

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT 6:00 P.M., May 26, 2021 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jacqueline Petty, Vice President Joyce Harant, and President Robert Johnson.

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Joseph Cassidy

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Attorney Bill Streeter, Attorney Kevin Day, Brent Wheeler, Nick Conrad (v), Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Mike Friberg, David Gray, Chief Todd Green, Phoebe Hughes, Peter Kobak, Scott Loftus, Jocelyn McDowell, Mike Miller, Brittany Moldenhauer (v), Shalesse Pie, Yvonne Strode, Nicole Staley, Greg Walker (v), Alicia Woodworth.

(v) = Attended virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1) CALL TO ORDER:

President Robert Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2) ROLL CALL

3) MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

All stood for a moment of silence and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) MINUTES:

4.A. Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2021 – Public Meeting

Vice President Joyce Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of May 12, 2021. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jacqueline Petty, Vice President Joyce Harant, and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays)

5) STAFF REPORTS:

5.A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Emily Cahill reported that due to the weather forecast of rain and cold temperatures for Thursday, May 27 and Friday, May 28, the District is anticipating the cancellation of the Parks on Tap event at Bradley Park.

Executive Director Emily Cahill shared the video of a segment from the Today Show which aired Tuesday, May 25, 2021, highlighting the nation's shortage of lifeguards. She pointed

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out that the lifeguard shortage is not specific to just the Peoria Park District but other Central Illinois park districts and the country as a whole. Scott Loftus, Superintendent of Recreation Services, stated the District currently has 13 lifeguards on staff. Factoring in time off and availability, this equals approximately 6 or 7 full time equivalents. The District currently has 6 people signed up for the lifeguard class scheduled for June 1-3. In order to operate Gwynn Family Aquatic Center, Riverplex Recreation & Wellness Center pool and Proctor Recreation Center pool, the District needs approximately 35 lifeguards. Shalesse Pie, Superintendent of Human Resources, provided information on outreach and recruitment efforts the District is utilizing to attract more lifeguards. They include: posting for lifeguards which began in January of 2021, implementing a lifeguard referral and retention bonus program, participating in the annual ELITE recruitment fair, attending recruitment events at high schools, holding a press conference highlighting the need for lifeguards, reaching out to area high school swim clubs, raising the pay rate from \$11/hour to \$13/hour, and highlighting on the District website the benefits of being a lifeguard at the Peoria Park District. Executive Director Emily Cahill stated if there is not a significant increase in qualified lifeguards, the District will not be in a position to open outdoor pools. If this is the case, the District recommends opening the Proctor Recreation Center pool Monday thru Thursday 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm. If this new schedule is deemed necessary, a significant effort will be made to engage with the community in providing other Park District offerings at the same cost for the pool(s). In addition, Parks on the Go (mobile recreation) services could possibly be extended to focus on those areas where pool activities would be closed or limited due to the lifeguard shortage. The District is also experiencing a shortage in camp counselors and tennis instructors. The alternative offerings would only be possible if adequate staffing is achieved.

The District is also working on updating the annual food vendor licensing as the District moves towards more activities and events. The District encourages those interested to please register again on the Peoria Park District website. A link for vendor registration is provided in the comments section for this meeting on the Peoria Park District's Facebook page.

5.B. Parks Division Report

Matt Freeman, Superintendent of Parks, presented the April Work Order Report. He thanked the Support Service team lead by Matt Majors and the Maintenance & Repair crew in their tireless efforts in readying the pools and splash pads for the season. Thanks also to Dave O'Day and his team for all their efforts.

Matt Freeman introduced Mike Friberg, Park Planner, to discuss the current project of pond dredging at Charter Oak Park. Mike Friberg is the Project Lead for this particular project, utilizing and training on a new dredging machine. This project not only deals with pond management but also the effects of storm water management. Mike Friberg explained what the dredging machine does and its significant benefits to pond management as a whole.

6) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

6.A. Minutes from Golf Ad Hoc Committee: April 2021

Trustee Jackie Petty presented the minutes of the April 12,2021 Golf Ad Hoc Committee for review.

6.B. Planning Committee: May 2021, Request for Approval of Memorials

Becky Fredrickson, Superintendent of Planning, Design & Construction, Matt Freeman, Superintendent of Parks, and Jocelyn McDowell, Development Coordinator presented and gave a brief description of each requested memorial. Trustee Jackie Petty MOVED TO APPROVE all of the memorial requests presented except for the Camp Wokanda Trail Name Dedication which has been previously discussed. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on a unanimous voice vote of the Trustees present. (Results: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays)

6.C. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

Vice President Joyce Harant reported the Finance Committee has examined the listing of payroll and accounts payable and the Committee recommends submitting the listing to the Board of Trustees for approval. Trustee Timothy Bertschy stated he is abstaining from any and all matters relating to this listing of accounts payable including voting, deliberation or consideration as he owns 1% or less of holdings in an assortment of companies included on the current listing of accounts payable. Vice President Joyce Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the current listing of accounts payable. Motion seconded by Trustee Laurie Covington and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Laurie Covington, Jacqueline Petty, Vice President Joyce Harant, and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; 0 Nays)

7) NEW BUSINESS:

7.A. Approval to File Complaint: Hallor

Vice President Joyce Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the filing of a complaint in order to resolve a real estate dispute. Motion seconded by Trustee Laurie Covington and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jacqueline Petty, Vice President Joyce Harant, and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays)

8) CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS:

8.A. 7/24/21 Request for Use – Martin Luther King Jr. Park

8.B. Bid: Bradley Park Tennis Court Surface

8.C. Quote: Forest Park Nature Center Garages

8.D. Bid: Peoria PlayHouse Janitorial Services

8.E. Request for Use: Cry Me a River Trail Run

Vice President Joyce Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the listing of Calendar of Consent Items 8.A. thru 8.E. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote:

Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jacqueline Petty, Vice President Joyce Harant, and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays)

9) **PENDING BUSINESS:** None

10) **CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** None

11) **COMMUNICATIONS:** None

12) **OTHER BUSINESS:** None

13) **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:02 p.m., Trustee Jacqueline Petty MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Vice President Joyce Harant and carried on a unanimous voice vote of the Trustees present. (Results: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays).

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/PeoriaParkDistrict/videos/1103520833473526>

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Secretary to the Board