

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, AT 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 HELD AT THE PEORIA ZOO TROPICS CLASSROOM, 2320 N PROSPECT ROAD, PEORIA IL

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Timothy Bertschy, Joyce Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill, Steve Montez, Alexander Sierra (arrived at 6:57 pm), Vice President Laurie Covington, and President Robert Johnson.

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None.

Note: Trustee Sierra arrived at 6:57 pm and therefore, was unable to vote or participate until item 10.A.

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Brent Wheeler, Attorney Kevin Day, Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Todd Green, Scott Loftus, Willie Howe, Jonelle McCloud (v), Brittany Moldenhauer (v), Karrie Ross, Doug Silberer (v), Nicole Staley (v), Yvonne Strode, Bob Streitmatter, Greg Walker, Sue Wheeler (v), and Alicia Woodworth.

Note: (v) = Attended Virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: Jenny Winne of the East Bluff Community Center and Letitia Clemmons, Principal of Glen Oak School.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. MOTION TO PERMIT TRUSTEE TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

No request to attend meeting electronically was received.

4. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. MINUTES

5.A. Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

The September 13, 2023 Regular Board meeting minutes will be once again presented for approval at the next Board meeting on October 25, 2023, as Trustees did not have adequate time to review prior.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.A. Executive Director

Executive Director Cahill thanked Yvonne Strode and Bob Streitmatter for hosting tonight's meeting at the Peoria Zoo. This is certainly a busy time of year for Zoo staff with Howl-Zoo-Ween and the mum show at Luthy Botanical Garden. Hot dogs

and Hayrides will be held this Friday at Bradley Park and everyone is encouraged to attend. Big thanks to all staff for all their work in the upcoming fall event season.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.A. Finance Committee - Approval of Accounts Payable

Trustee and Finance Committee Chair Bertschy reported that the Finance Committee met and has examined the bills and found without exception. Therefore, as Chair of the Finance Committee, Trustee Bertschy 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, Harant, Hill, Montez, Sierra, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.A. RiverPlex/YMCA Agreement Renewal

Brent Wheeler stated that the Peoria Park District's RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness Center collaborated with the Greater Peoria Area YMCA on a dual access agreement starting in 2022. Due to the very favorable response from the community, it is the desire of both entities to continue the agreement in 2024 with only a few minor changes to the arrangement. The agreement before you this evening has been recommended for approval by the RiverPlex / YMCA Joint Operating Committee. Staff recommends approval of the RiverPlex / YMCA Dual Access Agreement in 2024.

Trustee Montez **MOVED TO APPROVE** the RiverPlex/YMCA Agreement Renewal. Motion seconded by Vice President Covington and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

8.B. Lease Agreement – African American Hall of Fame Museum

Scott Loftus stated that since 1988, the African American Hall of Fame Museum (AAHFM) has been located at Proctor Recreation Center. Their mission is to educate through preserving and promoting art, history and artifacts highlighting African American achievements from the Peoria area and beyond. With the growing programming with STEAMrollers and other programs like DREAM², Proctor Center needs additional classroom space. The room where the AAHFM currently is located will become a dedicated area equipped with equipment and resources for children to engage in hands-on creative activities and projects. This space will promote creativity, exploration, and skill development. In the spring of 2023, staff worked with members of AAHFM to identify a location to move the museum. After discussions between AAHFM and the District, Noble Center would like to lease Classroom 149 and Book Court, totaling 975 square feet of space, to AAHFM. Classroom 149 is located at the end of the hallway on the main floor and the Book Court is in the main lobby area. As such, staff recommends the approval of the attached twelve-month Lease Agreement between the Pleasure Driveway and Park District of Peoria, IL and the African American Hall of Fame Museum for use of space at Noble Center.

Trustee Bertschy MOVED TO APPROVE the Lease Agreement with the African American Hall of Fame Museum. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays)

8.C. Policy Revision – Electronic Attendance at Meetings

Presented for first read, Emily Cahill stated that recently, the Open Meetings Act was revised to allow remote attendance due to unexpected childcare obligations. As such, this new exception is added to the Park District’s Electronic Attendance Policy.

9. CALENDAR OF CONSENT ITEMS

9.A. Purchase of a Toro Groundsmaster 3500-D Mower per Sourcewell Contract

9.B. Purchase of a Toro Reelmaster 3555-D Fairway Mower per Sourcewell Contract

9.C. Purchase of a Ventrac Tractor 4520P per Sourcewell Contract

Vice President Covington MOVED TO APPROVE Calendar of Consent items 9.A. thru 9.C. Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustees Bertschy, Harant, Hill, Montez, Vice President Covington, and President Johnson. (Results: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays).

10. PENDING BUSINESS

10.A. Citizen Advisory Ad Hoc Committee

President Johnson stated that as described in the agenda attachment, he has determined that it is in the best interest of the Peoria Park District to create a Citizens Advisory Committee focused on gathering feedback from community members who represent a cross-section of the communities served. The committee will be created as an ad hoc committee. If the focus and function require it, the committee will be added to the policy manual as a standing committee.

