

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. ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

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

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Brent Wheeler, Attorney Bill Streeter, Attorney Kevin Day (v), Nick Conrad, Becky Fredrickson, Chief Todd Green, Mary Harden, Mike Friberg, Scott Loftus, Angela Martiens (v), Jonelle McCloud, Brittany Moldenhauer, Bryan Rodgers, Shalesse Pie, Todd Pilan, Karrie Ross, Edward Spencer, Nicole Staley (v), Doug Silberer (v), Yvonne Strode, Nyk Sutter-Downs (v), Greg Walker, Sue Wheeler (v), and Alicia Woodworth.

Note: (v) = Attended Virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: Friends, family, and supporters of the outgoing and incoming Park Board members.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of Minutes of March 22, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the April 12, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

5. PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 LANDEN MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

President Johnson presented the Landen Memorial Volunteer Service Award stating the following: As many of you know, in 1986 the Board of Trustees established the Landen Memorial Volunteer Service Award, which was established in recognition of Frances "Pat" Landen, a dedicated long-time volunteer. An important part of keeping the spirit of volunteerism alive is to express our gratitude in a tangible way and honor individual volunteers. The Board of Trustees established the Landen Memorial Volunteer Service Award to honor an individual who has voluntarily given of his or her time, talents and skills, thereby assisting the Peoria Park District in the accomplishment of its overall goals.

The nominator, Grandview Drive Manager Andy Ruschmeyer, stated as follows about this year's winner:

Mr. Drew Parker has played a significant role in helping preserve and bring back the beauty of Grandview Drive. He is a full-time attorney here in Peoria and in his spare time he comes to the

park and helps cut trees and brush that obstruct viewing points along the drive. He has fully completed every volunteer requirement and training course which allows him to come to the park and help us clear views. He uses his own tools and has taken the time to obtain more plant knowledge so that he not only helps with cutting of views but also the removal of invasive species. Because of the time he has taken for extended training, he is allowed to work on his own. He has come to me with ideas on projects, and volunteers to help on those projects. He has also taken the time to talk with the Park District about where to focus his efforts next. Let me repeat that, I have a volunteer that routinely comes to me asking for an assignment. That shows me his leadership skills, initiative, courtesy to myself and the public, and most importantly his passion and commitment to his community and the Peoria Park District. I know that he genuinely cares because actions speak louder than words. All that extra time spent learning, training, and physical effort for volunteer purposes should not be overlooked! I've never seen a volunteer do the amount of work he has done for the park in one day let alone what he does in a whole year. Come see for yourself. And keep your eyes peeled because you'll likely see him with his tools in his wheelbarrow heading off to the next spot. President Johnson was pleased to celebrate Drew Parker as this year's winner of the Pat Landen Volunteer Service Award.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 RHODELL E. OWENS DISTINGUISHED GROUP COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

President Johnson presented the Rhodell E. Owens Distinguished Group Community Service Award stating the following: "Our second award tonight is the Rhodell Owens Distinguished Group Community Service Award. Rhodell E. Owens was the Director of Parks and Recreation for the District from 1945-1981. He left a marvelous legacy of service to the community by his involvement with cultural and civic organizations. His name is synonymous with good citizenship and quiet service to fellow citizens and he was a leader in the field of parks and recreation. Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate his life with the Rhodell E. Owens Distinguished Group Community Service Award, to be presented to a local group which has made an outstanding contribution to the Peoria Park District through special donations of dollars, volunteer work, services, etc., and/or ongoing support on a special project for the advancement of parks and recreation that improves the quality of life within the community.

Nominator Tom Miller, Sommer Park Manager, had the following to say about Carla and Steve Montez:

Carla & Steve Montez have been monitoring Eastern Bluebird boxes at Sommer Farm since 2010. Over the 13 years, installing and monitoring boxes have expanded to Tawny Oaks, Donovan Park, Robinson Park and Detweiller Riverside. Currently, there are 55 boxes checked weekly from March 1 to September 1. They keep a weekly record log of all the boxes to document and photograph bluebird nesting behavior and to deter threats by predators like other birds, mammals or snakes. They spend roughly 6+ hours a week (or 150+ hours per active season) monitoring the bluebird nesting boxes.

