

**MINUTES**  
**DeKalb Park District**  
**Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**  
**August 13, 2020**  
**Hopkins Community Center, DeKalb, IL**

**Special Meeting**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**I. Meeting Call to Order:**

President Phil Young called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Board members present:** President Phil Young, Commissioner Dean Holliday, Commissioner Gail A. Krmeneč, Commissioner Doug Eaton, and Commissioner Dag Grada.

**Staff Members Present:** Executive Director Amy Doll, Superintendent of Parks & Development Mat Emken, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Heather Collins, Superintendent of Recreation Greg Bruggeman.

**II. Action on the Agenda**

Commissioner Eaton made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Krmeneč. Motion carried by voice vote.

**III. Public Comments**

**IV. Discussion of the Hopkins Pool Analysis Project**

Steve Nelson, Larson & Darby Group and George Deines, Counsilman Hunsaker presented an overview and plan of action for the pool report to the board. They also sought feedback regarding the upcoming process and report.

Mr. Nelson and Mr. Deines posed the questions, “What does a successful pool study look like? What is the future of the pool?” He discussed their plan to work with the board and staff as well as get community engagement. They recently completed a facility assessment.

Mr. Nelson asked, “What do you want from the pool? Where should it be located?” Commissioner Grada stated that we need to be looking at the pool we need 20 years from now and that we should be looking at environmental concerns and sustainable treatment methods. President Young agreed and asked about adding solar or geothermal options. Commissioner Krmeneč further inquired about solar or wind options or partnering with Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District for power. She also wants to ensure that the pool is accessible to all incomes and all ages. Commissioner Grada agreed with Commissioner Krmeneč that financial accessibility is a big concern for the community.

President Young added that a waterpark is not for this community. The Park District needs flexibility for expansion in the future. He is also interested in seeing the cost and ROI on rehabbing the current pool versus building a new pool. He added on other Commissioners concerns that we need to understand what we can afford.

Commissioner Holliday said he supports the zero-entrance pool feature. Commissioner Krmeneč expressed interest in an area for teens. President Young said that cabanas or high-quality shades are a must, the toddler pool is popular, outdoor lockers and various types of seating would be nice. He further requested to see the building design and wondered what the entrances, locker rooms, and check-in will look like. Commissioner Eaton concurred with the other Commissioners.

Commissioner Krmeneč would like to see more integration with pool and park. For example, a two-sided concession that could support the park and be used in the fall or at special events.

Commissioner Krmeneč stated she would prefer that the pool stay in its current location. President Young said he is not certain of the current location due to the dual use with the Terrace Room.

Commissioner Holliday asked about the current pool deficiencies. Mr. Deines stated a list of many current concerns, including condition of the main pool, cracks, concrete chunks, kiddie pool is cracked substantially, decking is shifting, water leakage concerns, ingress/egress to the pool, the pools being tied together, kiddie pool should have secondary sanitation, and gas chlorine.

Mr. Nelson ask, “What level of community engagement are you interested in? Surveys, groups?” Commissioner Holliday responded that community meetings have had very little interest in the past. Commissioner Krmeneč feels that surveys will eliminate a good portion of the District’s demographic. She wants the meetings to go to the residents and reach out to the community leaders. President Young said he would like an online survey and to make meetings at different times, perhaps a Saturday or evening meeting.

President Young and Commissioner Krmeneč each stated that they want the Board to have an active role in the design process.

## **V. Adjourn Public Meeting**

Commissioner Eaton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.