

**UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE
PARK BOARD MEETING
Thursday, November 19, 2020 6:00pm
Parks Maintenance Building, 185 Wolf St., Yorkville, IL**

Note: This meeting was held in accordance with Public Act 101-0640 and Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation issued by Governor Pritzker pursuant to the powers vested in the Governor under the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act. This encourages social distancing by allowing remote attendance at the meeting, due to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:24pm by Board President Amy Cesich. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Roll Call:

Sash Dumanovic-yes, Rusty Hyett-yes, Dan Lane-yes, Victor Perez-yes, Kelly Diederich-yes, Victor Perez-yes, Amy Cesich-yes, Gene Wilberg-yes
All attended remotely except Board President Cesich and Board Member Wilberg.

Introduction of Guests, City Officials and Staff:

Director of Parks & Recreation Tim Evans, Superintendent of Parks Scott Sleezer
Superintendent of Recreation Shay Remus, City Council Liaison Joel Frieders, Alan Dershowitz (left 6:51pm), Paul Mulligan, Steve Redmon, Boyd Ingemunson
All the above attended remotely except Mr. Redmon.

Public Comment: None

Presentations:

Riverfront Park Proposal (out of sequence)

Yorkville resident Paul Mulligan presented the idea of a bandshell in Riverfront Park. He has formed a non-profit group with various community members and he said the group would seek company and private donations for this project using no taxpayer money. The group would manage the bandshell on behalf of the city. He wants to be involved with community, schools, parks and anyone who wants to use the bandshell. He requested input and approval from the Park Board.

President Cesich thanked the group for this idea and thinks it is a great concept. She has spoken with Mr. Evans who concurred and he suggested a contract to proceed in a public/partner way. One issue he mentioned is if Riverfront Park is an appropriate location and how it might affect people who live nearby. He noted the Mayor is also in favor of this proposal and he requested feedback from other Board members.

Board members concurred the bandshell is a great idea to enhance the community. Comments from all attendees included: great re-purposing of the existing slab of

concrete, more parking will be needed, discussion of naming rights, who would own it, railroad would need to be notified, funding has not started yet, music teachers from high school would be great resources since they do funding, soil was contaminated in the area, wonderful community-oriented project, local students may be able to play music there, footprint size, possible issues due to nearby sub-station, Town Square Park as possible location, Riverfront Park location would help local businesses, shell would be angled to be least impactful on residents, river will absorb some of noise, group of Wisconsin residents started music in the park and it brought other activities and businesses and was great success, seek funds from corporate sponsors after positive press articles, city would own bandshell.

Mr. Evans said the Mayor asked for this idea to be brought to the Park Board and then to City Council in December. An agreement will be needed if this project proceeds.

Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2020

The minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Mr. Lane and second by Mr. Dumanovic. Roll call vote: Hyett-yes, Lane-yes, Perez-yes, Wilberg-yes, Cesich-yes, Diederich-yes, Dumanovic-yes. Carried 7-0.

Bills Review:

Bill List – August - November 2020

Mr. Evans said most invoices are related to installing and finishing Caledonia, Autumn Creek and Purcell playgrounds and they are now working on Beecher. The boat launch at Riverfront Park is done as well. There are also invoices for baseball, softball and soccer leagues for summer and fall activities. No further comment.

Budget Report – June - September 2020

Many strategic cuts and program cuts have been made due to the ongoing pandemic, however, summer and fall leagues did go forth. Parks and Rec continue to monitor expenses and Mr. Evans said they should come in on-budget if spring sports can move ahead. They also saved money by not producing a catalog and eliminating part-time salaries. President Cesich thanked staff for their valiant efforts during this pandemic and noted how the county in general also has less revenue.

Old Business:

Grants Update

All grants have been completed and this item will be removed from the agenda at this time.

New Business:

Meeting Schedule for 2021

It was decided to retain the current schedule of meeting at 6pm on the third Thursday of every other month and special meetings will be called when necessary. President Cesich entertained a motion of approval. So moved by Mr. Wilberg and seconded by Mr. Perez. Roll call: Lane-yes, Perez-yes, Wilberg-yes, Cesich-yes, Diederich-yes, Dumanovic-yes, Hyett-yes. Carried 7-0.

Riverfront Park Proposal

Discussed earlier in meeting.

Parks and Recreation Monthly Report

Mr. Evans noted this coming weekend is the holiday celebration with tree-lighting, Santa and fireworks. He thanked the staff for all the work they have been doing without part-time staff. They are also assisting with Senior Services delivery of Meals on Wheels.

Mr. Sleezer said the Raintree sidewalk and shelter were also completed as well as the boat launch with EEI's design. Most of Beecher will be done by year-end and finished in spring. He expressed concern for the upkeep of the park with many children using it at lunchtime.

Ms. Remus reported that baseball, soccer and pre-school programs went on while observing many pandemic guidelines. Two different facilities were needed for the pre-school and parents were very diligent about informing staff of any illnesses.

Also discussed by Mr. Evans was the purchase of the Prairie Pointe building for city use. The Van Emmon building will be offered for sale and Parks and Rec offices will be moved to the new building.

Ms. Cesich noted many compliments from community members, for the staff and programs and she thanked them all for the many hours worked and the great programs. Mr. Evans said the playgrounds have been very important during this pandemic and upkeep has increased. He said Mr. Sleezer and staff did a great job with the playgrounds. Mr. Hyett also thanked staff for going above and beyond for YYBSA.

Executive Session: None

Additional Business: None

Adjournment:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 7:11pm on a motion by Mr. Lane and second by Mr. Wilberg Roll call vote: Cesich-yes, Diederich-yes, Dumanovic-yes, Hyett-yes, Lane-yes, Perez-yes, Wilberg-yes. Carried 7-0.

Respectfully transcribed by
Marlys Young, Minute Taker/remote