

MINUTES
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING
November 19, 2024

1. Roll Call:

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Buildings & Grounds Committee was held on November 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Triphahn Center in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Present: Chairman Evans, Commissioner Friedman, Comm Reps Dowling, Sernett, and Meyer

Absent: Comm Rep Poeschel

Also Present: Executive Director Talsma, Director of Parks, Planning and Maintenance Hugen, Director of Recreation Miletic, Executive Assistant Flynn, IT Specialist Hassler

Audience: President Chhatwani, Commissioners McGinn, Kaplan, McGregor, and Dressler; Comm Reps Beranek, Henderson and Ostermeyer

2. Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Friedman made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Sernett to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Comm Rep Meyer made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Sernett to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024, meeting as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. Comments from the Audience:

None

5. Old Business:

None

6. **New Business:**

A. New Park at Seascape Fall Surface and Installation / M24-097

Comm Rep Meyer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Friedman, to recommend to the full board to approve the purchase of the fall surface and installation to Forever Lawn for a total of \$128,049.13 with a contingency of 10% for a total of \$140,854.04.

Director Hugen explained that completing this purchase now locks us into a 2024 price, and we would pay 50% down this year. The installation will take place in the spring after the ground thaws. We will have the produce delivered ahead of time. The product is a tape.

Commissioner Evans asked if the area was fenced off. Director Hugen said yes it is, and it will remain that way all winter to keep people off of the playground.

Executive Director Talsma reminded the board that this project is sponsored by the \$500,000 state grant via Representative Fred Crespo. The full budget is \$523,000, and we will be receiving \$25,000 from the local Mercedes dealer to lease a portion of the Seascape parking lot to them for the winter, with this lease income allowing us to fully cover the cost of the new playground.

The motion carried by voice vote.

B. Land Definition & Management Plan Update / M24-098

Commissioner Friedman made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Meyer to recommend to the full board the approval of the revised 2021 Land Definition & Management Plan.

Comm Rep Dowling asked what would go in the greenhouse at Vogelei. Director Hugen said we would be growing annuals and perennials, and they would be maintained by the Parks Department staff with help from the NWSRA participants.

Commissioner Evans asked about the verbiage regarding harming the foliage along the shorelines. Executive Director Talsma said that we want to be able to enforce if someone is destroying the vegetation. He added that we are looking into creating access points around the waterways.

The motion carried by voice vote.

C. Parks, Planning & Maintenance Board Report / M24-096

Comm Rep Meyer made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Sernett, to include the Parks, Planning & Maintenance November Board Report in the November Executive Director's Report.

Director Hugen thanked the maintenance crew for all of their work at Vogelei Park and the new playground at Seascape. All earthwork, trees and plantings have been completed by our

in-house staff. Outside contractors have only been used for asphalt and concrete work. This has been a big help in staying within budget.

The motion carried by voice vote.

7. **Committee Member Comments:**

Comm Rep Sernett said the new playground looks wonderful and she is looking forward to bringing her grandkids there.

Comm Rep Meyer said it is nice to see the park district working so efficiently.

Comm Rep Dowling said she appreciated seeing Commissioner Evans' notes from the conference in Atlanta, especially regarding street art.

Commissioner Evans reminded the committee that he will not be in town for next week's meetings.

8. **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Friedman made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Dowling to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Talsma
Secretary

Cindy Flynn
Executive Assistant

The following question was asked and answered via email prior to the meeting:

1. Last paragraph P12 on Natural Areas section about foliage protection ("not to be harmed") would seem to include flattening an area to access the shore for fishing. I agree weed whacking is too much, but stepping on grasses and flowers could also be implied in this wording, and I don't think we want to shut off access to the shore.

[In 2025 we are exploring creating shoreline access to the waterways.](#)