

**Minutes of the Special Study Session Meeting
Of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, November 19, 2019**

The special study session meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, held at the Sycamore Park District Maintenance Building located at 480 S. Airport Road in Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:05 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Doty, Strack, Schulz and Kroeger.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present, but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting: **Commissioner Graves.**

Staff members present were Jeanette Freeman, Director Gible, Jackie Hienbuecher, Jeff Donahoe, Melissa Dobberstein and Theresa Tevsh.

Report on Golf Cart Stats – Director Gible noted this is in response to Commissioner Strack’s question from the last meeting on how much return would there be on the cart paths. Supt. of Golf Operations Lundbeck noted he had given the board his report on this and was open to any questions. There was discussion on the report. Commissioner Strack noted there wasn’t as much of a return as soon as he thought on the carts paths as he originally thought there might be. The board agreed they would like to turn it back to staff for them to determine in the budget if the paths can be done.

Comparison of WT Pool Items and Costs to Capital Assets List – Supt. of Parks Donahoe noted he took the findings of the pool report and put into a spreadsheet and checked it against our capital list. He checked to see where things would fit into our groupings. Director Gible noted WT recommended things be done in 3 phases and we could put these on our list and see how this impacts our capital needs. Commissioner Schulz asked if we can get an idea of the most important issues and the cost to do the repairs. She also asked for a spreadsheet from Recreation on season passes, how many days open, attendance, etc. and put Oscar in a separate column. This will help to make the determination if the cost is worth spending. President Kroeger noted we will be keeping the pool open for the foreseeable future, but we need to get the cost of working on the most urgent issues, first. There was discussion on the DeKalb Park District and if we should be giving them information or helping them on their golf course. There was a consensus on the Board that none of our staff should be serve on their committee. Director Gible noted he told one of the individuals on the committee that their committee needs to decide what information they need and if they ask as a committee, we will answer them, but we will not meet one on one.

Report on Clubhouse – Supt. of Recreation Tevsh noted as reviewing the capital asset projects, they needed to look at the Clubhouse. There are the immediate needs, but there are \$133,000 of repairs needed in the next five years. Before we spend that money, should an assessment be done on the entire clubhouse. This would include structural, technology, landscaping and all mechanicals. She is asking the Board if they would entertain spending \$15,000 to \$20,000 to have an assessment done. President Kroeger asked who would be doing the assessment and Director Gibble respond an Architectural Engineer. President Kroeger asked if this assessment could be done in house to keep the cost of the assessment down by using subs. Commissioner Strack noted we should get a marketing analysis to see the value of the building from a revenue generating prospective. Supt. of Recreation noted there are architectural engineers out there that also have a design background. She also noted that the clubhouse can be used as an overflow for programs at the community center. Commissioner Schulz suggested touring other clubhouses and get their views. There was a suggestion to have the NIU Interior Design class look at the building. Director Gibble noted the mechanicals must be dealt with before anything else. Director Gibble noted he is hearing from the Board a consensus that we should step back and look at this programmatically. Then let that drive the engineering and design part of it. The board affirmed that consensus.

Grants Update – Director Gibble noted he wanted to let the Board know there are ways to help pay for things at the pool. He then went over some of the grants that are available out there and what they can be used for.

Status Of, and Update on Future Parks 1, 3, and 4 – Director Gibble noted that #1 is in North Grove Crossing which includes the pond and land south of the pond. The Park District was not consulted in the design for this area and the land portion of the site is it very steep—did not consider the challenges of ADA Accessibility or the mowing of the site. The City must not have consulted with the park district on this future park site. Parks #3 and #4 are tied to Shodeen Development Group. Nothing is happening with these. There are issues with the grading on the Shodeen properties, as well. He and President Kroeger met with the Mayor and Brian Gregory on something else and this was brought up. President Kroeger noted after they met, Brian did draft a new agreement that did move toward the language that we wanted him to. Shodeen wanted us to get some of the improvements done within the year if he got the grading done. President Kroeger and Director Gibble told Brian Gregory and the Mayor that we cannot do that since we involve our citizens and neighbors in the planning process, and it takes time to plan a park out. Also, we have been waiting for this property for years. President Kroeger noted he agreed to the language, but he did ask for the grading plan to be part of the exhibit. We are getting closer for these parks. Director Gibble noted the current agreement expires in 2 ½ years.

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The next study session will be held on January 21, 2020 for report on survey findings.

Update on Holiday Gathering – Supt. of Recreation Tevsh noted the date is January 10th and we possibly will have it at the Clubhouse with it being catered in. She noted they are looking at the numbers and trying to find a space that can handle our numbers.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:59 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Schulz. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strack.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeanette Freeman
Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District