

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

1. Call to Order

Vice President Karg called the Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll call was taken:

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

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

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Snyder, seconded by Commissioner Hernandez to approve the Agenda as submitted.

On a roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

3. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Niko Vujanovich: Informed the Board of his concerns over the golf balls which are landing with increasing frequency in his back yard as a result of balls leaving the 17th hole, which almost led to an injury, and could lead to injury to those in the yard. The Park District knows of the golf ball damage occurring as a result of golfers playing this hole. A “warning” sign placed at the 17th hole is nice, but does not magically make a better golfer. He reported he has spoken with staff and has been informed the District is considering netting, or not, and wants a response which he can rely upon.

Peter Carbanaro: He has the same complaint as Mr. Vujanovich, the golf balls coming onto his property are creating significant concerns. He stated he has lived on his property for 35 years, and there used to be no problem, but in the past several years his property is getting pounded with balls to the point he cannot sit on his patio with balls flying over his head. He stated President Johnson told him the District would put upon signage and plat trees, and might have to move the Tee-box, and that Director Vallez told him the District might put up netting. He simply wants an answer.

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Tracy Procivk-Negrusz: She echoed the prior complaints, adding that she cannot walk in the backyard of Mr. Carbanaro's home because of the golf balls coming into the yard.

Director Vallez responded that he has been to the house, and has looked at the 17th hole. He stated the golfer's second shot at the hole is the problem because they are trying to hit it past a dog leg. The District explored putting up netting, but it would not be an option as it would not protect against the flight of the balls leaving the course. Instead the District is researching moving the Tee Box, with installation of a tree to stop balls from leaving the course. He reported it would be about 2 weeks to secure information regarding whether this would work, and what it would cost. He cannot report whether the project could occur this year because the District has to examine the course to ensure that the box once moved would not be placed in an existing wetland area.

In response to a question from Commissioner Snyder, Director Vallez reported the District is looking into options, including temporary greens.

4. Staff Reports

Director Vallez commented on items included in his written report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Discussion ensued regarding the use of the tent at White Pines. Commissioner Karg asked whether a kitchen could be put into, to which Director Vallez responded that the District is hoping to maximize the use of the tent without putting too much money into the tent. Director Vallez also reported he is bringing in a consultant to do an assessment of the lake near the tent to install a new fountain with a light, as an amenity to the use of the property.
- Commissioner Karg asked about the permitting required for the pool project. Director Vallez stated the District is describing the work in a manner such that state permits are not required. The work will be done in order to be ready to open at the next pool season. Commissioner Snyder questioned the cost for the pool work, which Director Vallez will be best known after bids for the described work are received.
- The Capital Plan workshop will be scheduled with public notice to commence prior to a future Committee meeting. The Board is also going to meet at White Pines to discuss planned improvements.
- In follow up to the discussion regarding moving the Tee box at the 17th hole, Director Vallez reported the cost will, hopefully, be less than \$20,000, and could be accomplished in 3 weeks. He will report back once additional investigation occurs. Director Vallez also reported that the Fire Station also suffers damage from golf balls, but in that case, it might be cheaper to provide funding for other remediation as there aren't a lot of options on the course itself.
- In response to a question from Commissioner Snyder, Director Vallez stated state approval of the gaming license is still a few months away.

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- In response to an inquiry, Attorney Dickson informed the Board that the action to convey a parcel, which is not needed by the Park District, to the Woodside Homeowners Association will be on the next Board agenda.
- Commissioner Snyder commented that the golf course looks great, and better than a few he has golfed at recently.

5. New Business

There was no new business reported.

6. Closed Session

There was no Closed Session.

7. Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Karg to adjourn the meeting.

On a roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

The meeting stands adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Approved:

Vice President Val Karg

Secretary