

Observer Report

Organization Observed	Naperville Park District
Observer	Judy Green
Date	August 11, 2022
Meeting Time: X-Y	7:00 pm - 7:32 pm
Meeting Held-In Person, Remote, Hybrid	In person at Ft. Hill Activity Center, 20 Ft. Hill Dr., Naperville Recorded and Live streamed at Park District's YouTube channel.
Meeting Observed- In Person, Livestream, Recorded	Viewed recording online. Video cuts out at <u>20:31</u> due to technical difficulties. Audio still available.

Attendees (note if remote)

Quorum (yes or no)	Yes
Elected	Mary Gibson, President Leslie Ruffing, Vice President Rhonda Ansier, Commissioner Rich Janor, Commissioner (participated remotely) Josh McBroom, Commissioner Alison Thompson, Commissioner Marie Todd, Commissioner
Staff (list names/roles)	Executive Staff: Brad Wilson, Executive Director Couldn't identify others from the video
Press (list names)	Couldn't identify from the video
Public (number)	Couldn't identify from the video but there were at least two who commented about the garden plots master site plan

General Observations _____

	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting start on time?	x		7:00pm
Facilities large enough?	x		
Audience able to hear proceedings?	x		Sound on the recording was good for about the first 20 minutes and then there appeared to be some AV issues. No video was available for the last part of the meeting and the audio was of lower quality. It's likely the audio in the room continued to be good as no one mentioned any concerns with the sound.
Room ADA Compliant?	x		Presume yes, but hard to tell from the recording

Illinois Open Meeting Act Requirements

	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting Notice Posted?	x		Posted at https://go.boarddocs.com/il/naperville/Board.nsf/Public#
Agenda Posted 48 hours prior to meeting?	x		
Agenda clearly describes items to be discussed?	x		
Meeting packet available to the public before meeting?	x		
Minutes from previous meetings posted?	x		
Public Comment encouraged?	x		
Public treated respectfully?	x		Both speakers spoke past their allotted time and were politely asked to stop speaking

Business Transactions

Agenda and Packet Found Where

<https://go.boarddocs.com/il/naperville/Board.nsf/Public#>

Meetings Streamed and Archived Where

<https://www.youtube.com/user/NaperParks>

Closed Session Notes From Agenda

3. Updates and Reports

3.1 Riverwalk Commission, President Gibson *Commission met on 8/10/22 and received an update on Moser Tower rehabilitation which is expected to be completed in October. Commissioners received preliminary design review for Eagle Street Gateway which Commissioner Gibson described as “really pretty.” Commissioner Erickson provided an update on the Walk-On in memory of Chuck Panos. In its second year, the event raised \$33,000 for lymphoma research. President Gibson described the event as a “success.”*

3.2 Finance Committee, Commissioner McBroom and Vice President Ruffing *Commissioner McBroom reported that the Finance Committee met earlier that day (8/11). Committee received a market funding and refunding presentation from Eric Anderson of Piper Sandler on the district’s bond portfolio. The new parameters ordinance was discussed for the refunding of the district’s 2015 bonds and funding options for the district’s 2020 limited bonds. Staff will be providing further information at future meetings. A report of the second quarter’s investment performance was provided. The year-to-date investment unrealized loss was \$100,000 with a net return of a -.9% vs. the benchmark of -.5. Net return since inception of the portfolio – June ’11 – June ’22 - equaled .7% which Commissioner McBroom said is about equal to the benchmark. The unrealized loss is \$637,000 and interest income of \$1 million. Commissioner McBroom explained that all the bonds in the portfolio are held to maturity; bonds will mature at face par value with no realized loss; current higher interest rate environment provides better yield on the reinvestment of the bonds that are maturing and other cash flows. The committee also reviewed major highlights of the proposed 2023 board of commissioners’ budget and the staff reported the district received a rebate of \$25,000 as part of the district’s purchasing card program which was described as continuing to be successful in promoting efficiencies in purchasing.*

3.3 Legislative Committee, Commissioner Thompson and Vice President Ruffing *Commissioner Thompson reported that the committee has not yet met but is scheduled to do so on September 1*

at 5:15pm in the administration building. Topics to be discussed are TBD.