Trustee Harant stated that this does not reflect what was voted upon at the 9.13.23 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee/Board of the Whole meeting, nor the 9.27.23 Regular Board meeting and as such, is not a “pending” matter. Vice President Covington stated that this is an entirely new item and should be discussed as such.

President Johnson stated that he thought that the Citizen Advisory Committee should instead be an ad hoc committee.

Trustee Harant stated that as an ad hoc as presented, it removes the Board’s advice and consent in appointing members to the committee. At the 9.13.23 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee/Board of the Whole meeting, the Board voted unanimously *to recommend to the full Board that the President be empowered to appoint, with the advice and consent of the majority of the Park District Board, representatives to a community feedback panel, consisting of two (2) people from the Southern District, six (6) people from the Central District, four (4) people from the Northern District, and three (3) people At-Large, which would be empowered and requested to meet with the Park Board, on a quarterly basis, to give feedback on Park District programs, planning, activities, and properties, and that*

further, this panel, at the discretion of the President of the Park Board, would be allowed to serve as “secret shoppers” to attend select Park District events or activities, and provide feedback to the Park Board on those matters. This motion was then presented at the 9.27.23 Regular Board meeting for Board approval at which time President Johnson postponed due to the absence of two Trustees. That original motion is not presented tonight for approval.

Vice President Covington stated that she too disagrees with this being presented in pending business as an ad hoc committee as there were several discussions about this at prior meetings where unanimous agreement was reached by the Board in the 9.13.23 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. It was important to the Board that they all recommend for approval the members of the Citizen Advisory Committee. As presented tonight as an ad hoc committee, that is no longer the case, where only the President appoints the members to the committee.

President Johnson stated that that’s not necessarily true, so this will need to be put on a future agenda for discussion.

Trustee Bertschy stated that it clearly is true, and the Board voted unanimously at a Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting that a majority of the Board would approve the President’s appointments to the Citizen Advisory Committee and at that time, it was not presented as an ad hoc committee. President Johnson came up with the idea of a Citizen Advisory Committee in which Trustee Bertschy stated he believes is a good idea. Trustee Bertschy believes that collectively, the Board should appoint people to this committee and agree who those people will be. They’re representatives of the Park District, one way or another, but not elected trustees.

President Johnson stated that as a matter of time, this will be tabled again, come back to discuss, bring back the minutes from the last meeting and see where we were. He stated that per policy, if the committee did not work out, as an ad hoc committee it could be dissolved as it wasn’t a standing committee to start off with.

Executive Director Cahill read the original motion that was voted upon at the 9.13.23 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. It read: *At its 9.13.23 meeting, the Strategy Ad hoc Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board that the President be empowered to appoint, with the advice and consent of the majority of the Park District Board, representatives to a community feedback panel, consisting of two (2) people from the Southern District, six (6) people from the Central District, four (4) people from the Northern District, and three (3) people At-Large, which would be empowered and requested to meet with the Park Board, on a quarterly basis, to give feedback on Park District programs, planning, activities, and properties, and that further, this panel, at the discretion of the President of the Park Board, would be allowed to serve as “secret shoppers” to attend select Park District events or activities, and provide feedback to the Park Board on those matters.*

Trustee Bertschy MOVED that the President be empowered to appoint, with the advice and consent of the majority of the Park District Board, representatives to a community feedback panel, consisting of two (2) people from the Southern District, six (6) people from

the Central District, four (4) people from the Northern District, and three (3) people At-Large, which would be empowered and requested to meet with the Park Board, on a quarterly basis, to give feedback on Park District programs, planning, activities, and properties, and that further, this panel, at the discretion of the President of the Park Board, would be allowed to serve as “secret shoppers” to attend select Park District events or activities, and provide feedback to the Park Board on those matters. Motion seconded by Vice President Covington 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).

11. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Jenny Winne Executive Director of the East Bluff Community Center addressed the Board, thanking President Johnson for inviting her tonight. She provided background information on the East Bluff Community Center and stated that they would love to explore any collaborative opportunities with the Park District to help serve the community.

Letitia Clemmons, Principal of Glen Oak School addressed the Board, thanking President Johnson for inviting her tonight and stated she is willing to collaborate with the Park District in any way possible to address the issues experienced in her school’s neighborhood and the community as a whole.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

12.A. Golf Benefit for Seniors

An email promoting free golf for patrons in their 90’s was received. Through discussion, the Board directed that this matter be discussed for recommendation at the next Golf Ad Hoc Advisory Committee meeting.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

None noted at this time.

14. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

1. Place the “Golf Benefit for Seniors” communication on the next Golf Ad hoc Committee meeting agenda for discussion.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:26 pm, Trustee Sierra 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/nHOIezhzul/>

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