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**MINUTES
RECREATION & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
February 15, 2022**

1. Roll Call:

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Recreation & Facilities Committee was held on February 15, 2022 at 7:39 p.m. at the Triphahn Center in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Present: Chairman Chhatwani, President Kinnane, Comm Reps Beranek, MacGregor,

Absent: Commissioner Kaplan, Comm Reps Henderson, Macdonald, and McIlrath

Also Present: Executive Director Talsma, Director of Parks, Planning and Maintenance Hugen, Director of Recreation Kapusinski, Director of Golf & Facilities Bechtold, Director of Administrative Services Cahill, Director of Administration and Finance Hopkins, Executive Assistant Flynn

Audience: Commissioners Friedman, McGinn, Evans and Dressler

2. Approval of Agenda:

Comm Rep Macdonald made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Beranek to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Comm Rep Beranek made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep MacGregor to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. Comments from the Audience:

None

5. Old Business:

None

6. New Business:

A. Recreation Board Report / M22-010:

Director Kapusinski highlighted the following:

- This month's report is a summary of January activity and the start of the winter session.
- Steve Dietz, former Willow Rec Center Facility Manager, was promoted to Superintendent of Recreation. He will transition over the next week or so. He will attend an upcoming meeting to introduce himself.
- January brought about the Cook County COVID vaccination mandates, which brought fitness membership numbers down, including cancellations and free holds. We hope to see the numbers go up in the near future with the (probable) lift of the mandates at the end of February.
- Winter Session registration has begun but enrollment is still ongoing.
- Dance has 176 students enrolled, compared to 120 budgeted.
- The business department created a free "vax pass" for seniors who use the Senior Activity Center or walking track so they do not need to show their vaccination proof every time they enter. They can simply swipe their pass to enter the center or the track.
- The Early Childhood program was awarded a Workforce Grant for the teachers at the TC preschool and child care programs, as well as the Willow preschool programs. This is a state-supported grant for teachers who returned to the classroom following COVID.
- Reminder that District 15 will be changing their school hours beginning February 23, which results in extended time in the before- and after-school programs.
- The adult basketball league was canceled, so the Monday evening space will be used for an adult Pickleball league, and 18 of 24 team spots are already filled. Two levels are available, 3.0+ advanced and Social/Newer.
- The Ice programs are doing well: 121 students enrolled in the intro classes, compared to 72 last year. Figure Skating has 365 enrolled, compared to 168 last year. Public Skates have been very well-attended: January 23 had 300 skaters.

Comm Rep Beranek asked about the Programs for All program. Director Kapusinski said that 8 students were accepted into programs for the winter session. No one has been turned away. They give their top 3 choices (most are in ice programs, some indoor soccer). Once registration closes we look to see where the openings are.

Comm Rep MacGregor made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Beranek to send the Recreation Board Report to the full Board as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

B. Facilities Board Report / M22-016:

Director Bechtold highlighted the following for Bridges:

- Staff is putting the finishing details on the Top Tracer facility. The goal is to open by March 1. We do have enough range balls for now. Signs are going up on the outside of the building and at the check-in desk. A heater was installed near the check-in area.
- The event schedule has been set for 2022, including two new events at Top Tracer. Staff is working on format details for these new events.
- Preferred tee time contracts went out using PandaDoc, which made the process very easy for customers to sign up virtually and pay online. For the first time, all contracts were in before the deadline.
- All outing and wedding contracts are also being moved to the PandaDoc system.
- Jenny Jones started February 14 as the Bar & Grill Service Manager. She is working on procedures and staffing.
- There are many staff openings at Bridges and throughout the district.
- The Friday night Fish Fry begins March 4. Curbside pickup will be available. Social media posts will begin next week – feel free to share!

Commissioner Evans asked about sales in the pro shop last year. Director Bechtold said they were low, but if we can get product in this year, we should sell it. The golf supply chain is very slow.

Commissioner McGinn asked about range balls. Director Bechtold said they are expected to arrive in April.

Director Bechtold highlighted the following for The Club:

- January brought some challenges with the COVID vaccine mandates for Cook County. We lost 41 members, and put 150 on hold (free of charge). We are hoping most will return at the end of February with the lifting of the mandates. We have social media posts ready to go as soon as the mandates are lifted.
- Equipment will still be spread out, and we will still have a COVID-safe room, where equipment is 10-12 feet apart. These will stay in place.
- Planning to add mid-day classes in mid-March for corporations looking to offer options to their employees.

Commissioner Dressler mentioned she could provide the addresses of the new homeowners for a mailing.

Comm Rep Beranek made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep MacGregor to send the Facilities Board Report to the full Board as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

7. **Committee Member Comments:**

Comm Rep MacGregor said it was a great use of the available space to add a pickleball league on Monday nights. Another possible option is a Disco Putting league.

President Kinnane thanked staff and Executive Director Talsma for their work, and encouraged everyone to get out and exercise. He has logged 300 miles of walking since the beginning of January!

Commissioner Chhatwani thanked Executive Assistant Flynn for organizing the IAPD/IPRA conference information. Commissioner Chhatwani had an amazing experience at the conference and learned several new laws. She also noted that the interactive paper hearts wall at The Club is a great idea and very cute, adding that the office is decorated elegantly. Director Bechtold said that Sarah Koeckritz and the membership team are responsible for that.

8. **Adjournment:**

Comm Rep MacGregor made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Beranek to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Talsma
Secretary

Cindy Flynn
Executive Assistant