



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

August 2020

BEACHES

After discussions last month at the Lakefront Committee, and the next week at the Board of Park Commissioner meeting, staff installed fencing from the southern end of the swimming beach to the fencing along the dog beach. The area had become very crowded in the weeks prior to the board and staff discussions, and concerns were had in regard to COVID-19 as well as the lack of conformity with the no swimming, no alcohol and other various rules for this portion of the beach.

The swimming beach was extended a bit further south to create more space on the swimming beach, and the swimming area was extended to encourage people to space out more while on the swim beach.

The fencing south of the swim beach was designed to create two points of entry and exit at which staff can inform park users that the beach is open to walk along, but not available to congregate. For the most part, the fencing has achieved the primary intent of reducing the crowds on the beach to create a safer environment during the current pandemic.

The fence was rented and there has not been a determination by staff as to when it will be removed. The typical swim season ends with the Monday of Labor Day weekend, but over the past couple years we have been modifying our staffing and operations due to large crowds on nice days, especially weekends, throughout the month of September. Staff will discuss the timing of the fence removal with the Lakefront Committee on Tuesday, August 11th.

STORM WATER

In Superintendent Solberg's report, you will read that the storm water project at Community Playfields is ahead of schedule. The Village Board has indicated via their staff, a desire to have a ribbon cutting with the Board of Park Commissioners at some point after the project is more complete. More details will be coming on that event in the coming weeks.

As for the amenities in the park, staff has circulated a community-wide survey that has received over 600 responses at the time of this memo. Staff will also propose at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting two meeting dates and times in the park itself to discuss the same park amenities that are covered by the survey. The Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson will report those dates and any further details during the Board of Park Commissioner meeting.

SHORELINE PROTECTION

The Lakefront Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, August 11th, at 6:30 pm via Zoom. The meeting information can be found on the agenda that is posted on the park district's website. During this meeting, the shoreline engineers from SmithGroup will make a presentation outlining options for shoreline protection at Gillson and Langdon parks. The options will range in cost, as well as short term and long-term applicability. The consultants will also discuss what the higher and lower priority areas are in their opinion. Ultimately, the board and staff will have to determine what the priorities are and what solutions the district will pursue.

GILLSON PARK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Also at the Lakefront Committee meeting on the 11th the design team from Lakota Group and Woodhouse Tinucci Architects will be in attendance to do a kickoff meeting with the Committee in regard to the Gillson Comprehensive Plan development. They will make a slide show presentation of about fifteen minutes, then take questions, and have a dialogue with the Committee.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

As is the case a couple times a year, the board must pass a Surplus Property Ordinance deeming District assets as surplus property. This is the case this month. Please see Superintendent Solberg's memo and the ordinance attached to this memo for more information.

CLOSED SESSION

On the agenda are a couple sets of closed session minutes for approval. If the board wishes to discuss these minutes prior to approval, a closed session will be in order. Also, the Open Meetings Act requires periodic review of prior closed session minutes and a determination made to release any minutes. This discussion would take place in closed session. All votes to approve or release minutes must be conducted in open session. Due to the meeting in August being conducted via Zoom, there will be another meeting number and passcode provided to board members to go into closed session while the public wait in the Zoom meeting that is identified at the bottom of the meeting agenda. Once the closed session is complete, the board will return to the original meeting and take action on any items that must be voted on, and then adjourn the meeting.

Attachments:

- 1) Memo and Ordinance 2020-O-2, Surplus Property
- 2) Parks and Planning Department Report
- 3) Recreation/Facilities Department Reports
- 4) General Administration Operations Report