



AQUATICS ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MINUTES

City of Aurora & Fox Valley Park District

May 12, 2020 10:00AM

Cole Administration Center via teleconference

101W. Illinois Avenue, Aurora

1. Call Meeting to Order

President O'Connor called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

2. Roll Call

President O'Connor directed the Board Secretary to take attendance by roll call. The following members of the Aquatics Administrative Board were present: Al Broholm, MaryAnne Cummings, Scheketa Hart-Burns and President Bob O'Connor. Absent: Roberto Saenz. A quorum was present. Also present: Executive Director Jim Pilmer, Department Directors Ijams, Kramer, Leahy, Michael, Palmquist, Santoria and Summer, and Assistant Director of Finance Jennifer Paprocki.

3. Addenda to the Agenda

None presented.

4. Minutes

4.1 Approve meeting minutes from October 8, 2019.

Scheketa Hart-Burns made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by MaryAnne Cummings.

Roll call voting Aye: Al Broholm, MaryAnne Cummings, Scheketa Hart-Burns and President Bob O'Connor. Voting Nay: none and the minutes were approved.

5. Continued Business

None presented.

6. Financial Reports

Director Pilmer reported on the following:

- Director of Finance, Diana Erickson retired on April 30, 2020 after a 25-year career in local government. Assistant Director of Finance Jennifer Paprocki will lead the Finance department until an Interim Finance Director begins on June 1.
- The audit is complete and is clean and ready for presentation in June along with the financial reports.

President O'Connor requested that the financial reports be sent to the board now for review and ratification in June. President O'Connor requested that a motion be made to recognize and honor the work of Diana Erickson upon her retirement. Scheketa Hart-Burns made a motion, seconded by MaryAnne Cummings. Roll call voting Aye: Al Broholm, MaryAnne Cummings, Scheketa Hart-Burns and President Bob O'Connor. Voting Nay: none and the motion was approved.

7. New Business

7.1. Acceptance of Fox Valley Park District Board of Commissioners action on outdoor aquatics and forward notification to City of Aurora.

Director Pilmer recommended approval and acceptance of the action taken by the Board of Commissioners of the Fox Valley Park District in the closing of the outdoor aquatic centers for the 2020 season. This action is taken in the interest of public safety.

Scheketa Hart-Burns made a motion to approve the closing of the aquatic centers for the 2020 season and to forward the action to the City of Aurora, seconded by MaryAnne Cummings. Discussion included a suggestion by MaryAnne Cummings to consider a plan for repurposing or the creation of a long-term plan

for the centers, and the general uncertainty of what the future will hold for the parks. Much discussion will be needed in the coming months in terms of determining the correct path going forward for aquatics facilities and services.

Al Broholm inquired about the financial projections regarding the cost of keeping the facilities closed. That information will be made available the board via email. President O'Connor closed the discussion by stating that closing the facilities is the only possible action to take.

Roll call voting Aye: Al Broholm, MaryAnne Cummings, Scheketa Hart-Burns and President Bob O'Connor. Voting Nay: none and the motion was approved.

7.2. Recreation Report

Jaime Ijams reiterated that the task of monitoring and promoting social distancing and keeping all common-touch areas sanitized is nearly impossible. In addition, there are serious concerns regarding lifeguard training and practices should a save be necessary. The best-case scenario would be the State of Illinois reaching Stage 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois plan in late June. At that point, only 50 people would be allowed in the facility at a time and nearly 25 of that count would be staff. This and many other factors reinforce the Board's action to close as being the right one to take.

7.3. Operations Report

John Kramer reported that no large-scale additional work will be done to the parks outside of the general maintenance and repair items contained in his written report. None of the pools will be filled this year except where needed for maintenance purposes. Al Broholm inquired about signage being placed at the facilities regarding the prolonged closure. John Kramer stated he would work with the Marketing department regarding signs but did say that the parking lots are gated and locked and the facilities are monitored daily by Operations staff. President O'Connor stated that the prior installation of the security cameras will prove to be critical under these circumstances.

7.4. Marketing Report

Dan Leahy reported that marketing efforts normally start in late February. Some campaigns had begun, however, as the pandemic continued to develop, Marketing made the decision to pull back on much of the planned efforts. Membership sales would typically be \$83,000 by now, however, to date in 2020 only \$13,000 has been sold. Next steps will be to contact members and begin the refund process and inform the public that our outdoor aquatic facilities are closed in the interest of public safety. Marketing will continue to work with Recreation to work on a creative approach to appeal to returning members in 2021.

President O'Connor will bring forth the action taken in 7.1 at the City of Aurora Council meeting and stated the next meeting of the Aquatics Administrative Board will be June 9, 2020 at the Cole Center unless other plans are required.

8. Adjourn

Sheketa Hart-Burns made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MaryAnne Cummings. Roll call voting Aye: Al Broholm, MaryAnne Cummings, Scheketa Hart-Burns and President Bob O'Connor. Voting Nay: none and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Kim Nooncaster
Board Secretary*