

Justice Park District
Board of Commissioners
Special Board Meeting
Held via conference video due to Covid-19
Call in: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 839 0952 6420, **Password:** 193373
June 24, 2020
5:00pm

This meeting is being conducted electronically and remotely. Anyone who wishes to make a Public Comment to the Board can provide a written statement by email to: tsutera@justiceparkdistrict.org or drop it off in person by 4:00 p.m. on 06/24/2020 at the Drop Box located at the Park District at 7747 Oak Grove Ave Justice, IL 60458

1. Call to Order

A. Pledge of Allegiance:

B. Roll Call: Longi-Present, Noyes-Present, Cerny-Present, Bernardoni-Present, Sutera-Present

C. Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda: Noyes – Motion -Noyes, 2nd – Bernardoni - 5/0 APPROVAL

D. Approval of minutes for May 27, 2020 meeting. Motion Bernardoni, 2nd- Cerny 5/0/ APPROVAL

1. Approval of minutes for Musco 06/19/2020 meeting Motion-Bernardoni, 2nd Sutera 5/0 -APPROVAL

2. Public Comment: NONE

3. Treasurer Report: May 2020– Treasurer will report.- Bernardoni – MP & Associates Design and Consult - \$6500 – Clarification Joe? Louie? Joe – Architect who has been working on the plan for the community center. We needed it for submission of capital to the state. Bernardoni - Contract was approved prior to May 2019 – Joe- Yes, Approval to move forward? Bernardoni- Looking for dollar amount? Joe – with a project like that there is no way to approve an amount – based on the fact it is not a defined project. Bernardoni – How was the approval? Was it an approval of whatever amount? Vallez- It was approved with the board prior to you getting on. Bernardoni – So it was approved for “whatever” amount? Joe – No it was an approval to move forward with the drawings. The prior board wanted the community center and I will send you paperwork.

Bernardoni – Clarification of Ray – Vallez -He provided the inspection report on Veterans -

Bernardoni – We wrote directly to him verses a company? Vallez – not prepared tonight, he will have to dig up the invoice.

Bernardoni – The flag company \$602.02? Vallez- we purchase a set of 3 or 4 in case a replacement is needed.

Bernardoni – Motion to approve warrant listing -Strike payment too Inara for total of \$3,025 for contract, confusing to me, last year was hourly Vallez – let me make clarification, to strike a check from a warrant listing is a board action – needs a motion and a 2nd. Let me remind the board that the work has been done. Bernardoni – Louie also requested more information on it. It is my understanding that the check is still at the Park District. Vallez – Whether the check is at the Park District too withhold from the vendor. Bernardoni – Not trying to make the vendor suffer just asking for clarification. I think it directly contradicts the policy at the Park District. Vallez – That is not a conversation I am willing to get into, just letting the board know you have a vendor who has completed the work as requested by me, the day to day manager and if there is a question on policy that is between the board and myself. The vendor should not have to suffer. Bernardoni – This is just the board asking for more information. Vallez – You cannot withhold what has been done. Bernardoni – I have not seen a contract for this work. I am the board

