

Springfield Park District
BOARD MEETING / COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Wednesday, April 15, 2020– 5:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Roll Call

President Sgro called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and requested roll call.

Members Present: Trustees: Badger, Metcalf, Schmidt, Senor-Moore and Theilen

Members Absent: Trustees Hammer

Others Present: President Sgro Derek Harms, Executive Director; Jason Graham, Director of Parks & Planning; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration; Lynn Saputo, Director of Recreation; and Chief of Park Police, Limey Nargelenas

A virtual meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on April 15, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Member of the public were provided an opportunity to participate through a tele-broadcast, compliant with the Governor's Executive Orders issued as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic temporary suspending various requirements of the OMA, at the Bunn Office Board room.

Minutes of Special Board Meeting & Committee Meeting were presented

Motion: To approve the March 11, 2020 Special Board Meeting minutes and March 11, 2020 Committee Minutes as presented

Moved by: Trustee Theilen

Seconded by: Trustee Schmidt

Discussion: n/a

Roll Call: Badger: Aye Hammer: -- Metcalf: Aye
Schmidt: Aye Senor-Moore: Aye Theilen: Aye Sgro: Aye

Motion Passed: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Public Comment

President Sgro opened the meeting asking for public comment. No one from the public was in attendance.

Updates Given:

Executive Director Harms thanked staff at the Park District for the tremendous job they continue to do through this pandemic.

He also noted the City reached out to the churches to ring bells for the medical and emergency staff. The Park District will participate by ringing bells at the Carillon,

He also informed the Board that we should expect various property tax deferments as a result of the County waiving late fees and penalties for the spring tax collection cycle. The Park District has a healthy fund balance and the Finance Director is running models on the impact of COVID-19

Chief Nargelenas joined the meeting to answer questions. He informed the Board that we are scheduling additional officers on each shift and the cooler weather helped to reduce overall activity. We are closely monitoring compliance with COVID-19 protocols at all parks including Washington Park and report no new situations. Stuart Park had a large gathering, possibly a religious gather last Saturday, but where gone when special police detail arrived.

Discussion with Park District legal counsel was held regarding disc golf. Best interpretation of Governor's order indicates disc golf should be handled like regular golf and the three Park District DG courses located in Lincoln (2) and Douglas Parks (1) should be closed. The Springfield Disc Golf Club has been contacted and has agreed to inform their club.

It was noted some agencies have furloughed some of their staff. Executive staff continue to review options. President Sgro noted the need for full-time employees has not diminished. Director Harms noted the stay at home order occurred before seasonal staff returned so seasonal employees remain on layoff status from the fall and continue to collect unemployment benefits.

BUSINESS

Statement of Claims

Motion: To approve the Statement of Claims and Visa bills as presented by President Sgro

Moved by: Trustee Theilen

Seconded by: Trustee Badger

Discussion: n/a

Roll Call: Badger: Aye Hammer: -- Metcalf: Aye
Schmidt: Aye Senor-Moore: Aye Theilen: Aye Sgro: Aye

Motion Passed: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board it was moved by Theilen and seconded by Badger that the meeting adjourn at 5:49 p.m.

Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Members Participating: Trustees: Badger, Hammer, Metcalf, Schmidt, Senor-Moore and Theilen

Members Unavailable: None

Other Participants: President Sgro, Derek Harms, Executive Director; Jason Graham, Director of Parks; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration; Lynn Saputo, Director of Recreation; and Chief of Park Police, Limey Nargelenas

A virtual meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on April 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Member of the public were provided an opportunity to participate through a tele-broadcast, compliant with COVID-19 protocol, at the Bunn Office Board room.

President Sgro opened the meeting asking for public comment. No one from the public was in attendance.

Executive Director Harms thanked staff at the Park District for the tremendous job they have done through this pandemic.

Updates Given:

Executive Director Harms:

Park, trails, nature preserve, land and water reserve and open outdoor recreation areas are all open to the public, so long as visitors observe social distancing and follow CDD guidelines.

Chief Nargelenas

Provided an update on recent Law Enforcement efforts

The Board held a discussion regarding the possibility of closing Washington Park to vehicular traffic and/or asking the public to walk in the same direction. The Board decided to not limit access at this point but to continue to monitor the situation. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before
The Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.