

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., SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, and Vice President Joyce Harant, President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Deputy Director Brent Wheeler, Attorney Bill Streeter, Attorney Kevin Day, Nick Conrad (v), Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Mike Friberg, Chief Todd Green, Willie Howe, Peter Kobak, Scott Loftus, Mike Miller (v), Brittany Moldenhauer (v), Karrie Ross, Tiffany Shipley, Doug Silberer (v), Greg Walker (v), Sue Wheeler (v) and Alicia Woodworth.

(v) = Attending virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Pittman, Nina Bush, Sara Connor-James, Jenny Tripses, Joyce Blumenshine, Deborah Roethler, Mollye Bright, Kyle Bright, Carita Bright, Corey Gorman, Madison Gorman, Gary James, Tony Jenkins, Catherine Schaidle, Dan Schaidle, Bridget Burke, Jay Goldberg, Nick Maloof, Jim McGinn, Nancy McGinn, Andy Kravitz, Liz Lape, Peter Vermeil, Michael Zagardo, Janice Zagardo, Nancy Spooner, Eric Clifton, Luan Railsbad, Mike Rucker, Susan Canty

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Robert Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:13 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:

Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2021

Trustee Alex Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of September 15, 2021. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

5) VOTE TO APPOINT CENTRAL DISTRICT TRUSTEE TO FILL VACANCY:

Trustee Timothy Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the appointment of Kyle Bright as Central District Trustee. Motion seconded by Trustee Jackie Petty and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

6) ADJOURNMENT

At 6:16 pm Vice President Joyce Harant MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Jackie Petty and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT 6:18 P.M., SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Kyle Bright, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, and Vice President Joyce Harant, President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Deputy Director Brent Wheeler, Attorney Bill Streeter, Attorney Kevin Day, Nick Conrad (v), Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Mike Friberg, Chief Todd Green, Willie Howe, Peter Kobak, Scott Loftus, Mike Miller (v), Brittany Moldenhauer (v), Karrie Ross, Tiffany Shipley, Doug Silberer (v), Greg Walker (v), Sue Wheeler (v) and Alicia Woodworth
(v) = Attending virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Pittman, Nina Bush, Sara Connor-James, Jenny Tripses, Joyce Blumenshine, Deborah Roethler, Mollye Bright, Kyle Bright, Carita Bright, Corey Gorman, Madison Gorman, Gary James, Tony Jenkins, Catherine Schaidle, Dan Schaidle, Bridget Burke, Jay Goldberg, Nick Maloof, Jim McGinn, Nancy McGinn, Andy Kravitz, Liz Lape, Peter Vermeil, Michael Zagardo, Janice Zagardo, Nancy Spooner, Eric Clifton, Luan Railsbad, Mike Rucker, Susan Canty

1) CONVENING OF NEW PARK BOARD

2) CALL TO ORDER

President Robert Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

3) OATH OF OFFICE AND SEATING OF TRUSTEE

Board Secretary Alicia Woodworth administered the Oath of Office to duly appointed Park Board Central Trustee Kyle Bright.

4) ROLL CALL

5) STAFF REPORTS

5.A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Emily Cahill thanked the District event staff for all their hard work coordinating all the fun events and activities this summer. There is a full slate of fun activities planned for this fall including HowlZooWeen and Lakeview Park After Dark. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for approving the attendance of the annual NRPA conference held last week in Nashville, TN by several staff members. Staff and Trustees were also able to attend virtually. The conference was very informative and proved extremely beneficial and worthwhile. She looks forward to presenting to the Board ideas gleaned from the conference at a later date.

5.B. Superintendent of Parks Report

Matt Freeman, Superintendent of Parks, presented the August 2021 Closed Service Request Report.

6) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

6.A. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

Vice President Joyce Harant reported the Finance Committee has examined the bills and moves that the President and Secretary be authorized to issue orders on the Treasurer for the several amounts. 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.

Trustee Laurie Covington MOVED TO APPROVE the current listing of accounts payable. Motion seconded by Trustee Alex Sierra and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Kyle Bright, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, and Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 1 Abstention; 0 Nays)

6.B. Golf Advisory Ad Hoc Committee

Trustee Jackie Petty presented the July 2021 and August 2021 Golf Ad Hoc Committee minutes for review. Trustee Alex Sierra inquired as to the amount of money raised so far for the Stump Carving project at Newman Golf Course. Emily Cahill stated approximately \$2,000 has been raised so far and hope to reach the goal of \$3,000 by the end of the year.