During the off season, they spend another 20 hours before and after the season repairing boxes, cleaning out boxes, modifying posts and looking at potential new sites for boxes. Prior to regular monitoring, bluebird numbers were low and Carla and Steve's dedication to this species have increased numbers dramatically at Sommer Farm.

Monitoring bluebird houses may seem "fun" but requires work and extra effort. Their conservation endeavors are making a difference in Central Illinois. Cleaning boxes can be dusty and smelly at times and each box is cleaned prior to the nesting season. Mr. & Mrs. Montez continue to make sure boxes are ready at all stages of the life cycles. President Johnson was pleased to invite Steve and Carla Montez to come forward to present this year's Rhodell E. Owens Distinguished Group Community Service Award.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.A. Executive Director

Emily Cahill presented a revised staff recommendation form as was discussed at the last DEIA Committee meeting. Last year the staff recommendation form was revised to reflect the three priority areas that were a part of strategic planning at the time. As part of the next step in this process, the District is including three filters to be part of the recommendation process to the Board: Racial equity Inclusion and Accessibility Analysis, environmental Stewardship Analysis, and Vibrancy Analysis. The District hopes this will help the Board make more well-rounded decisions when staff asks to consider a policy or an opportunity. These three filters reflect the District's three commitment documents; the District's commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility, the commitment to Environmental Sustainability, and the commitment to Vibrancy. This will hopefully show the District's commitment to the work being done, policies, and opportunities that the Board is evaluating.

Trustee Bertschy stated that in the revised recommendation form, one of the primary components commits us to reviewing all of our actions through a DEIA lens. This is no small matter and is a big deal because it's the first time an organization in our community has taken upon itself to examine all of its actions with intentionality and to engage itself in the process of racial equity analysis. This is a process that has been established by communities as big as Seattle and Washington D.C. and as small and close as Dubuque. The State of Illinois itself looked into doing this for State actions approximately a year ago and for a variety of reasons, that bill did not get past the committee it was initially lodged in. When this was presented to the DEIA Committee chaired by Jackie Petty, the Committee unanimously approved it and recommended to the Board it be adopted. Trustee Bertschy stated he believes it would be worthwhile the Board voted on this tonight to make a statement to the community and other park districts in the state that we endorse the concept of a Racial Equity Inclusion and Accessibility (REIA) analysis to be taken in respect to all park districts and reported to the board before they vote on matters that have such impact.

Trustee Bertschy MOVED that the Park District Board Endorses the Concept of an REIA analysis be taken in respect to all matters. Motion seconded by Trustee Bright and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

For clarification, Trustee Sierra asked if environmental stewardship and vibrancy matters are still going through committees prior to being solidified. Emily Cahill stated that they can, but the language on each of the commitment documents ask the same questions. As such, it is applying the commitment documents that guide those different works that have

been approved by the Board. Those pillars are what the District would refer back to as the metric or effort the District is trying to improve. The District wanted to get this document in place as soon as possible and there will certainly be changes/adjustments to it as it is put into practice as this is just the starting point.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.A. Finance Committee – Approval of Accounts Payable

Trustee Sierra reported the Finance Committee has examined the bills and moves that the President and Secretary be authorized to issue orders to the Treasurer for the several amounts shown in the agenda and MOVED TO APPROVE the current listing of accounts payable. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. Commitment to Vibrancy

Receive and file item. Emily Cahill stated that during the first quarter, one of the District's strategic targets was to complete the Commitment to Vibrancy document that accompanies the other two commitment documents previously received by the Board. The vibrancy document was reviewed in the Programming Committee and it was authorized to move forward for receiving file by the full Board. As Chair of the Programming Committee, Trustee Sierra applauded the committee and staff, stating that movement is definitely in the right direction with this document.

9.B. Financial Policies Revision

As Chair of the Finance Committee, Trustee Bertschy stated that the first reading of the proposed financial policies revision was presented at the last Board meeting. The proposed revisions relate to two matters: one, is combining disparate policy books into one policy book containing all the financial policies and two, adopting a policy establishing reserves in each of the District's funds.

