

Approved

MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024 GLENCOE BEACH AND
LAKEFRONT ADVISORY GROUP MEETING - GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
TAKIFF CENTER, COMMUNITY HALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chair Schneider, and the roll was called.

Members in Attendance: Bart Schneider (Chair), Daiva Calkite, Rada Cheremoshnyuk, Samantha Dobrusin, Rob Green, Anna Guelzim, Julia Lissner, Delta Rae Schonhoft(6:04 pm), Jennifer Rapoport (6:04 pm), Larry Smith, Steve Varick

Absent: Andre Lerman, Ashlee Thompson, Lowell Cantor, Eileen Sirkin

Staff in Attendance: Executive Director Lisa Sheppard, Deputy Director/Director of Recreation and Facilities Bobby Collins, Assistant Director of Recreation and Facilities Adam Wohl, Beach and Ice Rink Facility Manager Shannon Stevens

Public in Attendance: None

Approval of Minutes: Member Smith moved to approve the August 19, 2024, Lakefront Advisory Group Meetings minutes. Member Varick seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote. No further discussion ensued.

Introduction of New Advisory Members: Chair Schneider welcomed all attendees and new and existing advisory members introduced themselves.

Discussion on the Role and Objectives of the Advisory Group: Deputy Director Collins presented an overview of the advisory group's function, emphasizing the advisory role and influence, strategic planning support, liaison role, collaboration with staff and community advocacy.

Deputy Director Collins provided an update on November referendum and its impact on the Glencoe Beach and the lakefront in the coming year. He emphasized that the referendum would fund several critical infrastructure projects aimed at enhancing accessibility, safety, and recreational opportunities at the beach. Planned improvements include a renovation of the Safran Beach House, upgraded boathouse and expanded storage racks, and enhancements to the boardwalk, sun shelters, ramps, and stairways leading to the beach. Collins highlighted that these projects were developed with extensive community input include input from the advisory.

Review of the Lakefront Report for the 2024 Season: Manager Stevens and Assistant Director Wohl provided an in-depth analysis of the past beach season. Key highlights included: pass sales, attendance, staffing, training, water safety and closures, beach programming and events.

Advisory Group Feedback: Members engaged in a discussion regarding revenue generation and alternative funding sources for lakefront operations. Several members raised questions about how current revenue is allocated and whether there are opportunities to diversify funding streams beyond season pass sales and boat storage fees. The group expressed interest in exploring new revenue opportunities, including expanding event offerings and enhancing food concessions. Staff conveyed some of the challenges regarding concessions.

Additionally, members questioned the size of the swim area, discussing whether it could be expanded to better accommodate visitors and improve the overall beach experience. Safety considerations, staffing requirements, and operational feasibility were noted as key factors that would need further evaluation. The importance of gathering high-quality data on resident usage was also emphasized, as more accurate insights could inform future decisions on beach operations and programming.

Given the strong interest in enhancing programming and special events, the advisory group agreed to hold a brainstorming session at the next meeting to develop new ideas for community events, and other engagement initiatives that align with the Park District's goals and the needs of lakefront users.

Matters from the Public: No public comments.

Other: None

Adjourn: Member Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. Member Schonhoft seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by,



Bobby Collins
Deputy Director/Director of Recreation and Facilities