3.4 Parks and Recreation Committee, Commissioners Ansier, Janor and Todd *Commissioner Ansier reported that the committee had met earlier that evening. The meeting included updates on the Centennial skate park facility. She said it looks like there's a "pretty good" concept plan to be presented soon. They had received a lot of community feedback from skate park users and it looks like it will be "pretty cool" as far as the design and its usefulness as well as possible donations which include funding from a WDSRA (Western DuPage Special Recreation Association) partnership so it seems very accessible as well. She also reported that there have been several playground ribbon cutting events and the 7-8 more are anticipated in the next year. The committee also discussed the polo club development, Ranchview tennis courts, and some discussion about possible future projects like water basketball courts. There were 2,000 registrations for camps this summer which is "pretty fantastic" and an increase from last year. Other items discussed by the committee: Centennial Beach will be starting back-to-school hours soon; zero enrollment time for Fort Hill has brought in some new members; Springbrook golf facility renovation is underway and good headway is being made; phase 2 work for the north maintenance facilities is going; marketing met with new District 203 educators and introduced how the Park District can work with them; focus groups will be conducted with staff on 8/23 and residents and community leaders will also be invited to participate; a recent fundraiser with Brown Paper Bag Seafood Company went well; and some good sponsorships have already been lined up for the Halloween happening and the Santa house is already being looked into. The next meeting is scheduled for 9/8.*

3.5 Board President, Mary Gibson *President Gibson first thanked the staff who have worked so hard to bring the community exciting, active, and safe summers. She continued by noting two things that have happened since the last president's report that she wanted to highlight: 1. Board and staff have begun working with the NIU Center for Government Studies to develop the 2023-2025 strategic plan. As part of this, President Gibson also thanked community members who participated in the interest survey earlier in the summer. She said their feedback will be used to develop the strategic plan. 2. Annual volunteer celebration was held at Centennial Beach on 7/31 and President Gibson said they were grateful to have the opportunity to thank all those who have given of themselves to the community. She*

reiterated that the volunteers' time, talent and dedication are appreciated.

3.6 Executive Director, Brad Wilson *Director Wilson reported that for the third year, Fort Hill Fitness was voted the best family fitness in DuPage county in the Glancer magazine readers' choice awards. Director Wilson continued to say that they were happy to see community members of all ages enjoying the Fort Hill facility. He added that Fort Hill is offering a zero-enrollment membership fee during August for non-members. Glancer readers also voted the Riverwalk as the best park district facility in DuPage county. Other mentions in his report: The Autumn '22 program guide is now available in digital form and registration for fall programs is underway; registration for Naperville youth basketball starts on 9/13 with details available beginning 8/31; sportsmanship campaign is being rebooted in the fall to remind everyone of the importance of being a good sport. Mr. Wilson hopes this message will inspire everyone to focus on being positive and respectful of all; Riverwalk café is closed for the season due to lack of available staff; Centennial Beach will begin end-of-season hours when school opens; registration is open for an upcoming educational session on meditation to be held 8/23; this Friday (8/12) there will be a kick-off to the weekend with a movie being shown on Rotary Hill.*

4. Treasurer's Report

4.1 Approve June 2022 Treasurer's Report *The report was approved unanimously through a roll call vote.*

5. Consent Agenda - The Executive Director warrants that all Consent Agenda Items reports and memoranda comply with Board Policy.

5.1 Approve July 2022 disbursements in the amount of \$1,999,549.07

5.2 Approve July 2022 disbursements made through the Bank of America Purchasing Card Program in the amount of \$324,810.32

5.3 Approve July Fintech disbursements in the amount of \$3,334.60

5.4 Approve July 2022 customer refunds in the amount of \$4,659.46

5.5 Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of DuPage and Naperville Park District for participation in the Local American Rescue Plan Act (LARPA) program signed by Executive Director Wilson on July 15, 2022

5.6 Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Naperville and the Naperville Park District concerning the installation and maintenance of Automated External Defibrillators in parks

5.7 Award the contract for the Heatherstone Park and Wil-O-Way Park Basketball Court Renovations project to Evans & Son Blacktop, Inc. in the amount of \$121,532.00

