

Springfield Park District
Special Public Board Meeting

John F. Linxwiler Administrative Office / Bunn Park
2500 South 11th Street / Springfield, IL
Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call

President Sgro called the meeting to order.

Members Participating in Person: President Sgro, and Trustees Westcott, Eck, Theilen & Hoogland

Members Unavailable: Trustees Rodgers and Aiello

Others Participating in Person: Derek Harms, Executive Director, Jason Graham, Director of Parks; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance & Administration; Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation, staff and public.

Special Guest: Jacki Patterson of the Springfield Youth Hockey Association

Sign in sheet distributed to all those present. (Attached and made part of the application)

President Sgro opened the Public Hearing on the subject of our grant proposal for the PARC Grant to replace the Nelson Center roof and asked if anybody would like to address the Board Regarding this grant proposal.

Public Hearing

Jacki Patterson stated I'm here on behalf of the Springfield Hockey Association. So, I just have a statement that was prepared for me to read (Attached and made part of the application):

The SYHA has been under the Springfield Park Districts Nelson Center roof since 1970, over 50 years! The SYHA and the Park District runs programs from learn to play hockey to 18u hockey throughout the year. In a course of a year, approximately 260 players take the ice between the LTP, ADM, House and Travel programs.

During the course of a 22-week hockey season, just for SYHA partnership programs using both rinks, buy over 352 hours of ice plus another 96 hours for tournaments. To put that in perspective, over a 22-week period at 448 hours that roughly 20 hours a week (not including LTP) just for hockey development. That may not seem like a lot, but you have to remember that 20 hours a week for the roughly 170 players is a huge deal! During tournament weekends such as Presidents Day or the Capital City Freeze, the Nelson Center hosts roughly 1600-2000 people.

The Nelson Center is the only hockey rink within approx. 60 miles of Springfield. Having a functional ice rink for the central Illinois region is vital to the development of youth hockey players driving to St Louis or Bloomington 3-4 times a week gets old really fast.

This Grant for a new roof would ensure a long-lasting footprint of hockey in this community. The SYHA isn't just about hockey, last year we started a community outreach program. Each team participated in an activity to help around the community, such as an Angel Tree, food drives, working with the Salvation Army and even volunteering at a local Food Kitchen.

As we all know, roof repairs and replacements can be very costly. The Nelson Center is where central Illinois Hockey players call home. With this grant funding, the Springfield Park District would be able to put the money they would be spending on a full roof replacement, back into much needed player development for members of this community. The SYHA continues to look forward to what the future brings in partnership with the Springfield Park District.

Trustee Theilen states on top of hockey we've also got figure skating and am I right that as she said we are the only rinks for the high school hockey?

Executive Director Harms states yes.

Trustee Theilen states so everything is in those two rinks.

President Sgro state yes, and not to mention the Junior Blues Hockey Team.

Executive Director Derek Harms states I've got a little presentation to present to the Board for purposes of grant application. (Also, attached and made part of the application)

Executive Harms states we're here tonight to present the project to the public and then solicit any feedback that we have before we submit the grant application. Here's an overview of the grant planning process. We've held several internal meetings, planning meetings and preparatory meetings with the board, with staff, with some consultants. We've met with contractors to get some guidance on the best way to move forward with this project tonight of course, the public input meeting and then after tonight we need to button everything up and submit the grant by Thursday of next week. So there's a lot of work that needs to happen between now and then which we will have done in time.

Executive Director Harms presents an overview of the outside of the existing area. (a copy which is attached as part of the application) On the left side of the screen you can see the outdoor pool that would be to the west. The bottom is the parking lot. On the right-hand side, you can kind of see the part of the Nelson Center and the White Building and then this is an old picture, but it looks like tennis courts, but is now deck hockey and of course in the center is the Nelson Center. One on the left side looks like the shingle roof and the one on the right-hand side is the new addition, the 20-year-old new addition.

Executive Director Harms states as Jacki indicated this is an extremely busy facility, probably our most heavily trafficked facility that provides services that we provide to the community. It includes 2 ice rinks and a twenty-two hundred seat multi-purpose Ice arena and facility. Beyond youth hockey as trustee, Theilen indicated, we also have figure skating, public skate in there, high school hockey. It's also home to the Springfield Junior Blues, which is an NHL hockey team, and the Nelson Center also provides multi-purpose space for recreation programs, instructional classes, day camps, inclusion programs, special events and provides rental opportunities for both public and private community gatherings. This is a very active site. The project that we are proposing is to replace the roof, the section that's red in color. We must replace that section of the roof. Under this roof it includes rink 1 and includes Franklin Room, six locker rooms, mechanical rooms administrative offices, the main lobby concession stands the kitchen off the Franklin Room and several restrooms. It's really the backbone of the operation of the Nelson Center. The roof is currently roughly 35 years old. It's been very well maintained, but it is certainly showing its age. It has bubbles in it. The granules that are on the roof in some spots are completely gone. It has had leaks over the years, and we have repaired and patched it many many times, but it desperately needs to be replaced. It is outside its useful life. So, the project that we're proposing is the roof as well as gutters and downspouts. And I think there's maybe some wood that needs to be replaced as part of the project too, that will all be wrapped up in this grant application. The new roof will have a 30-year warranty on it for a total project cost of an anticipated 1.2 million dollars so that will be our grant application. Since we last spoke to the board, IDNR hadn't announced whether Springfield was going to be categorized as a distressed community or not. If we are not a distressed community, they cover 75 % of funding, and we are responsible for 25 %. If we are a distressed community, they cover 90% and we're on the hook for 10%. They have released a list of distressed communities and Springfield is in, which list is bittersweet. But for the purpose of the grant, they'll fund 90% if we are awarded it. So, it would be a \$1.2 million grant application and we would be responsible for \$120,000 of that at this point.