7) NEW BUSINESS:

7.A. Vaccination Update

Emily Cahill stated that the District is actively monitoring all vaccination requirement directives and awaiting the OSHA's determination which will provide guidelines on what government guidelines and expectations are for vaccination requirements. OSHA has been tasked with developing the temporary industry standard and at this time we do not know how that will impact the District. The District hopes to get that information in the next several weeks. The District is currently gathering staff vaccination statuses in order to gauge where the District is for if or when a vaccination requirement is put in place. The District is currently in compliance with Governor Pritzker's Executive Order regarding vaccinations and testing for any personnel who are going into a school to provide District programs. Weekly testing is conducted for those staff members who are not vaccinated and entering schools. The District has over 100 employees and therefore would be subject to the applicable mandate(s).

7.B. Lease Agreement Renewal – Schmoeger Park

Mike Friberg, Park Planner, presented the lease agreement renewal for Schmoeger Park stating the parcels were originally purchased by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to allow for the realignment of Interstate 74. Due to their inability to enter into certain lease agreements, the IDOT transferred title for this property to the

Illinois Department of Conservation (now Illinois Department of Natural Resources) in 1970, allowing them to subsequently lease the property to the Peoria Park District. Staff recommends Park Board authorization to renew the subject lease agreement for the parcels of land at Interstate 74 for Schmoeger Park. The term of this agreement is for a five (5) year period, commencing January 1, 2020, ending on December 31, 2024.

Trustee Jackie Petty MOVED TO APPROVE the lease agreement renewal for Schmoeger Park. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Kyle Bright, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays)

7.C. Glen Oak Park Conceptual Reimagination Approval

Trustee Timothy Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the staff recommendation for the Glen Oak Park Reimagination, provided that no action shall be taken to demolish or remove any portion of the existing bandshell until final design plans for, and the location of, the new bandshell, and the cost to build the new bandshell are presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Vice President Joyce Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Kyle Bright, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays)

7.D. PAV in the Park Term Sheet Proposal

The Pavilion in the Park proposed term sheet was presented to the Board by Executive Director Emily Cahill stating that staff requests the Board to vote on the term sheet at its October 27 meeting.

Representatives of the Pavilion in the Park (PAV) group were in attendance to present their vision for Donovan Park. PAV President of the Board Sara Connor-James enthusiastically presented PAV's proposed addition to Donovan Park sharing the following: The PAV aspires to build a state-of-the-art facility that preserves and advances the Glen Oak Park tradition and its versatility, but in a new location centrally located for all. The PAV's new vision located at Donovan Park, building on Peoria's colorful history of love for the arts, and attracting residents and visitors from across the country and around the world for decades to come. The PAV visionaries are responsive to community needs and interests. One of those ways is in the creation of unique employment and education opportunities which contribute to the cultural quality of life in the Peoria area. Park-goers and patrons will enjoy outdoor seating on tiered berms in the park, with unrestricted views of the stage. The PAV will cooperate and coordinate with all the performance centers in the area and touring entertainers will have one more alternative venue attracting them to Peoria. The PAV will serve all cultural needs by implementing social equity to support access to events and meaningful programming. It will establish guidelines for all performances that would be held in the venue as a cultural arts pavilion and promote culturally meaningful and diverse equity

programming. The proposed term sheet established a proposed lease payment from the PAV to the District of \$100,000 per year. Connor James stated that the PAV has established a creative synergy with the Peoria Park District in the areas of natural habitat, event opportunities and programming and pledge to protect this partnership for decades to come.

Connor-James also shared that the PAV will be using dark-sky ground lighting, meaning no light spill necessitating the move of the Northmoor Observatory. The move of the Northmoor Observatory was never advocated for and was a misunderstanding caused by improper graphics in promotional materials created by Core Construction. She also stated the parking lot will be made from pavers with grass fills and not concrete paved. Rainwater would be used for irrigation. The sound issue is anticipated to be the same as is currently experienced at Glen Oak Park.

