

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and roll was called.

Committee members present:

Carol Spain, President
Stefanie Boron, Vice President
Bart Schneider, Commissioner
Jordan Spector, Commissioner

Staff present:

Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director and Secretary
Bobby Collins, Director of Recreation and Facilities
John Cutrera, Director of Finance and HR
Kyle Kuhs, Director of Parks and Planning
Jenny Runkel, Administrative Assistant

Committee members absent:

Michael Covey, Treasurer

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke: There were no members of the public in attendance.

Matters from the Public: There were no matters from the public.

Discussion on Beach Season Pass Holder Survey: Staff are looking for feedback on the draft of the 2023 Beach Season Pass Holder Survey, which was presented to the Board. Discussion ensued based on Committee members suggestions as follows. The survey is missing a response level to reflect the excellence of beach staff, their evident pride and self-esteem, and if children look forward to working at the beach in those roles themselves when of age. Staff indicated that a majority of workable feedback comes from the comments section. Staff are aware that the results are skewed from only allowing beach pass holders and a few daily pass holders via a QR code onsite to participate. Offer three surveys, one to pass holders, one to all in the District database, and the Comprehensive Plan survey. Surveys to include a question regarding should we always allow daily passes. Staff recommended not putting in a question on concessions because vendors are not making enough money to be a viable option at the beach. Executive Director Sheppard indicated that the only way concessions can cover its costs is by not allowing any outside food or drink, which no one wants. Next year, beach concessions will continue with prepackaged food. The safety question was left vague to allow for additional information in the comments section. Paddleboards, umbrellas, chairs, and other rental opportunities will be added to rental questions for both feedback and marketing.

Survey results will be presented the Glencoe Beach and Lakefront Advisory Group followed by a presentation of the survey and advisory group feedback to the Board.

Discussion on Renewal of IT Support Contract: Director Cutrera apprised the Board that our IT service provider contract through Excal Tech ends next year. Excal Tech's service structures changed; however, staff indicated that the new level is a comparable option to

current services with a minimal cost increase. Based on IT projects scheduled for 2024, Excal Tech's knowledge of and proven performance for the District will be valuable. Staff recommend another three years with ExcalTech. Discussion ensued.

Chair Spain, based on committee discussion, directed District staff to advance the Excal Tech 3-year IT services contract renewal forward for approval at the September 20 Board Meeting.

Update on Comprehensive Plan Progress: Executive Director Sheppard shared that Jamie Sabbach of the firm 110% will lead the focus groups and Community Workshop on September 19 and 20. The information gained at the focus groups and workshop will be used in the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioners may recommend residents for any of the five specialized focus groups on September 19 and 20 including civic leadership, general, community partners, special interest and advisory groups, and youth. The focus groups are limited to 12 participants by invitation only from the Executive Director. The Community Workshop on September 20 from 6-7:30p is open to all. For the workshop, the District is offering free child care with a reservation. The workshop will include breakout groups, Doodle poll, and more. The District is advertising the workshop via postcards with a QR code distributed to all programs, GJK, library, Village Hall, coffee shops, social media, and throughout the Village. We will also be reaching out for feedback at large special events.

The Board agreed with Executive Director Sheppard to move the September 20 Board Meeting to 7:30pm to allow for commissioners to attend the Community Workshop to observe. This change will also allow workshop participants to attend the Board Meeting without an overlap.

The comprehensive safety inspection of Takiff Center is complete. The consultant was very complimentary on the lengths to which the District has already gone in securing the facility. Recommendations were made and some were implemented immediately. Staff gave an update on safety initiatives. The full report will be presented in executive session at a later date. Safety modification trainings will roll out to all District staff. Staff met with representatives of early childhood parents who are very happy with improvements. Once the building construction is complete, Watts is next in line for safety improvements.

Discussion on Naming Rights for Watts Recreation Center: Executive Director Sheppard indicated that a donor approached us in regards to making a donation in exchange for naming rights for Watts Recreation Center in the amount of \$400,000. The potential donor is an ex-commissioner, park district advocate, Watts user, and was instrumental in helping us raise \$100,000 in private donations for the facility. Recent past donations and terms with naming rights were discussed. There was not a naming rights agreement for Watts Center and the Watts family has no objection to the name changing. Dollar per foot for recent donations were compared to the current request. Discussion ensued. The committee determined that staff should communicate with the donor that they are appreciative of the donor, but would like to follow our current policy.

District Liaison Update on Village Planning Committee and Comprehensive Plan: President Spain indicated that the Village's Comprehensive Plan is a vision of the future of the

Village of Glencoe with topics such as land use, parking requirements, transportation and infrastructure, sustainability, local businesses, equity, inclusion, and governance. The project started last May and was projected for completion in the third quarter of 2023. Quite a number of the comments on the All in Glencoe website refer to the Park District which will be used in our Comprehensive Plan. The Village survey had a 17% response rate, which is great. The District's response rate is usually 10%. Maintaining Glencoe's character is very important and the Park District is an important part of that. A large portion of the committee's discussion has been about housing, land development, and tax revenues other than residential property taxes. Other topics that refer to the Park District include cherish and support community assets such as the lakefront; alternate forms of transportation; flooding solutions; and sustainability efforts like recycling, composting, water supply protection, and native plantings; attracting diversity of residents, visitors, and workers by creating a welcoming environment; community health; safe and secure community; identifying resource sharing; and community involvement. Discussion ensued.

Other Business: The FY2023-24 Financial Legal Calendar is included in the packet for the Board's reference.

Adjourn: Commissioner Boron moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary