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**MINUTES**  
**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 19, 2022**

**1. Roll Call:**

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Buildings & Grounds Committee was held on April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Triphahn Center in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Present: Chairman McGinn, Commissioner Evans, Comm Reps Aguilar, Poeschel, Comm Rep Evans

Absent: Comm Reps Bettencourt and Sernett

Also Present: Executive Director Talsma, Director of Recreation Kapusinski, Director of Parks, Planning & Maintenance Huguen, Executive Assistant Flynn

Audience: President Kinnane, Commissioners Chhatwani, Dressler, Friedman, and Kaplan, Community Reps MacGregor, Henderson (7:10 p.m.), McIlrath (7:06 p.m.) and Beranek (7:09 p.m.), Robert Steinberg

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

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

**3. Approval of the Minutes:**

Commissioner Evans made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Evans to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2022 meeting as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

**4. Comments from the Audience:**

Robert Steinberg said that staff did a good job with the spring burn off, and asked what the woody plants are that remain. Director Huguen said those are volunteer willows and volunteer elms, and other shrubbery. He added that in the next few weeks, those unwanted plants will be cut down to 4 inches and will then receive herbicide.

Robert Steinberg explained that the lake in his neighborhood should have been a bog but ended up a lake. At some point the park district decided to cut back on trim maintenance and move to “naturalization”. The District stopped mowing around the lake. Plants and weeds grew; then thistle. At one point the weeds were cut back, and grass and perennials grew and the lake looked good for one year, but has since deteriorated again. The lake is surrounded by weeds; there are not herons or egrets, as their habitat has been taken away. We need a solution to the naturalization.

Commissioner McGinn stated that the committee would take Mr. Steinberg’s concerns and see what we can come up with as a solution.

**5. Old Business:**

None

**6. New Business:**

**A. Install Playground Equipment at Hoffman and Huntington Parks / M22-036**

Director Hugen stated that the Board previously approved the purchase of the playground equipment for these two parks. This recommendation is for the installation of the equipment at both parks. He added that we received five bids. George’s Landscaping, a union contractor, was the low bidder.

Comm Rep Aguilar asked if it is more economical to use one vendor to install both playgrounds. Director Hugen responded yes.

Commissioner Dressler asked about the hourly wage for the install. Director Hugen stated that if there are any labor costs outside of the original bid, or if we have any change orders, then we agree to the hourly wage listed.

Comm Rep Poeschel made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Evans to recommend to the full board to award the bid to George’s Landscaping for \$65,820 plus a contingency of 10% (\$6,582) for a grand total of \$72,402. The motion carried by voice vote.

**B. Parks, Planning and Maintenance Board Report and 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Goals / M22-035**

Director Hugen noted the following regarding the Seascape renovation project:

- Some additional items are needed at Seascape. Once the 17 years of paint were removed, the strength of the concrete was investigated. Several hollow areas were located, so we submitted a \$20,000 change order to Western Specialty Contractors, the concrete contractor. We are still \$23,000 under budget for the entire project.

- Staff built 15 days into the schedule for weather delays, and we have missed 15 days already due to weather. Contractors are working at the same time.
- We need temperatures to be consistently above 60 degrees to apply the paint, and then 5-6 days before we can fill with water to check for leaks.

Commissioner Kaplan asked if staff expects any more change orders. Director Hugen said no, not for the concrete, but staff still needs to perform the leak test.

Commissioner Evans asked if the paint will keep the pool walls waterproof. Director Hugen said yes, it will be epoxy paint.

Director Hugen said that the Vogeley House project is coming along nicely, and NWSRA hopes to bring in furniture the week of April 25.

Director Hugen stated that School District 54 is moving their special needs program to Muir school, which is where Poplar Park is located. The school district would like to have a fully inclusive playground. The following items were noted:

- There is a tight turnaround on this project with the school opening August 15. Director Hugen added that there are two vendors through the OMNIA coop that they can meet the deadline.
- A memo will go to A&F Committee next week with an addendum to the SD54 IGA including a “not to exceed” number.
- Executive Director Talsma stated that we will be expending for the project, but will be reimbursed 100% by the school district. Director Hugen added that we will be responsible for the maintenance of the playground.

Comm Rep Henderson asked if the school district would pay for labor and materials. Executive Director Talsma responded yes.

Commissioner Dressler asked if the school district could apply for a NAR (National Association of Realtors) grant, but director Hugen responded unfortunately there is not enough time to apply for a grant.

Director Hugen noted that the Parks Department has two volunteer events coming up:

- Earth Day, 3-7 pm on Friday April 22 at Vogeley Park. This will include shoreline seeding, trash pick-up, landscape bed mulching, and planting saplings in the nursery in the back corner of the park. We could get to Level 2 arboretum status with these new tree plantings.
- Arbor Day, 9-11 a.m. on Friday, April 29 at Birch Park, involving tree planting and oak sapling planting.

- The Parks Department will also have a free oak sapling giveaway at the Parks Maintenance Building from 12 to 5 p.m. on Friday, April 29.

Comm Rep Evans asked about the graffiti removal mentioned in the board report and if this has lessened over time. Director Huguen said there was graffiti on the new park equipment at Birch Park. Comm Rep Aguilar noted that he saw new graffiti at Birch Park today. Director Huguen thanked him for the report.

Comm Rep Evans made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Aguilar to send the Parks, Planning and Maintenance Board Report and 1Q Goals to the full board. The motion carried by voice vote.

**7. Committee Member Comments:**

Comm Rep Aguilar: Well done.

Commissioner Evans: He is proud of our parks and that they are continually renewed. The partnership with the school sounds like a great idea.

Comm Rep Evans: The TopTracer facility is excellent. Great job staff.

Comm Rep Poeschel: Volunteered at the egg hunts last Saturday. Great fun was had by all, and great job to Jodi Schultz.

Chairman McGinn: He was at the egg hunt with his grandchild.

**8. Adjournment:**

Comm Rep Aguilar made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Poeschel to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Talsma  
Secretary

Cindy Flynn  
Executive Assistant