

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE HELD AT 3:00 P.M., MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022 AT THE NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, ILLINOIS.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Trustee and Chair Alexander Sierra, Trustee and Vice Chair Kyle Bright (v), and Executive Director Emily Cahill

Note: (v) = Attended remotely

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Trustees Joyce Harant and Laurie Covington

**STAFF PRESENT:** Emily Cahill, Brent Wheeler, Becky Fredrickson, Kevin Davis, Scott Loftus, and Alicia Woodworth

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Pickleball players Mike Mitchell, Norm Burdick, and Kelly Eckert

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Trustee Sierra presided and called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. MINUTES**

No previous meeting minutes at this time as this is the first meeting of the Programming Committee.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**4.A. Pickleball Discussion**

Trustee Harant stated that she recently met with the pickleball players here today. One of their main concerns is the inadequate number of indoor pickleball courts available year-round. The vast majority of pickleball players are seniors and due to high temperatures in the summer, available indoor courts are needed year-round. In addition, many players are on a fixed income and believe there should be a reduced cost for seniors. A variety of time blocks should be made available in order to accommodate everyone's schedule, including those that work.

Scott Loftus provided a summary of the Park District's current pickleball offerings. An open gym punch card costs \$40 and includes 10 visits. At the door fees are \$5 per visit. During the summer months at Lakeview Recreation Center when camp is in session, both gyms are closed due to 65-70 summer camp kiddos using the gyms, however, Owens Center is then available for pickleball. On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, Lakeview Recreation Center will be open for pickleball mid-October thru May. There are 8 outdoor dedicated courts at Glen Oak Park and 4 at Charter Oak Park. New nets at Charter Oak will be installed this week. There are many other offerings and opportunities the District is planning as well.

Emily Cahill stated that one of the biggest challenges in providing indoor pickleball space is that those spaces are used for other programming as well. In addition, the District relies on rental

income in some of those spaces as that rental income helps to manage the tax subsidy to keep all District-wide programming available.

Through discussion, it was decided that the immediate challenging factors for pickleball players are adequate evenings and weekends court availabilities, indoor availabilities year-round, and having separate availabilities for beginner players and intermediate players. Scott Loftus asked the group to please provide a schedule of what they would consider ideal dates/times. This will be helpful in evaluating new opportunities to play pickleball.

#### **4.B. Scholarship Data**

Emily Cahill stated that today's conversation about the scholarship program is not necessarily a full review of the scholarship program, but to determine what type of data the Programming Committee would be interested in seeing and what is the goal with this data and information. Trustee Sierra stated that a full presentation of the scholarship program was given by Kevin Davis at the 5.25.22 Regular Board meeting. Through discussion, it was determined that the committee would like the following data from the scholarship program on a routine basis: geographical location by zip code, associated household income, school affiliation for those applicants the District already gathers information for, how many people apply and how many people are awarded scholarships. Trustee Covington stated that zip code location does not necessarily reflect household income levels that would be scholarship eligible as there are low income households in all Peoria zip codes.

#### **4.C. Lakeview Rec RFP**

Scott Loftus stated that Body Fitness will be ending their lease with the Park District on August 31, 2022. As such, he is working with Becky Fredrickson to develop a new RFP for the space soon to be vacated. Updates will be provided through the process.

### **5. PENDING BUSINESS**

None at this time.

### **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **6.A. Future Topics Discussion**

Emily Cahill stated that staff would like feedback about what items the committee would like on a standing agenda. It was previously discussed that this committee would meet quarterly and as such, it would make sense to schedule meetings that would align with programming functions and opportunities to report out and preview. Trustee Harant stated that rather than committee meet quarterly, it should maybe meet on a schedule that meets the needs of the programs and how does this committee fit into programming and policy in general. Emily stated that staff could evaluate this and come back with a proposal for how it might all work and where guidance from the committee would be needed.

#### **6.B. Future Meeting Schedule**

Through discussion, it was determined that the committee would meet every other month starting in October.

### **7. ACTION STEPS REVIEW**

1. Present a schedule of meetings along with proposed topics for each.
2. In the next two weeks, get feedback on the availability of RiverPlex in mornings and afternoons for pickleball.
3. Scott Loftus and Kelly Eckert will develop a schedule for opportunity to use FRC in the evenings to complement availabilities at Lakeview Rec Center for pickleball.
4. Work on what a scholarship report will look like.
5. Provide updates on Lakeview Rec Center RFP process.
6. Work on a draft agenda and process for every other meeting starting in October.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:26 p.m., Trustee Bright MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Executive Director Cahill and carried on a unanimous aye of those present.

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