Busa – aye; President Christopher – aye MOTION PASSED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.



Joseph Christopher, Board President



Laura Ball, Board Secretary

Date: 9.13.21