

**Springfield Park District  
Committee of the Whole**

John F. Linxwiler Administrative Office / Bunn Park  
2500 South 11th Street / Springfield, IL  
**Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 5:32 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Roll Call

President Sgro called the meeting to order.

Members Participating in Person: President Sgro, Trustees: Eck, Wescott, Theilen, Rodgers, Aiello

Members unavailable: Trustee Hoogland

Other Participants in Person: Derek Harms, Executive Director; Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration; Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation and Marketing; Patrick Murphy, Chief of Springfield Park District Police; Staff and Public

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Property Annexation

Executive Director, Derek Harms, reminded the board that it has been a while since we have done an annexation. The Park District is provided authority under section 3-10 of the Park District Code. When the city annexes a parcel of property that gives the park district the authority to then annex that property.

Washington Park Gazebo Repairs

Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning, informed the board that the Washington Park Gazebo was in need of repairs and recommended using remaining funds from the 2022 Bond for the Washington Park to complete this project.

Mower Purchase

Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning recommended purchasing a fairway mower for golf operations using funds in the Reciprocating Budget.

### Capital Area Career Center Greenhouse Lease Renewal

Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning, informed the board that it is time to renew the lease at CACC Greenhouse. Director Graham recommends renewing the lease under the same terms with a small fee increase.

### Surplus Property Ordinance

Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance and Administration, states we just had two items come up after you received this information so we are adding these two to the surplus list.

### National Parks Month

Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation and Marketing, announced a formal Proclamation for National Parks Month. It was created by the National Rec and Park Association, and it highlights the essential and health world that local Parks and Recreation sees and professional play and building stronger, more vibrant and resistant communities across the country.

### Unplug Illinois

Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation and Marketing, announced a Proclamation for “Unplug Illinois” and explained it is a campaign that was created by IPRA that encourages people to unplug from their devices and plug into play, creativity, friendship, adventure and family.

### OSLAD Grant Proposal

Executive Director Harms told the board that the next round of OSLAD Grants is open. The applications are due August 31st.

If the Springfield Park District is on the list of distressing communities, we will apply for the grant. Many projects were discussed including park redevelopments, improvements to Robin Roberts Stadium, pickleball at Centennial Park and Tennis Court renovation at Washington Park. For numerous reasons, the Park District will apply for a large-scale renovation of Lincoln Park playground.

Executive Director Harms stated there's been a lot of discussion on parking near Robin Roberts Stadium. As we have previously discussed, Springfield Park District has done many things to help the situation. We desire to continue to work cooperatively to increase the parking opportunities in the area.

Executive Director Harms presented the board with a due diligence study performed by an engineer to convert the tennis courts to a parking lot. This project is anticipated to cost \$200K. The Springfield Park District does not have the funds to complete this project. However, we desire to work in portions to complete this work.

## **Staff Updates**

### 1. Long Range Planning

Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning, updated the Board on the projects that are currently underway or finishing.

### 2. Police Department

Police Chief Murphy updated the board regarding the park district police department.

### 3. Finance & Administration

Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration discussed the upcoming audit for the Springfield Park District and indicated this is the time to start making the fund balances transfers and requested approval of the Board for such transfers.

### 4. Recreation & Marketing

Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation & Marketing, updated the Board on the Recreation Department including upcoming special events.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board,  
it was moved that the meeting adjourned at 6:29p.m.