treasurer. Vallez – Listen that debate between you and I is not this subject, the vendor has preformed Bernardoni – I am not going to ask for your approval. Vallez- Hold on Commissioner, do not cut me off you are good at doing that. So what I am telling you. Bernardoni – Do not be inappropriate with me in a board meeting. Vallez – I am being appropriate. Bernardoni – I am an elected official Vallez – I am talking right now, give me the respect and I will give you the respect. What I am informing the board is this vendor has completed the work and I approved them. Bernardoni – Nowhere in your contract do you have the authority. Vallez – Authority to do what day to day operations? I certainly do. Bernardoni – where is that in your contract? Vallez- It's all over my contract. I am the day to day operational manager per the statue, I will ask for clarification from the attorney and we will get a bill for that. That is my contract I am the day to day manager. Beranrdoni – Then why are you violating the policy that the park district has in place? Vallez – What policy is that? Bernardoni – Nepotism Vallez – There is no nepotism, do you know the definition of nepotism? Bernardoni – Our policy specifically states significant other. If I want more clarification on it, not sure why you would fight me on this. Vallez – first of all I am not fighting you on anything. I am telling you a vendor already did the work and the park district needs to pay them. If you want to get into a debate about nepotism. We can just ask the attorney what the definition is. Bernardoni – Do you need a copy of the policy? Vallez – Actually I gave it to you. Bernardoni – I would like more clarification on it. Vallez – Vendor already did the work and completed it. Bernardoni – We do not have proof of hours or anything else. Longi – I questioned it, I seen the hours and work it was done and the vendor should be paid. Going forward we need to sit down and put something together with the vendor. I did not sign until I knew what work was done. She has done the website, Facebook, and the paper every 2 months. Moving forward we can sit down and figure out what we want her to do or not do. Bernardoni - We have a policy in place – if you want to look down on it then well. Longi - The board, no Joe brought her, we knew everything, she has been doing stuff for the last 8/9 years. Bernardoni – She was on payroll until May 2019, now there is a new contract all I am asking for is clarification. She is now working at a different capacity than before. Longi – What I just said she is doing the website, Facebook page, the zoom meetings we have had and the flyers every 2 months. It is all broken down hour wise for the work she has done. Bernardoni – That should then be presented to the board for approval. Longi – That's part of Joes job to do the day to day operations. He does not bring every vendor to us for approval. This was done going forward we can figure it out. Bernardoni – You told me it was based on \$25.00 per hour, and worked over 120 hours the last month. I am just asking for clarification. Longi – I have seen the paperwork. Bernardoni – Prior to a meeting it should be presented to the board not just you Louie prior to a meeting. If you are going to ask us to approve it. Longi – The board does not look at every bill from every vendor for approval. Bernardoni – I am the treasurer of the board and I can request it. Longi – Ok, why did you wait until today? Why didn't you ask Jerald for it so you can look at it? Bernardoni – I asked you prior to the meeting, you told me that you have not signed the check. Longi – When I saw the check I asked for more information, I seen the bill and broke down. Vallez – Can I interject something – looking at the park district contract under section 4, Duties – The consultant shall provide consulting services to the district as manager performing the functions and duties as chief operating officer of the district. In that capacity, the consultant has all responsibilities, duties, power, and authorities normally associated with the position in the State of Illinois and is outlined in the Park District Code. Consultant should perform duties and present to the president and board of the district. Duties shall include administrative oversight, all district operations, financial reporting, community outreach and communications. Bernardoni – Can you tell me where it says you can violate the board policy to get that done. Vallez – I won't even justify that question with an answer. Bernardoni – I am just asking. I am asking for more information and you are getting defensive. Vallez – You know what I am defensive about. I am defensive and insulted by that ignorant question you asked me. Assuming I have an answer as to why I would violate a board policy. Bernardoni – It is a violation of a

board policy; it is black and white. It is not my opinion it, that is black and white, and I can ask for more information. Vallez – Ok, let me ask you a question – you stated the term significant other. Can you define what a significant other is? Bernardoni – Do you live with that vendor? Is her granddaughter your granddaughter? We all know that Joe. I did not want to open up to this I just wanted to hold it and get more information and clarification on it. Vallez – in the sake of transparency it is great we are having this conversation in open meeting because I, on a personal level the person who lives under my same roof as me. We both file separate taxes and I have no official relationship with this person. So, from a legal point of view we are not relatives we are not bound by any legal agreement. Bernardoni – That is why it does not say husband and wife in our policy. Longi – What I think we need to do with this is get the attorney and ask him and see if he thinks this is a violation of the policy. Cerny- Does that mean no one on the list will get paid because we cannot come to an agreement? Bernardoni – These are payments from May – Checks are cut before we have chance to vote as a board to approve payments. Vallez – When a warrant listing comes up you may have one or 2 commissioners that do not agree with warrant. So, it is a vote – 4/1 – 3/2 and it is approved, then it is approved. Just because one commissioner does not feel a few checks should not be paid. Does not mean that one commissioner has more authority than the other 4. It is put up for a vote.

A. Cash Disbursements /Warrants Listing - \$24,377.14 – Motion to approve warrant list and the \$3,025 check – Cerny, 2nd- Noyes, Longi YES, Bernardoni – NO, Sutera- NO 3/2 APPROVED

