



**MINUTES OF THE OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT HAMLIN PARK
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
PARK SERVICES
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 - 6:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present: President Mike Reid
Vice-President Khemarey Khoeun
Commissioner Susan Aberman

Others Present: Executive Director/Secretary Michelle J. Tuft
Superintendent of Parks Corrie Guynn
Office Manager Park Services Dima Kirland
Landscape Supervisor Stephen Ames
Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker
Parks Supervisor John Gacki
Park Specialist Jim Hallm

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Khoeun called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Hamlin Park to order at 6:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Vice President Khoeun introduced herself, President Mike Reid, Commissioner Susan Aberman, Executive Director Michelle Tuft, and Superintendent of Parks Corrie Guynn.

HAMLIN PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Mr. Guynn presented the design for Hamlin Park playground and other amenities. The new playground equipment will include 2–5-year-old structure and a 5–12 year-old structure with climbing features, slides, a rocker, and a small globe spinner. The swings will include four belts swings, three tot swing, and a plastic molded swing (ADA swing).

The parking lot will be repaved, and the path will be repaired. New benches, garbage cans and picnic tables will be added.

The sports courts will be reconstructed and reconfigured to include one full size basketball court, one tennis court, and one new pickleball court.

A new sidewalk will be installed near the courts.

The playground surfacing will change from sand to engineered wood fiber.

An island will be removed to make more space for the play equipment, and a concrete ramp will be added for accessibility.

A zip line will be installed. This is the first park in Skokie that will have a zip line feature. Staff will remove existing plantings and add new plantings to the north of the new zip line.

On the north end of the park staff are converting one acre from turf to pollinator friendly plants as part of \$20,000 grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. The area is wet and is difficult to properly maintain with mowing equipment. Staff and volunteers have already installed a woodchip path. Signs will be installed to provide educational information on the type of plants and pollinators in the area. It will take some time to grow and will really look great in two to three seasons. Some of plants included will be Turtlehead, Golden Alexander, Swamp Milkweed, and Bild Geranium.

The parking lot will be repaved, and the asphalt path will be replaced with concrete.

A Little Free Library, a new District program, will be added to the park. The District’s website has additional information and ways to volunteer. The library will be installed in March/April.

All the demo work will be done in-house. Staff will remove the sand, the playground equipment, and the footings. The contractor will install the equipment and staff will install the new surfacing. The demo will begin as soon as the snow clears. Installation of the playground should be completed by the end of July.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Aberman asked if an ADA zip line can be added. Mr. Guynn said we cannot add to the zip line because of the fall zone, there is not enough space.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Vice President Khoeun thanked the residents for their questions and comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Khoeun thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Mike Reid
President

Michelle Tuft
Secretary

<p>Vision Statement The Skokie Park District envisions a community where all of its residents enjoy a high quality of life through leisure time pursuits, beautiful open spaces, and first-rate facilities.</p> <p>Mission Statement The Skokie Park District will realize its vision through teamwork, community partnerships, sound fiscal management, and creativity in every area of its operation.</p> <p>Core Values The Skokie Park District will fulfill its mission through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commitment ● Integrity ● Innovation ● Service ● Openness ● Environmental Stewardship ● Inclusiveness </p>
