

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT HELD ON MARCH 3, 2020  
AT 7:00PM AT THE MEMORIAL PARK FIELD HOUSE

Call to order: 7:00p

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Commissioner Franchetti

Roll Call Present: Commissioners Ruthenberg, Ochoa and Franchetti

Absent: Richardella

Staff/Others: Executive Director Thomas Wogan, Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Joshua Edwards, Eduardo Valadez, Emmanuel Esparza and Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski

Public Comments: None

*\*Public comments are welcome. As a courtesy to other visitors with comments, each visitor shall be permitted up to two (2) minutes for his or her comment.*

**AGENDA:**

1. **DISCUSSION** – SWSRA Special Assessment. This item will be placed on the next agenda. SWSRA will be asking its member for a Special Assessment this year. A percentage of each Park Districts Levy is given to SWSRA for Special Recreation needs. Their agency is in need of some improvements and the only way they can do that is to ask for a possible one time only assessment of \$30,000-45,000 per District. All Districts must agree to this.
2. **DISCUSSION** – Recognition of new Event Coordinator. Mr. Emmanuel Esparza introduced himself to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Esparza will be taking the role of Event Coordinator. He is bringing with him his experience from Homewood-Flossmoor Park District where he has been training not only in Special events, but aquatics as well.
3. **DISCUSSION** - Pool/Splash Pad/ADA Lift Chair update. Ken Bereta and Thomas Wogan met with Schaefer Brothers. The Splash Pad pump station work area was reviewed. No issues are anticipated. Project will start in April (pending weather) and finishing by the end of the month. Main area that will be affected is the Community Garden. A letter will be set out to former gardeners explaining the disruption and loss of plots. Updates to the garden are being planned and hope to be open before the growing season is over. A new ADA chair lit has been ordered for the pool area. It will fit all ADA specs and will be purchased out of the Special Recreation fund.
4. **DIRECTORS REPORT**
  - a. Tot Lot. Some communication has come from Alderman Mech on behalf of his area citizens that are from the Tot Lot area. The public would like to know if something for the children will be replacing the old equipment. New fencing will be erected and the replacement of play equipment. Asking for public opinions. The Park District is looking into a matching Grant to help fund the project. Mr. Wogan will have more focus on cost by next meeting.
  - b. Public health update: Due to the spread of the Coronavirus, the Park District has been passing around and posting safety tips. Maintenance Department will install sanitizing pump stations all around the field houses and pool house.
  - c. District 218, Blue Cap and Landmarks of Illinois are asking for donations. All are deserving organizations that the Park District has supported in the past.


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- d. Hart Park – waiting on Jim Walsh from Springfield. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the target start date pending weather. This park has state Grant money coming in, we will also be applying for a KABOOM Grant for Centennial Park play lot.

*Executive session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1).*

Motion to adjourn Committee of the Whole was made by Commissioner Ochoa and seconded by Commissioner Franchetti. All aye, meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Approved



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Theodore Ruthenberg. President  
Blue Island Park District



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Date