President Sgro states that it is an amazing deal.

Executive Director Harms informs the Board that we're in the process of writing the grant, so we wanted to see if the public had any thoughts or ideas, and we appreciate Jackie sharing from the Springfield Youth Hockey Association the value that the Nelson Center has.

President Sgro asks the board if they have any further questions and said let's go for it. We know we need to do it.

Director of Parks and Planning, Jason Graham states we applied for this back in 2021 and didn't get it. We did all the preliminary work already, so we have some things done for this already and we went up there and checked.

President Sgro asks if they know why or any indication of something or a reason why we couldn't get it in 2021, that might make us more eligible this time.

Executive Director Harms states we don't get any report back from IDNR.

President Sgro states I just wondered. If there was a lesson learned, or you know.

Executive Director Harms states that question was posed to the director of IDR at the legislative conference here a couple of weeks ago, but we don't know.

President Sgro states, OK, very good and go get them.

Close Public Hearing

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board it was moved by Trustee Theilen and seconded by Trustee Westcott that the meeting adjourns at 5:42 p.m.

Springfield Park District
Special Board Meeting

John F. Linxwiler Administrative Office / Bunn Park
2500 South 11th Street / Springfield, IL

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.
Immediately Preceding the Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Roll Call

President Sgro called the meeting to order.

Members Participating in Person: President Sgro, and Trustees Badger, Metcalf, Rodgers, Theilen, Eck, Westcott

Members Unavailable: None

Others Participating in Person: Derek Harms, Executive Director, Jason Graham, Director of Parks; Stephen Flesch, Director of Finance Administration; Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation, staff and public.

Statement of Claims

Motion to approve Statement of Claims

Moved by: Trustee Theilen

Seconded by: Trustee Rodgers

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Eck: Aye Westcott: Aye Theilen: Aye Rodgers: Aye

Aiello: Aye Hoogland: Aye Sgro: Aye

Motion Passed: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board it was moved by Trustee Theilen and seconded by Trustee Eck that the meeting adjourns at 5:31 p.m.

**Springfield Park District
Committee of the Whole**

John F. Linxwiler Administrative Office / Bunn Park
2500 South 11th Street / Springfield, IL Wednesday,
June 14, 2023, at 5:31 p.m.
Immediately following Special Board Meeting

MINUTES

Roll Call

President Sgro called the meeting to order.

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

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

Committee of the Whole

Special Guests

1. Jeff Stoner, SYHA

Jeff Stoner of the Springfield Youth Hockey Association addressed the Board with concerns and issues to address in supporting the Springfield Youth Hockey Association.

2. Jamie Toole, Lucky Horseshoes

Jamie Toole of the Lucky Horseshoes addressed the Board with his concerns and issues regarding the state of Robin Roberts Stadium.

Enos and Gehrmann Park Development update

Executive Director Harms updated the Board regarding Enos and Gehrmann Park stating the updates are done and we will host a ribbon cutting at Enos on June 28.

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 6:48p.m.

**Springfield Park District
Board Meeting**

The Henson Robinson Zoo
1100 East Lake Shore Drive/ Springfield, IL

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

MINUTES

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

Members Absent None

Others Participating in Person: Derek Harms, Executive Director; Jason Graham, Director of Parks and Planning; Stephen Flesch, Director of Administration and Finance; Angie Whisnant, Director of Recreation and Marketing; Rob Cross, Legal Counsel; Staff and Public

I. Call to order

President Sgro called the meeting to order.

II. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from May 2023

Moved by: Trustee Theilen

Seconded by: Trustee Wescott

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Eck: Aye Wescott: Aye Rodgers: Aye Aiello: Aye
Theilen: Aye Hoogland: Aye Sgro: Aye

Motion Passed: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

III. Special Guests

George Sinclair, Spencer Stokes & Lindsey Stokes

IV. Public Comment

George Sinclair presented an idea to commission a local artist to spray paint a professional graphic on the entire skate park at Iles.

Spencer and Linsey Stokes presented a draft design.

George discussed the idea of a graffiti wall.

President Leslie Sgro stated she loved the idea, and the district would help out how they could.

V. Business

- A. Motion: To approve Supplemental Statement of Claims
Moved by: Trustee Theilen
Seconded by: Trustee Eck
Discussion: None
Roll Call: Eck: Aye Westcott: Aye Theilen: Aye Rodgers: Aye
Aiello: Aye Hoogland: Aye Sgro: Aye
Motion Passed: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
- B. Motion to authorize staff to book transfers of Fund Balance from the General Fund (01-01) of (\$1,891,509); \$ 74,260 to the Social Security Fund (05-98), \$298,891 to the Recreation Fund (02-99), \$1,493,279 to the Museum Fund (14-01) , and \$25,079 to the Liability Fund (07-99). Said entry is to be booked immediately, and accrued into the period ended April 30, 2023, as it is the Board's intent to affect this transfer in Fiscal 2023
Moved by: Trustee Theilen
Seconded by: Trustee Eck
Discussion: None
Roll Call: Eck: Aye Westcott: Aye Theilen: Aye Rodgers: Aye
Aiello: Aye Hoogland: Aye Sgro: Aye
Motion Passed: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees,
It was moved by Trustee Theilen and seconded by Trustee Wescott that the meeting be adjourned at 5:54 p.m.