

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS HELD AT 5:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024 AT THE NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Steve Montez and Reagan Leslie Hill, and Executive Director Emily Cahill

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee and Finance Committee Chair Timothy Bertschy

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Laurie Covington, Joyce Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill, Steve Montez, Vice President Alexander Sierra, and President Robert Johnson

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Matt Freeman, Becky Fredrickson, Scott Loftus, Shalesse Pie, Karrie Ross, Attorney William Streeter, and Alicia Woodworth

1. CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Montez presided and called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. CALL FOR A MOTION TO PERMIT MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETING REMOTELY

No request to attend meeting electronically was received.

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of February 28, 2024, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Executive Director Cahill MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the February 28, 2024, Finance Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Montez and carried on the following roll call vote: Trustee Hill – Abstain, Trustee Montez- Aye, and Executive Director Cahill – Aye. (Results: 2 Ayes; 1 Abstain; 0 Nays)

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.A. Review of Accounts Payable

The Finance Committee members present confirmed they had reviewed the current listing of accounts payable and bills and had no questions or comments. Trustee Hill MOVED TO RECOMMEND the accounts payable and bills be presented to the full Board for approval and payment. Motion seconded by Executive Director Cahill and carried on a unanimous aye of those present.

6. PENDING BUSINESS

Vice President Sierra asked what finance policies are being discussed currently or planning to be discussed in the near future? Karrie Ross stated that currently, there are two planned to be discussed this year – debt policy and capital policy. She hopes to have a draft of the debt policy for discussion at the next Finance Committee meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

President Johnson stated that he wants a financial synopsis and give the Board a view of how much capital funding is needed in three areas: the Peoria Zoo, remaining funding for Glen Oak Park,

and the Owens Center. Trustee Harant stated that this topic is being brought up because of the upcoming IAPD Legislative Reception Dinner and subsequent Conference. Legislators will be in attendance and that will be a great opportunity to ask them for or informing them of the Park District's upcoming and urgent capital funding needs.

Trustee Montez asked if any of the capital funding needs noted is related to the outstanding funding the District is still waiting for. Executive Director Cahill stated that that is a great question and that the hard part with most of that is there is a time limit of 24 months to spend those grant dollars once they're awarded. That being the case, it makes it difficult for projects like the reimagination of the Owens Center as the scope hasn't even been determined yet. However, it may still be a good idea to discuss possible future funding needs with legislators if for no other reason than to get them to start thinking about it.

Vice President Sierra stated that he still has reservations about future announcements of funding or activity, more specifically, the upcoming Park-a-Palooza press conference with Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth, the Park District has not received that funding. Maybe there needs to be some strategic conversations about when and how the District holds press conferences and its status in the budget process. Vice President Sierra stated that in summary, he just wants to make it clear that he has strong reservations about the Park District continuing the practice of announcing money before it's fully appropriated.

Executive Director Cahill clarified that the upcoming press conference does not tie to money in the FY24 budget. It's tied to a supplemental budget for this current year (FY23). So, while those dollars have not been allocated, the Park District has, through conversations with the Board, allocated dollars and committed them to those vendor contracts for Park-a-Palooza to be held June 6, 7, and 8. Regardless, we need to promote the fact that Park-a-Palooza will be held again this year and that the website goes live so people can buy tickets to the events and start to anticipate it.

8. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

1. Staff will work on a document that outlines the District's operational and capital funding needs to be provided for informal discussions with legislators at the upcoming IAPD Legislative Reception Dinner.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:34 pm, Trustee Hill MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Executive Director Cahill and carried on a unanimous aye of those present.

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary