OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE STRATEGY AD HOC COMMITTEE/BOARD OF THE WHOLE OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, AT 4:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026 HELD AT THE BONNIE NOBLE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA IL

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Joyce Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill (in at 4:42 PM), Alexander Sierra, Ron Silver, Mark Slover, Vice President Steve Montez, and President Robert Johnson

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill, Nick Conrad, Becky Fredrickson, Karrie Ross, Jennifer Swanson, Willie Howe, Chief Aaron Watkins, Attorneys Kevin Day and Justin Gunn, and Alicia Woodworth

OTHERS PRESENT: Karrie Alms

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Johnson presided and called the meeting to order at 4:42 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

3. MOTION TO PERMIT TRUSTEE TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

No request was received to attend meeting electronically.

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2026 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Trustee Silver MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the June 10, 2026 Strategy Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Note: Trustee Hill arrived at 4:42 PM and, having not been present during consideration of these minutes, did not vote on their approval.

5. POLICY/PROCESS UPDATES

None at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.A. DEE Amphitheatre Update

Executive Director Cahill provided an update on the DEE Amphitheatre project. She reported that the City of Peoria and Terra Engineering continue to work through the bid process, with bid documents anticipated to be released in July. Staff discussed development of a business plan, pro forma budget, and an updated intergovernmental agreement for operations once bid information is available. Trustees discussed staff's operational input into the project design, potential impacts on cultural festivals during construction, future operating costs, funding sources, and the need to ensure the facility remains financially sustainable.

6.B. Illinois American Water Update

Executive Director Cahill reviewed correspondence received regarding Illinois American Water's tariff position and discussed potential legislative relief. Trustees discussed pursuing a bipartisan approach, identifying other affected public entities and large water users within the Peoria tariff area as potential partners, participating in Illinois Commerce Commission proceedings, and coordinating future outreach to legislators.

Executive Director Cahill reported that staff would identify an upcoming Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) hearing and determine Park District representation to provide public comment. She also indicated staff would seek to identify public and private entities within the Peoria tariff area that may have an interest in pursuing legislative relief and would work with trustees experienced in legislative matters when appropriate.

6.C. Police Security Update

Executive Director Cahill and Chief Watkins provided an update on police and security initiatives, including recruitment for lieutenant and sergeant positions, implementation of Axon body camera, in-car camera, and Taser technology, grant opportunities, and enhanced coordination with the City of Peoria Police Department. Trustees commended staff and police for the successful security operations during the Juneteenth events and discussed opportunities for Board member ride-alongs with Park District Police.

7. PENDING BUSINESS

None at this time.

8. CITIZEN REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Karrie Alms addressed the Board regarding the minutes of the May 6, 2026 Special Board meeting, expressing concerns that they did not accurately or completely reflect the proceedings. She discussed the chronology of events, the omission of certain trustee discussions and public comments, parliamentary procedure, and compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Ms. Alms requested that the Board defer approval of the May 6 meeting minutes until they could be revised to more accurately reflect the meeting proceedings.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Becky Fredrickson advised the Committee that the City of Peoria is moving forward with the proposed West Main Street Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District, extending from Monroe Street to University Street on both sides of Main Street. She informed the Committee that a Joint Review Board meeting was scheduled for the following week and that additional meeting information would be provided to the Board.

Trustee Harant informed the Committee that the Graceland Center for Purposeful Aging is working with Peoria Township on a proposed Senior Center Feasibility Committee, which the Township is expected to consider establishing at its July 14 meeting. Discussion centered on whether the Park District should have representation on the committee. Trustees expressed concern that appointing a trustee to the nine-member advisory committee could create a potential conflict of interest if the committee were to recommend a tax levy or other funding mechanism that could ultimately benefit Park District programming. Staff suggested that participation on a working subgroup or through a staff representative may be more appropriate than appointing a trustee to the primary committee.

9.A. Approval to Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent

At 5:56 PM, Trustee Silver MOVED TO CONVENE Closed Session Under Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. Motion seconded by Vice President Montez and carried unanimously on roll call vote.

At 6:33 PM President Johnson reconvened the Strategy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

10. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

1. Staff will share the City's DEE Amphitheatre bid package with the Board once it is finalized and publicly released. Staff will then return to the board after bids are received to review project costs, funding gap, potential funding sources, operational implications, and the Park District's options.
2. Regarding the Illinois American Water update, staff will research upcoming ICC hearings and determine who should present the Park District before the ICC. Staff will identify public and private entities within the Peoria tariff area that may wish to join in seeking legislative relief.
3. Regarding the Police Security update, staff will complete interviews for the Police Lieutenant and Sergeant positions. In addition, staff will bring the proposed Axon body camera, in-car camera, and Taser contract to the July 8 Regular Board meeting. Staff will continue identifying alternative funding sources for police staffing and public safety programming. Staff will coordinate trustee ride-alongs with Park Police for any interested Board members.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:34 PM, Trustee Silver MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Slover and carried unanimously on voice vote.

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Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Board Secretary