

## February 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes – Draft

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS of the Park District of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois was held at the Administration Building, at 6:00 p.m. on February 20, 2025.

**ROLL CALL:** Commissioner Gillian chaired the meeting.

Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone and Commissioner Gillian – Present.

Staff present Director Iovinelli, Superintendent Murphy, Superintendent Krajewski, Manager Cumbee. Interim Superintendent Lederer, Foreman Marino, General Maintenance Technician - Travis Gruenberg Resident - Sammiejo Oswald

Dominique Mazzulla, Recreation Supervisor (Via Zoom)

Ralph DiFebo, Illinois Prairie Path

Martha Trotter – Sikich

Andrew Paine – Legal Counsel *Arrived at XXX p.m.*

Pledge of Allegiance Recited.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Motion was made by Commissioner Sansone, seconded by Commissioner McDermott to approve the agenda.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

### **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 16, 2025**

*Motion was made by Commissioner Lyons seconded by Commissioner Sansone to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you from WSSRA for our support for the Bocce Tournament.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ralph DiFebo from the Illinois Prairie Path Presented on the extension of the Prairie Path to Forest Park. He discussed their idea to extend the path. Continued with they are conducting a Design and Engineering study. Discussion on what the possibility of a new trailhead in Forest Park would look like. A continued Discussion took place on the different options. He followed with a discussion on returning a Railroad car to make it a center on the trailhead. He is looking for support from the Park District as they move forward with their plans.

Commissioner Doss as if they have had conversations with the Village because it is Village property. His response was they have had individual conversations with board members. He suggested they got out of the Park business.

Commissioner McDermott asked what the estimated timeline to get to this point. His response was that in the spring they want to have a plan. It is a matter of what we have to do to agree to a concept.

She followed up with our role to cut the grass and manage the trolley railroad car? He wants top see if the park is interested before laying out a timeline.

Ralph explained the railroad car would need a concrete pad and a roof and to maintain the outside as it original state.

Commissioner Gillian asked what would our part be? His response was we are not responsible for building the path leading to it just the pad.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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Commissioner Sansone reviewed the disbursements.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Doss, seconded by Commissioner Lyons to Approve Disbursements for January/February 2025 totaling \$110,204.62.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

*Motion was made by Commissioner McDermott, Seconded by Commissioner Sansone to approve the Financial Statements for January 2025.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

### **Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Annual Audit Review**

*Martha Trotter, Sikich Representative*

Marth Trotter presented the 2023/2024 annual audit.

Commissioner Gillian thanked Marth Trotter for the thorough presentation. He asked if there is anything we should be concerned with. A discussion took place in regards to the smaller funds with negative balances. She acknowledged there are funds available in the General and Recreation funds to transfer to make changes to those funds. Director Iovinelli added steps are in place to update those funds. Each year there will be transfers to cover any deficit. Martha confirmed those conversations.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Sansone, Seconded by Commissioner McDermott to accept the fiscal year 2023/2024 annual audit report prepared and presented by staff.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

### **BUILDING & PARKS REPORT:**

Director Iovinelli introduced Travis Gruenberg as the new General Maintenance Technician. She also introduced Barry Lederer the Park District Mechanic who is stepping in in Superintendent Doss's absence. Lederer reviewed the Buildings and Parks report and asked for any questions.

A discussion took place on scoreboards and bleachers for the softball fields.

### **RECREATION REPORT:**

Superintendent Krajewski reviewed her report and answered any questions.

She added about the Outdoor weather detection system. She also reported on Supervisor Mazzulla and Foreman Marino's attendance at the Aquatic Professional Management School they attended.

She added we had a full bus to the Bulls game. A discussion took place in regards to replacing the diving board and the fulcrum. Staff are looking for board feedback on the idea of making a change to the feature area.

Commissioner Gillian asked if we were building a brand-new pool today when looking at liability with features.

Superintendent Krajewski announced Day camp registration starts next week.

### **COMMUNICATION and MARKETING REPORT:**

Manager Cumbee reviewed his report and answered any questions.

He started marketing this summer. He also attended several great sessions at the IPRA Annual conference. He also attended a WSSRA marketing round table this past week. He is working on the first draft of the summer brochure. He also informed the board of the outreach the Park Facebook page is getting.

### **BUSINESS REPORT:**

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Superintendent Murphy reviewed his report and asked for any questions. He added a discussion on hiring. Currently, Dominique has already hired one third of her staff for the summer. He is working with her on the new payroll system. He added about the increase in Minimum wage that occurred on January 1. A discussion took place about salary compression.

Commissioner Lyons asked if staff were doing a Business Department intern again this summer. His response was it is not out of the question.