5.8 Reject all bids from the bid opening(s) held on June 29, 2022 and award the contract for the Nike Sports Complex Ballfield Hub Water Service Line Replacement project to Tracy & Ed Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$61,646.00 based on the bid opening held on July 28, 2022

5.9 Approve an agreement for Email Migration and Multi-Factor Authentication Implementation with Heartland Business Systems in the amount of \$45,605.00

5.10 The Chair asks if there are any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately. *None.*

5.11 Accept Consent Agenda Items *Motion made and seconded. No dissent raised during roll call vote*

5.12 Approve Consent Agenda Items *Approved unanimously in voice vote.*

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Receive the Community Garden Plots Site Master Plan *Director Rick Wilson provided some background for the commissioners. With the help of Upland Design, development for a site master plan on the community garden plots began earlier in 2022. Feedback from the community and the gardeners about the site was deemed to be important. The overall goal of the plan is to enhance the community gardens through maintaining existing garden plots while diversifying and improving site elements. Plan is based on a site analysis and community input (meetings with stakeholders and public, stakeholder focus group, public open houses, online survey). The site master plan will serve as a visionary document for guiding Park District in enhancing the garden plots in programming. There will be continued collaboration with stakeholders and gathering input as well as further refining information to be presented to the park board for review and approval as part of the annual capital budget process. The site master plan focuses on future capital improvements at the garden plots, increases accessibility, and enhances several site elements. Staff will also follow up with gardeners regarding comments received from maintenance and operational aspects of the program. Staff has also begun to address some of the items through FAQs posted on the project website and will continue to follow up on the comments. Assuming approval, improvements will be phased in over several years based on priority. Vice President Ruffing moved to receive the garden plot site master plan. The motion was seconded. Vote held after public comment.*

There were two matters from the public:

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1. *Mr. Ron Ory: Has been master gardener/master naturalist for 30 years. He thinks the Naperville garden plots are among the best in the country. He described them as well managed, well maintained and enthusiastically supported by the gardeners. He hoped that his comments will make the plan even better. Mr. Ory said the soil needs to be improved (more organic nutrients). Soil is currently left up to the gardeners but Mr. Ory believes it should be improved for all the gardeners. Mr. Ory also began talking about better drainage but was cutoff because he had exceeded the 3-minute allotted time. Mr. Ory said he would be willing to explain any of these issues onsite to anyone who would be interested.*
 2. *Mr. Chuck (last name not captured): Introduced himself as a long-time Naperville resident and long-time plot gardener. He asserted that the draft master plan does not take into account some of the changes that would affect a user. This speaker noted that the summary cost of \$1.1 million is significant but does not address improved soil or drainage of the plants. He explained that the soil is tired after 30 years of intensive gardening and nothing has been proposed for new soil or compost fertilizer or improving drainage. He continued by saying the Park District provides mulch and fertilizer at both ends but it's difficult for people to move these around. He suggested the proposed changes can have unintended consequences. He provided a couple of examples of these. After being told his time was up, the commenter requested additional opportunity to comment on the master plan with a cad diagram as to what's going to be changed and that these matters be taken care of now while the master plan is in existence and still active and has not yet been approved.*

After the speaker finished, a commissioner asked Director Wilson about the timeline for approval. Director Wilson said the board was only being asked to vote on receipt of the master site plan at the meeting with the intent that staff will continue to work on the overall plan, including gathering feedback from the stakeholders and gardeners, working towards the development of the capital items. Further discussion on items in the master plan would be discussed during the budget process. A commissioner said she had been in a lot of the public meetings and had read through all the survey findings. She likes that it's a visionary document taking input from the whole community. She thinks it's a great plan and will make the plots more accessible for the

community. She added the no-til plan will also appeal to gardeners based on their feedback. She said they are not voting to set it in stone but rather to receive it so that as they look to make improvements, they'll have direction from the community. Therefore, she is going to vote in support.

All the commissioners voted in favor of receiving the plan.

7. New Business: *None*

8. Next Scheduled Meeting

8.1 Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, August 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Fort Hill Activity Center Multipurpose Rooms

9. Executive Session (if necessary)

Any Issues Discussed That Have Implications for LWV?

No

Next Meetings

August 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Report Reviewed By

Anne Mathews
