

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE FARGO PARK DISTRICT OF APRIL 13, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Park District of the City of Fargo was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fargo Park District office at 701 Main Avenue, Fargo, North Dakota and via Microsoft Teams. Present at the meeting in person were Commissioners Stacey Griggs, Vicki Dawson, Dawn Morgan, and Joe Deutsch. Present at the meeting via Microsoft Teams was Commissioner Jerry Rostad. Also present were: Dave Leker, Broc Lietz, Carolyn Boutain, Brian Arett, Dave Bietz, Kevin Boe, and attorney Jeff Gunkelman.

Approval Consent Agenda

Commissioner Dawn Morgan moved and Commissioner Vicki Dawson seconded a motion to approve the following actions on the consent agenda:

- (a) The minutes from the March 9, 2021 meeting minutes;
- (b) The March 2021 bills;
- (c) The Order of Agenda.
- (d) The following bids:
 - I. The 2021 playground improvements to Dakota Playground for a total amount of \$146,826.00.
 - II. The Pickleball Courts at Valley View Park and Longfellow Park to Northern Improvement for a total amount of \$470,700.00.
 - III. The Forestry Boom Truck Bid to ABM Equipment & Supply, LLC for a total amount of \$178,964.00.

Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Dave Leker presented to the Board regarding Yunker Farm and getting several interest groups together to formulate a plan for the future of the children's museum.

Kevin Boe presented to the Board regarding Broadway Square. He noted that the winter was a success and that the Park District already has 68 events planned between April and June.

Dave Bietz presented to the Board regarding the Lindenwood Park road project. It was noted that the project started in early April. It was noted that only 32 trees were cut down. It was noted that the road reconstruction was able to start early due to the weather.

Carolyn Boutain presented to the Board regarding Legends at Rose Creek. It was noted that the restaurant is going through renovations but that the downstairs grill is open. It was noted that weddings would start being hosted at the clubhouse starting April 30.

No action was taken from the Director' Report.

Foundation Director's Report

Brian Arett presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that progress continues to be made on fundraising for the Fargo Sports Complex. It was noted that the Park District Classic Golf Tournament is being held May 19. It was noted that Valley Senior Services is hoping for in person meals starting June 1, but it will require significant work.

No action was taken on this matter.

Approval of Garden of Healing Proposal

Sarah Fisher and Arlin Fisher presented to the Board on this matter. They discussed that there are several similar gardens in communities throughout the country. It was noted that their goal is to create the Garden of Healing in an accessible location for the entire community to be enjoyed. It was noted that the Park District and the Fisher's agreed to the park being located at Urban Plains Park. It was noted that the Garden of Healing to be professionally designed and built by Precision Lawn & Landscaping. It was noted that the Fisher's would like to expand the garden in future years as they obtain more funds. It was noted that the Fisher's and related entities would maintain the parks.

Commissioner Vicki Dawson moved and Commissioner Joe Deutsch seconded a motion to approve the proposal for a Garden of Healing to be located at Urban Plains Park as presented to the Board. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Fargo Flood Mitigation Project as it Relates to Trefoil Park

Dave Bietz and Nathan Boerboom from the City of Fargo presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that the City is requesting an easement to construct a levee at Trefoil Park. It was noted that the access road will need to be moved and that for a period of time during construction the park will have limited access.

Commissioner Dawn Morgan moved and Commissioner Joe Deutsch seconded a motion to approve the City of Fargo Flood Mitigation Project as it relates to Trefoil Park as presented. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval and Award of Bid for Basketball Courts at Centennial Park

Dave Bietz presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that it would expand the basketball courts from two to four at Centennial Park. It was noted that the Park District received several complaints from Stonebridge residents that the courts located at that park were being overrun by people driving to the park to play basketball. It was noted that by constructing the new courts at Centennial, the Park District could shift the flow of cars away from the neighborhood park.

Commissioner Joe Deutsch moved and Commissioner Jerry Rostad seconded a motion to approve the bid for basketball courts at Centennial Park to AJ Construction for the total amount of \$110,000.00. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on Remodel and Replacement Options for Island Park Pool

Kevin Boe and Dave Klundt presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that based on survey results, discussions with key organizations, and options and costs associated with the proposed projects, that the options were narrowed down to three potential options: (1) replace the pool as currently designed; (2) 50 meter pool with slides and no lazy river; and (3) 50 meter pool with slides and a lazy river.

Commissioner Rostad noted that he is concerned that if the Park District changes the features at the pool, then is the Park District changing the composition of Island Park in general. Stacey Griggs noted that parking is a concern and the Park District may need to consider redesigning the parking lot. Commissioner Morgan noted that she likes the idea of green spaces within the pool area. Commissioner Deutsch noted that the Park District will not be constructing a pool for several more years, but the pool still needs to fit within the design of the park. Commissioner Dawson stressed the importance of needing a lap pool.

No action was taken on this matter.

Approval of Financing Options for Capital Projects

Broc Lietz presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that the Commissioners previously committed resources to two capital projects: (1) Fargo Sports Complex for up to \$38.5 million; and (2) Island Park Pool for up to \$16 million. It was noted that administration has currently identified \$10,500,000.00 in assets, leaving a total bonding requirement for capital projects at \$44,000,000.00. It was noted that staff researched general obligation bonding opportunities including requesting and reviewing proposals from two bonding advisor groups: PFM Financial Advisors and AMKO advisors; consultation with bond counsel, and consultation with county and city officials to verify eligibility. It was noted that the next step in the process is to select a financial advisor to assist with bond issuance and pass a bond resolution which initiates the 60-day protest period for public input.

Commissioner Joe Deutsch moved and Commissioner Jerry Rostad seconded a motion to approve the capital projects and financing options as presented to the Board. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Initial Resolution for General Obligation Bonds – Series 2021A

Broc Lietz presented to the Board on this matter. It was noted that under the North Dakota Century Code the Park District is the authority to issue general obligation bonds. It was noted that approval of this initial resolution would get the clock going on the 60-day protest period and that the directors would need to come back to the Board before any further action is taken.

Commissioner Joe Deutsch moved and Commissioner Jerry Rostad seconded a motion to adopt the Initial Resolution for the issuance of General Obligation Park Facilities Bonds, Series 2021A, as presented to the Board. Upon call of the roll, the motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the above agenda items, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and upon unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Dave Leker, Clerk