PAV Board member and concert promoter Jay Goldberg spoke at length about the planned PAV programming and possible competition with other markets. He believes this is a new type of venue that will not compete with current Peoria venues. PAV wants people on the national and international level to have yet another type of venue to play in Peoria. Trustee Laurie Covington inquired as to why Monarch, Limelight and other venues closed in Peoria. Jay Goldberg stated it was due to owner and management problems. He stated that the heyday of Glen Oak Park Amphitheatre is over as is and that the PAV is not an amphitheater but an indoor/outdoor community performance center. Trustee Timothy Bertschy asked if Mr. Goldberg thinks the PAV would not be successful in another location. He responded stating PAV is committed to bringing this to Peoria. If located elsewhere, the District would not benefit financially and the commitment for supporting Peoria through donation of surpluses would not be as strong.

Sara Connor-James introduced Deborah Roethler, former Assistant City Manager of Peoria to speak about the private/public partnership and economic impact of the PAV. Deborah Roethler stated she is speaking on behalf of PAV as a private citizen and not as a member or employee of any organization. The Peoria area is experiencing a shrinking tax base and creating new revenue opportunities is very challenging. She asserted that well-structured public private partnerships create opportunity and reduces risk. The nonprofit structure of PAV helps reduce the financial risk that for-profit organizations would bring.

Sara Connor-James introduced Carl Cannon, PAV Board member and Peoria Park District employee, to address the Board about PAV's beneficial equity and diversity programs for children. Park District Board President Robert Johnson stated that Carl Cannon is an employee of the Peoria Park District and asked Attorney Bill Streeter if there is a conflict of interest if Mr. Cannon were to speak on behalf of PAV. After discussion, Mr. Streeter advised that Cannon should not speak in his role as PAV Board member. President Johnson requested Mr. Cannon to not speak due to this possible conflict of interest.

Sara Connor-James stated that Carl Cannon spoke at the last PAV presentation to the Peoria Park District Board.

Connor-James shared that Cannon would have talked about the economic impact of the education the pavilion would be providing. PAV would be hosting many educational programs and network of opportunities by bringing kids who are challenged and people who are less advantaged the life-giving experiences because they will have the opportunity to make their lives have purpose. By participating in Mr. Cannon's collaborative programs with PAV, children will have the opportunity to find job skills and interact with people and career opportunities. There is going to be dynamic diversity in what is brought forth in terms of the equity that's available for all of these children and all of Peoria.

Jay Goldberg then addressed the Board concerning Summer Camp University. He stated he wants to give back to the community and he has always tried to give back over the many years in Peoria. PAV is not an amphitheater but a performing arts center. Young people can receive both music education and business education and internships would be offered. Trustee Laurie Covington asked if the internships were paid internships in which Mr. Goldberg stated there would be both paid and unpaid internships available. Trustee Timothy Bertschy asked Mr. Goldberg to define the types of acts and performers who would come to the PAV facility of this size, and also, if there's a market demand for this, why hasn't it already been met after all these years? Mr. Goldberg responded that again, it's a lack of facilities in the market. Trustee Bertschy asked why hasn't a private person or entity seen this opportunity and built this type of facility before? Mr. Goldberg responded that he would love to see that happen and this is that opportunity now. Vice President Joyce Harant stated there are many children who live in the 61605 and 61603 zip codes that normally would not have access to many of these types of venues. How will they even get to or have access to the PAV in Donovan Park? How is that going to happen? Mr. Goldberg responded that if this was on your shoulders, could you find a way? Vice President Harant stated that in the PAV documents she has not seen in writing a commitment to diversity and equity that is so valued at the Peoria Park District. Mr. Goldberg stated that PAV will do everything it can to be a community-based venue and that PAV may not have every question answered on how to achieve things but if you were us, would you be addressing it and come up with a way? Sara Connor-James stated that these are all areas that Carl Canon would lend his expertise to and spearhead its implementation. He is a crucial part in addressing these concerns because he works with kids who are troubled and challenged and need a facility like the PAV to be a good citizen.

Vice President Harant asked Sara Connor-James if the issue of PAV-generated heat and its effect on the Northmoor Observatory had been studied. It was stated that heat is not a problem and will not affect the observatory at all in any way.

