

**MINUTES OF FINANCE MEETING
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Finance Meeting on February 12, 2024 at 6:31 p.m. with President Johnson presiding.

PRESENT: Mottl, Stalker, and Johnson

ABSENT: Buschbach and Donahue

A quorum was present.

BUDGET:

Ron Badali, Superintendent of Finance, stated the purpose of the meeting is to do a high-level review of the revenues and expenses for FY'24 as well as a review for FY'25 Recreation and Special Recreation Funds. Badali discussed the current Fund Balance for the Recreation Fund and the proposal to complete a fund transfer of \$300,000 in FY'25 to the Capital Projects Fund.

Oak View Center

Badali stated the Oak View Center houses and manages the district's pre-school, dance department, fitness programs, art, special events and summer day camps. Also, our Theater and Special Recreation operations fall under the umbrella of the Oak View staff.

Oak View's overall operations have seen a complete return from the pandemic and in most cases their budget results exceed pre-pandemic levels. This includes new and updated programming and restructuring of some of the already successful programs. One instance has been the addition of dance show productions for Halloween and Christmas, which have proven successful both from the participant satisfaction as well as a budgetary perspective. As far as Special Events the Easter Egg Hunt will be moving from Stony Creek to Oak View to accommodate more participants.

Community Pavilion

Badali stated that the Pavilion provides mostly sports and fitness opportunities to our patrons, both indoor as well as outdoor at the Centennial Ballfields.

In FY'24, the Pavilion had seen an increase in revenue in comparison to previous years as the FLASH Program returned to pre-pandemic levels and the rentals for courts and other facility amenities grew dramatically. Staff at the Pavilion also reimagined some of their programming and made it more appealing to current patrons and participants. The FY'25 Preliminary Budget provides for this continued successful approach.

Aquatics

Badali stated the Aquatics facilities operates 2 outdoor pools and rents an indoor pool from a local high school for non-summer programming. This past summer was the first year with our newly renovated Central Pool and the response from the patrons was overwhelmingly positive. Even though most of the project was not visible to the patrons, the operation and quality of the pool was drastically improved. Those amenities included the entry lobby, shade structures, expansion of the pool deck area and the renovation to the men's locker room.

Badali said financially, the Aquatics operations were improved from prior years and the management of lifeguards and managers, which have seen a huge expense increase due to the ongoing minimum wage increases.

- Additional swim lessons slots as these programs have been extremely successful and in high demand from patrons.
- Pool rentals for different types of events continues to grow and we provide a great experience to patrons when they do rent our pool facilities.

In FY'25, the district anticipates the overall performance of the pools to improve.

Theatre

Badali said our Theater has seen a reshaping of productions and an enormous success record to go along with it. The participation of patrons in the productions as well as the huge demand for tickets has been incredible.

So far in FY'24, three of the productions have been in such high demand that we have sold out shows and have added a total of seven additional show which have almost all sold out. As to be expected, the increased revenue generated from all our productions has been impressive and as we plan for our FY'25 production schedule, we have budgeted for this continued upward trend. Staff has done a great job of executing these productions and promoted these opportunities to our patrons and theater goers.

Special Recreation

Badali said the Special Recreation Fund has a separate tax levy and is handled separately from other budgets and funds. The pandemic had a longer negative effect on special rec participants returning to normal activities but in FY'24, their programming and participation has grown to exceed levels prior to the pandemic. The managers of the Special Rec program have done an excellent job adapting participant needs to opportunities.

Badali stated the Special Rec University program has grown and is busting at the seams. The participants are having an incredible life experience, and it has provided some great opportunities to them. Staff also continue to add programming that appeals to our special participants and, through Co-Op relationships, continues to expand these opportunities to patrons not only in Oak Lawn.

Badali said in FY'25, the district anticipates that the Special Rec operations continue to be a huge success story for the Oak Lawn Park District and their positive financial results also allow for additional opportunities and programs.

Badali thanked the Board for their time and stated that over the next few months there may be slight adjustments to the budgets presented however, the Board will be made aware of those changes.

ADJOURN:

Mottl motioned to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.; Stalker seconded.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,


Daniel Johnson, President


Tracey Gallik, Recording Secretary