B. Payroll 6,343.98 – Motion- Cerny. 2nd-Noyes – Longi-Yes, Bernardoni-Yes, Sutera- YES – 5/0 APPROVED

4. Staff Report:

A. Recreation Director Report – Vallez – Verbal update- with phase 4 – waiting for executive order on Friday. We do not know what is going to be allowed or not allowed. Indoor playgrounds are still closed, we would assume they would be open. Best to wait for the order in writing. Park District staff will resume normal operations on Monday. Review doing programs outside the building. Inside of building does not have the capacity. He will let us know the recommendation. Approval has been given to both soccer programs and they were spoken too about the lack of social distancing that was observed. Garden – still moving forward to put up 3-foot fence around garden. Fence along Oak Grove will be replaced. Park benches should go out by Saturday. Rock climbing wall will be fixed next week. Sutera – Is the new fence a smaller fence? Vallez – We put a 4 foot fence instead of the big one – Double gate was added as well. Sutera – Soccer clubs are not following any guidelines you put into place, Vallez – Across the board that is the problem. I am going to revoke privileges for a short period of time, so they know we are not messing around. Reinstate them and give them a last chance. Bernardoni – Can we give them a waiver? Vallez – A lot of attorneys do not put stake in these types of waivers. If you don't adhere, we will revoke privileges. Major struggle right now. Sutera – the staff today was not adhering to the guidelines either. There was a group at the back garage. Please have a conversation with them. If they are seen doing that along with the soccer clubs. No one will think twice to not do it as well. Vallez – I will speak to them and if they continue, they will be out on administrative leave. Bernardoni – What will the hours be? Vallez – not exactly the hours that are on the door – waiting for the executive order. Bernardoni- can you please make sure the hours are posted on the door? Vallez- Yes. Bernardoni – did you have the chance to price out the statue that Commissioner Noyes spoke about last month. Vallez – Not one available. I think they were closed with Covid. Friday he will stop and see. Vallez - Nothing more and will get the managers report to us later in the week.

B. Maintenance Report – Bernardoni – How is painting going? Same color for exterior. Interior he will look at tomorrow and get you and Commissioner Sutera the paint swatches. Bernardoni – Popped in there and the painter was given the go ahead to paint the same colors inside.- Louie gave the go ahead to paint the same color- Longi – I thought Joe meant outside

and not the inside. Sutera- The colors are so Blah, really wish we could have picked the colors. Vallez – I will stop up and see if we can get some colors on the walls

C. Commissioners Report

5. Unfinished business

A. Document Storage at Justice Park District - Update

B. Building Storage Reorganization: Winter Break? – Update

C. Walking Path Repair, Spring, 2020 – Vallez - Would like to spend the state money – not ours. Bernardoni - Better markings on the sewer issue

D. Building painting, Spring, 2020

E. Basketball Court Repair, Spring, 2020 – What to do with this space? Would like the board to chime in. Fix it or remove it. Inexpensive way adhesive and resurface it. Take it down and put down enhanced surface. Replace or Repair to make it better and add a fence to the back out of respect for the neighbor. Bernardoni Can we utilize the fence that was repaired there? Vallez – no we would just add to the fence. Noyes – If we were to replace the court – better off replacing the park and courts. Vallez - Playground could use replacing – Kaboom playground – grant process and if approved they would buy one and we would need volunteers to put the park together. Sutera- Is there a warranty? Vallez – Yes there is a warranty and we can replace parts if needed – they are now using Landscape Structure. The swing was replaced at Veterans and the climbing wall will be replaced this week. Longi – wants to reach out to the community to get their opinion. Bernardoni – The Lions Club would be more than happy to help with the Kaboom park. How quickly is this possible. Vallez – We put a grant in 4 months ago – approved and build will happen in August. It was less than 8 months. Sutera – Completely agree – Please look into this Joe. Vallez- Put natural bollards or post at the park in case a car veers off.

F. Justice Park District Emails – Longi – All set and will get info to Noyes and Cerny

6. New business:

A. Jerald Contract – POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION – Giving us the info -

B: Upgrade to Memorial – Flag was half massed and our staff did not. 2 rifles are cracked off. Vandalism is rapid- cracked swings, tables were damaged 4 ADA compliances picnic tables will be put in this weekend. Sutera – Camera's can be put in? Our cooperation with the JPD is crucial. Vallez - If the kids get a ticket the village can step in and get the kids to do community service to replace/fix around the park. I think we all need a better understanding with the village, Police and Fire Departments. If we can get a meeting together and we are all on the same page. We cannot push blame on each other. We are all held accountable at that point.

C: Ideas for thanking Roberts Park Fire Department for fixing the flag – Possibly Dinner or Lunch – Include Police Department as well – POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION – Sutera – They fixed our flag, the relationship is strained – It would be a nice gesture. Vallez – Suggestions – they have a community outreach program- If we reach out for a donation. The police have gotten a bad wrap with what is going on and it would be a nice gesture to send to them as well. \$600 Dollar amount.

D: Phase 4 – Covered in Joes manager report.

7. Public Comment:

8. Executive Session:

9. New Business from Executive Session

10: Adjournment: