

## **Park District Board 6-5-2025**

This Committee of the Whole meeting was the first Park District Board meeting since the April election. All seven members of the board were present, and the meeting was packed because the public knew this meeting would discuss many controversial subjects.

Issues with the board meeting:

- From the start it was a contentious meeting, with board members voting on the President, VP, Secretary and Treasurer, with three brand new board members occupying these spots. All of the new board members are part of the SPOA (an association related to the Lake)
  - Fred Tiesenga - Pres
  - Keith Nisenson - VP
  - Richard Hickey - Treasurer
  - Jason Heisler-Secretary
- Because of the issues on the agenda, many people signed up for public comments, but the board cut this short by not extending public comment past 30 minutes. Public Comment was mostly about the DEI policy being cut and the park district possibly acquiring Healthbridge.
- The board's first action was to fire Scott Puma, the board lawyer for many years, and hire Eric Anderson, a former Park District board member at a rate 60% higher than Scott Puma's rate.
- Healthbridge - John Green made a presentation and Mayor Haig spoke as part of this presentation
- The board passed a resolution making it more difficult to add an item on the agenda
- The meeting day was moved from Monday to Thursday
- Motion passed to limit the Advisory Committee membership to SPOA members
- Motion passed to terminate the Lake Ecology Intergovernmental agreement - this may result in decisions based on the views/wants of people who live on the lake, not just what's best for the ecology of the lake
- Eliminated the Pier Ordinance that was established in 2018
- Purchase a weeder for the lake (this is controversial)
- Motion passed to rescind the DEI policy (passed 4 to 3)
- Normally a Committee of the Whole is not a voting meeting, but this board decided to vote.

### **Other problems with this meeting**

- No transparency
- Change policies, no recommendations by staff
- Not following Robert's Rules
- It was fairly obvious there was discussion pertaining to the hiring of Eric Anderson and many of the other issues prior to this meeting that violated the Open Meetings Act.

\*The above notes are from both the pdf file of notes and watching the board meeting.