

FRANKFORT SQUARE PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
July 20, 2023

The following are Minutes of a meeting of the Frankfort Square Park District Board of Commissioners Park District, held at the Administration Building, 7540 W. Braemar Lane, Frankfort, Illinois.

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present were: Commissioners Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Dave Macek, Craig Maksymiak, and Denis Moore.

Absent were: Commissioners Ken Blackburn and Phil Cherry.

Also present were: Audrey Marcquenski, Executive Director/Park Secretary, and Linda Mitchell, Recording Secretary, residents, Ed and Carlene McGill.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Public Input

Mr. and Mrs. McGill, longtime Park District residents, introduced themselves to the Park Board, noting that their family moved to Frankfort Square because of the highly rated School Districts and Park District and her children participated in FSPD tot programs, providing them with a wonderful start towards kindergarten.

The McGill's were present to discuss concerns regarding the pickleball courts at Champions Park, a facility that is close to their home.

The main issue is that large groups arrive in the early morning and remain, playing pickleball until well past 10:00 p.m. at this lighted facility. The highest level of play occurs on weekends with overflow crowds setting up tents outside the facility as they wait for open courts.

The constant play at the courts causes a noise nuisance for surrounding homeowners, diminishing quality of life.

It appears that the pickleball players come from out of town. The traffic causes congestion, and players show little regard for neighbors as they leave drive through the neighborhood at high rates of speed.

Mrs. McGill asked if hours at this facility could be curtailed, affording residents some peace and quiet. She also suggested that the Board consider charging non-residents a fee to use this taxpayer-supported facility, noting a locked gate with a fob entrance may be installed, similar to the gates at the Dog Park and community gardens.

Vice President, Dave Macek, and Treasurer Craig Maksymiak thanked the McGill's for their input, and Mr. Macek noted that Ms. Marcquenski will review the matter with staff and make recommendations for Board consideration.

V. Correspondence

Ms. Marcquenski shared the following correspondence received over the past month.

B. Appreciation

Thank you note received from Indian Trail's SCO leaders, thanking the Maintenance staff for helping with the school's end of year field days event by filling the dunk tank.

Thank you note and team photo received from the Oak Forest High School JV Softball team, expressing appreciation for the Park District's donation of a foursome of golf with two power carts for their fundraiser. The request for support came from the District's longtime Square Links Clubhouse employee, who is also a teacher and softball team coach.

Thank you note received from a 2023 College Scholarship award recipient.

VI. Presentation of the June 15, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes.

Frank Florentine made Motion 23-1855 to accept the June 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Craig Maksymiak seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Ryan Holly, Frank Florentine, Denis Moore, Craig Maksymiak, and Dave Macek. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Motion passed.

VII. Legal Report

Vice President, Dave Macek read Resolution No. 23-07-44, a resolution authorizing the application for an OSLAD grant application for the redevelopment of Hunter Prairie Park into the record, a copy of which was provided to each Board Member in advance of said meeting and asked for consideration of same.

Craig Maksymiak made Motion 23-1856 to authorize Resolution No. 23-07-44, a resolution authorizing the application for an OSLAD grant application for the redevelopment of Hunter Prairie Park as presented. Denis Moore seconded.

Commissioner Denis Moore asked if there are plans to move forward with the Hunter Prairie Park project if the IDNR does not award the Park District with an OSLAD grant. Ms. Marcquenski responded that approval of the resolution simply reflects the District's commitment to the OSLAD matching funds grant program. If awarded a grant, there are options on how to meet the District's financial obligation including using force labor where Park District maintenance staff complete a portion of the work, financing through our local bank, or using a portion of the District's fund balance or budget dollars. The expectation is that the project be completed within two years of IDNR approval.

Ms. Marcquenski further noted that in the event the grant application is unsuccessful, the Park District will move forward with the purchase and installation of playground equipment and then continue the conversation to prioritize projects..

Mr. Macek asked if the plan that is currently displayed at the Community Center was updated following resident input provided during the Hunter Prairie Park Redevelopment public meeting held on June 28. Ms. Marcquenski responded affirmatively, noting that the existing trees that were important to residents are reflected on the plan, as well as three pieces of playground equipment requested by the children that were in attendance that evening which includes a zip line, spinner seat, and climbing web.

To date, the Park District received letters of support from the Superintendents of Lincoln-Way Community High School and Summit Hill School District, Village of Frankfort and Tinley Park officials, local business owners, and residents, an important component of the OSLAD grant application.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Ryan Holly, Frank Florentine, Craig Maksymiak, Denis Moore, and Dave Macek. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Motion passed.

Vice President, Dave Macek read OSLAD DOC-3 Resolution, a resolution acknowledging and certifying compliance with all terms, conditions, and regulations therein, a copy of which was provided to each Board Member in advance of said meeting and asked for consideration of same.

Ryan Holley made Motion 23-1857 to authorize OSLAD DOC-3 Resolution, a resolution acknowledging and certifying compliance with all terms, conditions, and regulations therein, as presented. Craig Maksymiak seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Ryan Holly, Frank Florentine, Craig Maksymiak, Denis Moore, and Dave Macek. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Motion passed.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Vice President, Dave Macek, accepted the June Treasurer's Report, pending audit.

Craig Maksymiak made Motion 23-1858 to accept the Accounts Payable Listing. Denis Moore seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Ryan Holly, Frank Florentine, Craig Maksymiak, Denis Moore, and Dave Macek. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Motion passed.

IX. Executive Director's Report

The Mayor of Frankfort, Keith Ogle, requested to meet with Park Board President, Ken Blackburn, and the meeting will be scheduled in early August.