Commissioner Lyons also asked about the old non-cashed checks.

### **DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Director Iovinelli reviewed her report and answered any questions.

She added the softball field project is finished. We are working on getting the fence down when the spring weather breaks. We continue to work with Larry at H & R with our current lease and rental agreement. She thanked the board for the continued support on this professional opportunity.

**WSSRA REPORT:** Nothing new to report

**PARK FOUNDATION:** Director Iovinelli asked for Board feedback on the by-laws and application form. They will be formally approved at the first meeting in April.

Commissioner Lyons added about the number of members that are Forest Park residents. And reviewed the current seats held.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **Pocket Parks**

##### *Remembrance Park*

**Motion was made by Commissioner Doss, seconded by Commissioner Lyons to approve Pay requestion #7 in the amount of \$22,611.00 to Clauss Brothers for the Remembrance Park renovation as Recommended by Hitchcock Design and staff.**

**Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;**

#### **Roos Recreation Center Expansion**

Nothing new to report.

#### **Pickleball Courts**

Director Iovinelli reported U.S. Tennis Construction came out to look at the tennis court cracks. While they were out, they also looked at the in-line skate rink for the possibly of Pickleball courts. received a quote for permanent pickleball courts at the in-line skate rink. We are waiting for a quote.

#### **Administration Building – Floor Replacement**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Sansone, seconded by Commissioner McDermott to approve pay request #3 to Superior Floors for the Admin Building floor replacement project, in the amount of \$21,000.00, as recommended by staff.**

**Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;**

#### **Harrison Street Expansion – Curbs and Parkway**

Nothing more to report.

#### **IAPD/IPRA Annual Conference – Chicago, IL**

Commissioner Sansone announced there were over 4,000 attendees. Staff and board acknowledge it as a great opportunity.

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### **Business Department – New Full-time Position**

Superintendent Murphy continues to work on the job description and posting.

### **Softball Field Project**

A motion was made by Commissioner Doss, seconded by Commissioner Sansone to approve the final payment request from Clauss Brothers in the amount of \$15,763.72, for the Softball Field Repair Project.

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

**Other Matters for Discussion: None**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Ordinance #250220 Tax Abatement**

*A motion was made by Commissioner McDermott, seconded by Sansone to adopt Ordinance #250220 abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2024 to pay the principal of and interest on the General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2022A, of the Park District of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

#### **OSLAD Grant Schedule**

Director Iovinelli led the discussion on the opportunity of applying for an OSLAD grant. We are looking at the soccer field and playground area. The soccer field is in need of replacement. We will apply for an OSLAD grant to assist in funding that project along with the entire area.

#### **Softball Field Repairs – Bleachers and Score Boards**

Nothing additional to report.

#### **Outdoor Weather Warning System**

Superintendent Krajewski discussed meeting with the company Perry Weather for an outdoor weather system for the park.

Commissioner McDermott was concerned about false positives. She is interested in knowing about updates to the system.

A discussion took place.

Commissioner Gillian requested references from current users.

Commissioner Lyons asked if we could discuss with current users about concerns.

#### **2025 Aquatic Center – Hours & Programs**

Director Iovinelli began the discussion. The hours will not change from the prior year. The evening swimming lessons were during adult open swim. Director Iovinelli also added staff put together a free water safety class for every four-year-old in Forest Park. Staff were able to create a program to accommodate this necessity for safety.

A discussion took place.

Commissioner Lyons discussed that she liked the idea of a free lesson. She would like to learn more about

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the lifeguard saves. She would also like to discuss the statistics.

Commissioner McDermott is an advocate for adult swim. She feels this population is not being heard. She does not agree with swimming lessons during adult swim. She requested staff to be creative.

A discussion took place.

Staff will work together with the board to come up with a solution.

**Other Matters for discussion**

**CLOSED SESSION**

*A Motion was made by Commissioner Sansone and seconded by Commissioner Doss to enter into closed session at 7:26pm to discuss matters concerning Litigation Section 2 (c) 11 and Personnel Section 2 (c) 1.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

*Motion was made by Commissioner McDermott seconded by Commissioner Lyons to come out of Closed Session at 7:50pm*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Gillian, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner Sansone, Commissioner Doss; Nays: None; Absent: Commissioner McDermott*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

*Action Taken: None*


**Public Comment:** None.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Doss, seconded by Commissioner Sansone to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.*

*Roll Call: Ayes: Commissioner Doss, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner McDermott, Commissioner Sansone, and Commissioner Gillian; Nays: None;*

Submitted by:  Secretary

Approved by:  Board of Commissioners

Approved by:  Board of Commissioners

Date: 3/20/25