

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 6, 2021**

1. Call to Order

President Johnson called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken:

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

Staff in attendance: Joe Vallez, Executive Director and Mary Dickson, Attorney.

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

Motion carried.

3. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Resident Paul DeMichele complimented the District on its Harvest Fest event.

4. Staff Reports

Mr. Vallez summarized certain activities:

- Covid-19 Update:

Staff is being encouraged to consider a booster shot as front-line workers.

- Breiter Palm Update

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
Page 2**

The playground has been removed and the new playground should be delivered in the first week of October. Decorative stone on site will be repurposed and replaced with green space.

A drinking fountain at the Park has not worked the last 10 years, and is now going to be operable as a drinking fountain, animal watering station and for provision of water.

- NEDSRA Golf Classic

The event cost \$16,958.05. The District has paid 15% of the bill as its share of the cost. Other partners are being asked to pay their fair share.

- Harvest Fest

This was a very good event, attended by 1100 people, and brought in approximately \$11,000. Very positive comments are being made. Next year, the event is planned for two days.

- Recreation

An opening for Program Coordinator/Recreation Supervisor has been posted. Mr. Vallez is meeting with staff to discuss direction, expectations and to get feedback on staff experiences at the District.

- White Pines

Golf play continues with significant numbers are both open plays and outings. Three weddings were held in September in addition to other events.

Fenton High School is having its Homecoming Dance, which is a sold out event with 350 students. A Latin Themed dance is scheduled for October under the tent.

Lack of workers is affecting the District, the District is struggling to have enough workers at events.

- Marketing

Marketing duties are being handled by current staff. B'ville Buzz is completed, and the website is being updated.

- Maintenance

Installation of the HVAC units at White Pines is complete. Realignment of staffing of the department is complete, with all staff reporting to Luis on a daily basis.

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
Page 3**

DeOrio and Veterans parking lots were resealed and striped. Trees have been removed from the Leisure Center to make room for sign installation.

- Special Services

Training continues on a regular basis. The SRA newsletter is being completed for release by January 1, 2022.

- Capital Plan

The \$6 million capital plan is being branded “Bensenville Park District 2.0 Planning for Your Future” and as each project starts, the brand will be “Our Future Begins Now.”

President Johnson suggested that the capital plan be on every agenda to keep the projects on the capital plan moving forward. The plan should also be on the website with a description of the projects in the plan.

Mr. Vallez reported that he has received a proposal from SB Friedman for future planning assistance. Depending on the cost of the proposal, this issue may come before the Board for contract approval.

5. New Business

At President Johnson’s request, counsel outlined FOIA provisions relative to emails between Board members.

As President Johnson’s request, Mr. Vallez updated the Board on interest expressed in the golf course, should the Board decide to sell parts of it. He reported that for this purpose, the District needed to secure a survey and a topographical survey to determine which portions of the property are buildable, after which the Board can secure a valuation for future discussion with interested parties.

Mr. Vallez stated he is working to secure a one-year extension to the legislation which was enacted to allow the District to sell golf course property.

President Johnson reported he had asked Mr. Vallez to secure information relative to a bond issue for purposes of payment for capital projects to determine the cost to the average home owner in the District. He suggested the Board consider a Plan A, Plan B concept to financially address capital projects costs, *i.e.*, through sale of land or bond issue.

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
Page 4**

6. Closed Session

Commissioner Gibbs moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to recess the Meeting Executive Session, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and (11) to discuss probable or imminent litigation and certain personnel. On a roll call vote:

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

Motion Carried.

The meeting recessed to Executive Session.

The Board of Commissioners returned to Open Session at 8:47 p.m.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Linder moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47. On a voice vote, all members voted “aye.”

Motion Carried.

The meeting stands adjourned.

Approved:

President Rich Johnson

Secretary