

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT TERMINAL PARK PARK SERVICES February 6, 2025 - 6:00 P.M.

# ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Board Members Present: Vice-President Ezra Jaffe

Others Present: Executive Director Michelle J. Tuft

Superintendent of Parks, Planning, and Facilities Corrie Guynn

Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava

Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm Operations Supervisor Peter Haben

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-President Ezra Jaffe called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Terminal Park to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-President Ezra Jaffe introduced himself. Executive director Michelle Tuft introduced herself and Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn, Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm, Operations Supervisor Peter Haben, Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava.

# TERMINAL PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Mr. Guynn started that the playground renovations are being funded through a combination of a grant through Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's office and park district capital funds. The current playground is approximately thirty-two years old and needs to be replaced.

Mr. Guynn presented the new design for the playground and other amenities. The updates to the park include new playground equipment with climbing features (Ninja course), a water fountain with water bottle filling station, picnic tables, benches, garbage cans, landscape improvements, basketball court pavement, and concrete repairs. The playground equipment will have two structures: one 2–5-year-old structure and one 5–12-year-old structure. The playground will feature climbing structures, slides, a swing set which will include two belt swings, two tot enclosed swings, one ADA plastic molded swing, and a parent-tot swing.

All the demo work will be done in-house. Staff will remove the equipment, sand, and footings. A contractor will install the equipment.

Demolition of the playground is scheduled to begin in March, with the goal of completing

installation in the summer. Concrete work, including benches and garbage cans, will be scheduled separately, potentially starting in late winter or early spring. The basketball court will be repayed later in the summer, after camps have concluded.

# **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

A resident inquired if the basketball court could have new rims and backboards. Mr. Guynn will replace the rims but needs to see if the budget can handle the cost of new backboards.

A resident inquired if a roller slide could be added to the 2–5-year-old structure. Mr. Guynn said no, that the roller slides are no longer included in playgrounds and that it would be difficult to find a structure that included one.

A resident asked if the lighting of the park would remain the same or if new lights would be added. Mr. Guynn stated that the lights will remain the same and there are no plans to add lights.

A resident acknowledged the horticultural supervisor for an amazing job with the flowers and landscaping.

A resident inquired about traffic management when construction begins for the playground. Mr. Guynn and Executive Director Tuft stated that the construction traffic will be managed to minimize disruption to the neighborhood.

# **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Executive Director Tuft stated that if there are ever any issues at the park that require immediate attention, call the Skokie police non-emergency number, and report it. The park monitor can also be contacted for any minor issues at the park. Executive Director Michelle Tuft asked all attendees to make sure they have signed in and added their email address for further updates and information on the renovation of Terminal Park.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-President Ezra Jaffe thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Susan Aberman

President

Michelle Tuft
Executive Director

#### **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.

#### **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.

Core Values

# The Skokje Park District will fulfill its mission through:

Commitment◆ Integrity◆ Innovation◆ Service ◆Openness ◆Environmental Stewardship ◆Inclusiveness