Ms. Marcquenski reported that the District's Positive Pay system, available through Old Plank Trail Community Bank, successfully identified two fraudulent checks, saving the Park District a total of \$7,308.19.

The Park District received a request from a representative of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who expressed an interest in conducting a US geological survey on the rusty patched bumble bee at Island Prairie Park. The proposed survey is being completed as part of a national bumble bee recovery plan, and our park was identified as a good spot to conduct this research. The Park District will be provided with a copy of the group's survey results.

Ms. Marcquenski is currently reviewing a proposal submitted by Campfire Concepts to develop a combined master plan/strategic plan. The plan will be brought before the Park Board for consideration at the August or September meeting.

Ms. Marcquenski noted that the August Board Meeting will be held at the Square Links Clubhouse, as was decided during the May 18 organizational meeting of the Park Board.

The first Local Government Efficiency committee meeting will be held on September 21, following the regular Board Meeting, and the first draft of the required report will be provided to committee members in advance of this meeting.

The second book in the 2023 Path to Reading series, *Giraffe's Can't Dance*, will be installed at Community Park the week of July 31. This well-accepted project that was introduced in 2022, and moving forward, will be displayed with permanent mounts.

X. Committee Reports

A. Maintenance

The newly hired full-time Maintenance staff member has been absent over the past month due to illness, and is expected to return on Monday, July 31.

Work continues at Champions Park, and to date the fencing and overgrown arborvitaes have been removed. The warning track will be excavated, and the spoils will be used to infill the JV North athletic field to rectify erosion issues at this site.

Maintenance staff replaced railings at the Woodlawn Park fishing pier and will likewise make repairs at the Community Park pier.

B. Recreation

The District's BDC Company dancers returned from the National competition in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and Ms. Marcquenski reported that although it was their first time on a national stage, they did remarkably well, exceeding all expectations and earned multiple trophies and awards. The group, consisting not only of dancers and teachers, but family members, comprised a group of 300+, and all are interested in making this an annual event. Commissioner, Frank Florentine asked if travel costs remained within budget, and Ms. Marcquenski noted that she is awaiting final numbers.

This evening's concert at the Island Prairie Park lakeside bandshell is being performed by John Falsey, FSPD laborer and piano teacher, and Dave Gorka, FSPD's IT contractor.

C. Information Technology

Sufficient information was included in the June Office summary.

D. Special Recreation

Ms. Marcquenski, President of the LWSRA Board, reported that the July 18 Board Meeting detailed the large number of programs offered by the agency and that its summer day camp recorded its highest enrollment numbers, and will conclude in two weeks.

Dave Macek, President of the LWSR Foundation, reported that the August 11 golf fundraiser at The Sanctuary Golf Course in New Lenox has been sold out, however the August 18 golf fundraiser at Green Garden Country Club in Manhattan has foursomes available. Sponsorships are going well, and donations have exceeded those received for the 2022 golf outings, with all money raised benefiting LWSRA.

Mr. Macek reported that two open LWSR Foundation Board Member seats were filled, however the Foundation is looking to fill the recording secretary position.

Keith Wallace, LWSRA Executive Director, has been named USA Wheelchair Softball Coach of the Year.

E. Finance and Planning

No report.

F. Golf Course

Mr. Macek inquired about the restaurant operation at Square Links, and Ms. Marcquenski responded that the owner of Jimbooo's Italian Beef has not yet sold his building in Thornton and is providing intermittent service at Square Links, however he continues to pay rent, per the services agreement.

G. Office

Mr. Florentine commended staff for their efforts in saving the Park District \$2,600 in copier costs over the past year.

Mr. Florentine also inquired about computer issues encountered at the Splash Park this season, requiring manual operation of the components. Ms. Marcquenski reported that replacement of the controls would shut down the facility for the remainder of the season, therefore, repairs will be postponed until the fall.

Ms. Marcquenski reported that front office staff do a phenomenal job in managing daily phone calls that cover a wide variety of matters and requests, ensuring all receive the answers and services the community has come to expect from the Park District.

H. Risk Management

Sufficient information was included in the Executive Director July report.

I. Community Updates

Mr. Macek asked if there were updates regarding the proposed development at 80th Avenue and 191st Street. Ms. Marcquenski responded that the District received a preliminary plan that includes a small tot lot with playground equipment at the northern most boundary of our District and that the developer will meet with FSPD staff in the coming weeks.

J. Freedom of Information

Audrey Marcquenski reported that the District received and responded to two FOIA requests for information over the past month, as detailed in the FOIA cost spreadsheet linked to the July Board Meeting agenda.

The first was from NBC Chicago inquiring about the cost of FOIA's incurred by requests that reach the level of PAC review, of which the District had none.

The second FOIA requested all communication regarding approval, inclusion, rejection, concerns, or complaints related to Scout leaders or parents of BSA Scouts from January 2020 to date. Ms. Marcquenski noted this request involved a great deal of staff time and attorney costs, and served as a good reminder that all Park District documents and communication are public record and subject to FOIA.

XI. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

XII. New Business

No new business was discussed.

A. Commissioner's Comments

Mr. Moore commended John Keenan on his summer band concert selections, noting he has heard good things about the performances from residents and neighbors.

Mr. Florentine expressed appreciation for the great job staff continue to accomplish on a daily basis.

XIII. Executive Session

No business came before the Board that required an executive session.

XIV. Adjournment

Craig Maksymiak made Motion 23-1859 to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Frank Florentine seconded. Motion carried in a vote by voice.

Respectfully submitted:
Linda Mitchell