Trustee Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the Financial Policies Revision. Motion seconded by Trustee Bright and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

9.C. Agreement – IDOT/PPD Grandview Drive Pavilion

Becky Fredrickson stated that IDOT is in the early stages of the reconstruction of Route 29 from Gardner Lane to the McCluggage Bridge (The Narrows). The reconstructed highway will be widened to accommodate a bicycle and pedestrian facility. The widened highway will impact the historic Grand View Drive Pavilion. Staff has been working with IDOT over the past year to investigate the possibility of moving the Grand View Drive Pavilion away from the highway and back towards the foot of the bluff. Staff has assembled a design team of highly experienced engineers and architects to create these plans.

The agreement before the Board outlines IDOT's proposal to reimburse all design fees for this project. If approved, Individual design agreements will be presented to the Board for

approval. Once the design phase is completed, an agreement with IDOT regarding construction costs will be prepared and brought to the Park Board for approval.

Trustee Harant stated that the funding has yet to be received for the Glen Oak Park project and it has been two years. As such, how does our commitment to enter into these contracts for a certain number of dollars, in terms of the state funding, affect this project? Becky Fredrickson stated that this is very different funding than the Glen Oak Park project funding. IDOT is very good at reimbursing the District for projects that the District work with them on and they are very good to work with in general. Trustee Harant then asked how does the civil engineering work with the structural engineering architect? Becky Fredrickson stated that staff coordinates with all of them and they are all aware of each other. Everyone is very clear of what's required for this project.

Trustee Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the IDOT/PPD Grandview Drive Pavilion Agreement. Motion seconded by Trustee Petty and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

9.D. Lease Agreement - Peoria Area Performing Arts School

Scott Loftus stated that since January of this year, Peoria Area Performing Arts School (PAPAS) has been renting space at Lakeview Recreation Center for various programs. After internal discussions with their team, PAPAS submitted a response to the District's RFP process to lease space at Lakeview Recreation Center. After review of the applications, they were selected to move forward in the process. After discussions between PAPAS and the District, Lakeview Recreation Center would like to lease the large training room, totaling 2797 square feet of space, to PAPAS. The aforementioned training room is located on the main floor on the west side of the building.

PAPAS seeks authorization to use the building as their new school location, which provides performing arts education to students ages four to twenty-one with instruction in acting, theater, music, and show choir. In this fourteen-month collaboration, the District will charge Peoria Area Performing Arts School \$25,200. PAPAS is also interested in collaborating with the District in future programs and events.

Trustee Sierra stated he is excited about this specifically because in the Programming Committee there was discussion about how to address the performing arts gap. So, the opportunity to expand programming with performing arts is evident in this partnership.

Vice President Covington asked if it is a lease or a partnership with the Park District. Scott Loftus stated that it is a lease but PAPAS has expressed interest in collaborating with the District in terms of camps and programming.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE the Lease Agreement – Peoria Area Performing Arts School. Motion seconded by Trustee Bright and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

9.E. Pre-Travel Expenses Approval for Trustees to Attend the Annual IAPD Legislative Reception and Conference

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO APPROVE the Pre-Travel Expenses Approval for Trustees to Attend the Annual IAPD Legislative Reception and Conference. Motion seconded by Trustee Bright and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

10. CANVASS REPORT OF THE PEORIA PARK BOARD OF ELECTIONS COMMISSIONS: CANVASS OF THE VOTE OF APRIL 4, 2023 ELECTION FOR PARK BOARD PRESIDENT, CENTRAL DISTRICT TRUSTEES, AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT TRUSTEE

10.A. Park District Canvass Report

Canvass of the vote for President of the Park Board (At-Large), Vote for 1:

Robert L. Johnson, Sr.: 9,150

Canvass of the vote for Southern District Trustee, Vote for 1:

Alexander Sierra 938

Canvass of the vote for Central District Trustees, Vote for 3:

Joyce A. Harant: 3,205

Mark Berhow: 1,057

Reagan Leslie Hill: 1,779

Nicholas James Baker: 1,539

Steve Montez: 1,871

Trustee Bright MOVED TO Receive and file the certified canvass of the votes cast for Park District Board President, Central District Trustees, and Southern District Trustee in the Consolidated election held on April 4, 2023 in the County of Peoria, State of Illinois. Motion seconded by Trustee Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

(Secretary’s Note: The Canvass Report for The Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria, Illinois Consolidated General Election held April 4, 2023 as certified by the Peoria County Board of Election Commissioners has been placed in the permanent record.)

11. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Sierra MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Harant and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Bright, Harant, Petty, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

* * * * *

1. CONVENING OF NEW PARK BOARD

2. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.

3. OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Both Trustees Kyle Bright and Jackie Petty were presented with gifts of gratitude for their service to the community and the Peoria Park District.

Park District Trustees and staff members thanked and expressed their gratitude to Kyle Bright for his two years of distinguished and valuable service on the Board as Central District Trustee.

Park District Trustees and staff members spoke at length about the lasting impact Jackie Petty has had on the Park District.

4. RESOLUTION 141-1 IN RECOGNITION OF JACQUELINE J. PETTY

Executive Director Cahill read Resolution 141-1 in honor of Jacqueline J. Petty's 24 years of Dedication and service on the Park Board as a Trustee.

Trustee Bertschy moved to approve Resolution 141-1 in recognition of Jacqueline J. Petty. Motion seconded by Trustee Bright and carried on unanimous voice vote (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

5. OATH OF OFFICE AND SEATING OF PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEES

Board Secretary Woodworth administered the Oath of Office to duly elected Park Board President Robert L. Johnson, Sr., duly elected Park Board Central District Trustees Joyce A. Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill, and Steve Montez, and duly elected Park Board Southern District Trustee Alexander Sierra.

6. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

- 6.A. Bid – Forest Park Nature Center Exterior Door Replacement**
- 6.B. Bid – Franciscan Rec Center Roof Coating**
- 6.C. Bid – Rock Island Greenway Bridge Repair**
- 6.D. Quote – Equipment Service Center HVAC**
- 6.E. Quote – Shelter for Logan Park**
- 6.F. Quote – Grandview Drive Pavement Patching**
- 6.G. Proposal – Construction Engineering & Testing for Bridge Repair**
- 6.H. Proposal – Site & Civil Engineering Services for GVD Pavilion**
- 6.I. Proposal – Structural & Architectural Services for GVD Pavilion**

Trustee Bertschy asked that when proposals are presented for approval in Calendar of Consent, and the winning proposal provides us with their documentation about whether or not they're an MBE or WBE, etc., is there a way for the Board to know whether the other companies that submitted proposals are MBE or WBEs, etc.? He'd like to know that information of those that submitted a proposal but did not win. Becky Fredrickson stated that information is provided on the staff recommendation. Trustee Bertschy then stated he would like to see added to the workforce profile sheet, as part of the District's DEIA work, a category on which of their employees have identified as disabled. Becky Fredrickson stated that can definitely be added. She asked if this should be discussed in committee to also add veterans? Trustee Bertschy stated yes, he'd like to see that included in the next DEIA Committee meeting for discussion as well and he'd like to see those items included in the company's workforce profile listing.

Trustee Montez requested item 6.E. be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Trustee Harant MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent items 6.A. thru 6.D. and 6.G. thru 6.I. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

Trustee Montez asked, in regards to item 6.E., if the new shelter at Logan Park will be placed in the same spot as the current shelter. Becky Fredrickson stated that the District recently received a grant from the City of Peoria where additional improvements to Logan Park will be completed. There will be a new playground to the south of the splash pad and this new shelter will be west of the splash pad. As such, this will be an additional shelter, bringing the total shelters in that park to three.

Trustee Montez MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent items 6.E. Motion seconded by Trustee Bertschy and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

7. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

8. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None at this time.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you notes to the Park District were submitted for review.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Bertschy congratulated those now sitting on the Board that won the recent election, both incumbent and welcomed new Trustees. He and fellow Trustees look forward to working with everyone going forward in the next couple years.

11. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

1. Continue the next steps in the implementation of the staff recommendation form that was approved in tonight's prior meeting.
2. Assess the addition of columns in the workforce profile document to include disabled and veterans on bids and discuss that in the next DEIA Committee meeting.
3. Staff will work with President Johnson to finalize committee placements for the next Board meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:27 pm Vice President Covington MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 7 Ayes; 0 Nays).

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

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