

Bensenville Park District
Board of Commissioners-Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 4, 2021

1. Call to Order

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Roll call was taken:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gibbs		X
Johnson	X	
Linder	X	
Karg	X	
Snyder	X	

Staff in attendance: Joe Vallez, Executive Director, Phyllis Schmidt, Manager of Special Services

Pledge of Allegiance: President Johnson led the Pledge.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Linder, seconded by Commissioner Karg to approve the Agenda, as presented.

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gibbs			X
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Linder	X		
Snyder	X		

Motion carried.

3. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

No public comment was received.

4. Staff Reports:

Mr. Vallez summarized certain activities:

- Covid 19 Update:

Facilities are back to mask wearing in offices and public areas. The decision was made last Wednesday, in staff meeting. PDRMA made the recommendation today. We thought we would get push back, however we received very few negative comments.

State of Illinois made a mass mandate- all masks must be worn in schools.

- White Pines Golf Club:

Bid came in, next meeting there will be an official vote. If Board of Commissioners have questions, they can email Joe Vallez.

President Johnson asked if the board would like to set up a special meeting. If Commissioners would feel more comfortable, they can talk to Joe Vallez one on one. President Johnson requested that Joe Vallez and Evelyn Struck meet with Commissioner Snyder.

- Breiter Palm Park:

Joe Vallez and Phyllis Schmidt met with Integral Construction and JSD Architects to review the contract schedule and all work specifications. The project team put together the oversight plan. The team will meet weekly. Right now, the project is slated to be completed by October. Phyllis communicated with the schools and safety plans will be in place during the construction process.

President Johnson asked if any equipment or anything else is delayed, Joe said yes.

Events:

Veterans Day Breakfast is scheduled for November 11.

The New Teachers Breakfast is tomorrow at White Pines Golf Club. There are 60 new teachers in BSD2 and Fenton High School.

PDRMA is involved in a legal process-NEDSRA staff involved.

Camps:

Going well, campers are wearing masks.

Pool:

Going well, it closes Tuesday (weekdays), it will remain open for two additional weekends. President Johnson suggested closing the dive well while keeping the splash pad open.

Live at White Pines:

R Gang- 126 in attendance.

On Friday at 6am the power was out. Seven residents were also without power. Power did not go back on, so at 3pm the event was relocated to the tent. The generator was in place and staff did a good job pivoting to the tent.

At 8pm ComEd dug a trench and fixed a wire. On Saturday morning, it smelled like something was burning. Electrical was running on two phases instead of three. We were lucky we did not have fire.

Due to the wedding event, a generator was put in place for all food and beverage coolers.

We were able to restore power to most of the building. It was a cool day and evening.

Wedding went off without a hitch. Power is still not where it needs to be.

Driving Range Lights:

Boring will be completed on August 10.

Events:

Weddings and outings are going well. Two large events just booked.

White Pines Golf Course Revenue for July was 728,000.00! That's the largest amount we have ever brought in.

We stayed under 26% for labor expenses. We are at 25% labor expenses.

We are trying to get more employees hired from the caterer.

President Johnson said 500k is not profit because we have debt service. Joe Vallez stated White Pines has never been able to pay debt service. Recreation has always covered it. President Johnson stated we are heading toward-making it an enterprise! President Johnson said great job to Joe Vallez!

Staff Outing August 11-staff will enjoy the facilities. It's an appreciation day open to all staff, not just for White Pines Golf club staff.

Family day is this Sunday.

Marketing:

Live at WP ticket sales low, free tickets worked out well.

Continuing to update signage at WP

Presence at Music in the Parks

Maintenance:

Oscar resigned, moved to another state.

We repaired three of the HVAC units at WP, two that went out were not part of the new ones.

ComEd worked 16 hours Friday and six hours on Saturday.

President Johnson asked if the budget will get approved next meeting, Joe stated said yes.

Special Services:

Transition to PDRMA. A confirmation to IPARKS was sent- not renewing contract. There was a phone meeting to discuss closing items to ensure the transition.

Numbering facility doors so police and fire can see/access each facility door quickly.

Customer Service:

Seniors are registering as well.

Rentals are going strong.

Mask wearing going smoothly.

Online registration will take place this year.

Breiter-Palm Park- a sample of surfacing was presented.

President Johnson asked if there will be a charge for the comedy night event.

In Previous years, WP would project high revenue however they did not adjust expenses. We are doing this. We are spending conservatively. About 5-6 months ago, spending authority for all superintendents changed. Staff must get approval to spend over \$250.

Many adjustments were made at WPGC. Commissioner Linder stated that what Joe Vallez has done there is really good.

DuPage County Tourism-we have now multiple revenue streams.

Going forward, if we do not have events, we will not be keeping staff if there is no work.

President Johnson stated we will not pay them just to not show up.

President Johnson asked if there was any news on bill being signed by the Governor. Joe Vallez stated no. If it sits on his desk for 60 days, it is automatically approved.

A question was asked regarding How long is debt service is out. Joe stated he can provide a schedule that includes bond capacity of the district.

Two Chicagoland golf courses closed recently.

The question was asked; If we leave the course the way it is, how are we going to fund the necessary expenses? Joe Vallez stated bonds. We can provide a full bonding out schedule for the next five years.

Secured a 350-person golf outing. A discussion was held regarding targeting Chicago businesses/golfers. Katy Jordan is selling outings. We will make \$55k for this event, which includes meals, tab bar for the entire day. Open tab brings a significant revenue number.

Yesterday we had a 120-person golf outing.

It was advised to avoid booking too many outings because you decrease daily play. Joe stated we want to make sure that does not happen. The public and the residents should be able to walk on.

Joe Vallez stated we do not give away the course, we are not doing this anymore. They keep a certain amount of reservations for the public.

Driving Range-it was suggested to keep it open to until 11 or 12 pm with food and drinks. Joe Vallez said we can keep it open later, put food and drinks there and make it an event for younger people. Joe stated we can put a band near the driving range and make it a fun area.

A discussion was held regarding purchasing another dome. Commissioner Linder stated that what we decide to do over the next 10 years goes back to the Master Plan. Commissioner Linder stated a golf dome could be in a park that is not being used.

A discussion was held regarding renting out the driving range. Joe Vallez stated the Bensenville Chamber will host a BAH at the Driving Range and all businesses will be invited to attend.

President Johnson stated he is not a big fan of video gaming, but it is added revenue source to consider for WP. A bartender must always be able to see the video gaming area.

Consider locating a small bar near the driving range.

Joe Vallez stated we work very well with the village. We realized this when Phyllis Schmidt contacted Don Schultz, Village of Bensenville EMS Coordinator and asked him if we could borrow emergency lighting for WP during the power outage. Don dropped off a branch of lights at WP within an hour. President Johnson stated that would not have happened ten years ago.

5. New Business

There was no new business reported.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner Linder moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm. On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gibbs			X
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Linder	X		
Snyder	X		

Motion carried.

The meeting stands adjourned.

Approved:

President Rich Johnson

Secretary