Trustee Alex Sierra stated that they've heard good things about this project tonight but what are some of the red flags PAV perceives? She stated that PAV has heard many complaints about the loss of park space at Donovan but the building's footprint is less than 2 acres. The remaining 16 acres will be green space including grass-filled pavers for the parking lot. Also, they will plant over 250 trees to become a sound and light buffer. Trustee Alex Sierra then asked if PAV has had conversations with Proctor Hospital about the proposal and the possibility of using Proctor Hospital's parking lot as overspill, the new structure and its effects on the hospital's operations. Sara Connor-James stated that PAV Board member Karen Stumpe is on the Proctor Hospital board and has had positive conversations with them about PAV, stating they are very enthusiastic about it all. Trustee Laurie Covington requested something in writing from Proctor Hospital showing their agreement and support. This will be provided. Trustee Timothy Bertschy asked if the PAV project would rise and fall on the Donovan Park location? Sara Connor-James replied that the PAV can be anywhere but it's Peoria they want it to be in. The PAV's heart desire is to be in Donovan Park due to the location, accessibility and synergy.

President Robert Johnson commented that we all need to remember that the private sector's primary goal is not philanthropy, but profit. The Peoria Park District's primary goal is public service. The Peoria Park District can never allow our primary goal to be secondary to the private sector. We need to be mindful of the Donovan Park green space. It bothers him to see young minority children paraded around by a private sector organization in order for the organization to claim they serve minorities or receive some sort of a stipend. Children suffer when that does not come to fruition. He sees this happen many times and thanks everyone for their comments and presentation.

Executive Director Emily Cahill stated that there will be two public input sessions concerning PAV in Donovan Park on Tuesday, October 5 and Tuesday, October 26 with the anticipation of Board vote on October 27. President Johnson expressed his desire to move the vote up to October 13.

8) CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEM:

8.A. Quote – Water Play Elements

Mike Friberg, Park Planner presented the quote for water elements stating that two play elements (water cannons) are no longer functioning at Logan Park Splashpad. Staff tried to purchase replacement elements from the original manufacturer, but were told the spray cannons were no longer made, but could be custom manufactured from old templates. A quote was received and approved, and a purchase order issued. Unfortunately, the water cannons never arrived. Staff has attempted further contact with the manufacturer for over a year, and received no response to calls, voicemails, or emails. Staff recently contacted Vortex, the manufacturer of the Proctor splashpad and received a quote for replacement water cannons. Staff is requesting a sole source exemption for the following reasons:

1. Vortex water cannons are in place at Proctor splashpad and have functioned successfully for several years. Staff is satisfied that they will function adequately.
2. Use of Vortex products will allow cross compatibility between the splashpads at Logan and Proctor for equipment spares.

Staff recommends approving the quote from Vortex totaling \$12,269.00 for the replacement of two water play elements for Logan Park Splashpad.

Trustee Alex Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Quote for water play elements for the Logan Park splashpad. Motion seconded by Trustee Timothy Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Kyle Bright, Laurie Covington, Jackie Petty, Alex Sierra, Vice President Joyce Harant and President Robert Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays)

9) **PENDING BUSINESS:** None

10) **CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

The following citizens addressed the Board concerning the PAV proposal at Donovan Park: Nancy McGinn, Peter O'Neil, Nina Bush, Bridgette Burke, David Pittman, Joyce Blumenshine, Janice Zagardo, Corey Coleman, Susan Canty, and Luann Railsback.

11) **COMMUNICATIONS:** None

12) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Trustee Alex Sierra thanked everyone who participated in tonight's meeting. He welcomed new Trustee Kyle Bright and welcome back President Johnson. Recently Trustee Sierra and Peoria Councilwoman Denise Jackson coordinate 1st District tours and he wanted to share some highlights of these tours. Area churches provided bus transportation. The tour had welcomed approximately 150 people. They will continue to reach out to those who participated in the tours and try to connect them with organizations and services they stated are needed. The next steps are they will review the surveys and feedback received.

13) **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:43 p.m. Trustee Jackie Petty MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Alex Sierra and carried on a unanimous voice vote of the Trustees present. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays)

Full discussion can be viewed at the following link: <https://fb.watch/8tSSoiYBFk/>

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