



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners

Goldberg Administration Center
3301 Flossmoor Rd., Flossmoor, IL 60422

Minutes of August 20, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President Ojode. Commissioners Coderre, Dennison, Johnson and Ojode were present. Also present were Executive Director Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Patrick McAneney, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Gianatasio, Coyote Run Golf Course Manager Tom Denklau, Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Freeman, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, Irwin Center and The Clubhouse Manager Oralethea Davenport, Recreation Supervisor Ethen Frierson and Secretary Anne Brabec. Visitors who signed in were Andrew Schwartz, Cathy Davis, Yacharg Linnech, Bob Peick, Valerie Franklin, Richard Porter, Mary Parker, Jennifer Furey, Shelley Young, Angela Weathers, Adrienne River, Michelle Parks, Mary DeBiasio, Delois Anderson, Dan Bleslada, Bob Frick, Troy Holmes, Wertiseen Bradley and Raissa Katz-Hass. Commissioner Bachus was absent.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – Item 10, Executive Session and Item 11, New Business were removed.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – Executive Director Boehm asked Superintendent Gianatasio to introduce Recreation Supervisor Ethen Frierson, who has been with the park district for about a month and is in charge of AM Club, Extra Innings, Teen Camp and Hobo Jungle.

Visitor Adrienne River re-introduced herself as a representative of the pickleball community and thanked the park district for considering their input and revising the plan for pickleball lines on the RFC indoor courts.

Several additional visitors spoke with concerns regarding tennis or pickleball courts and/or programming, including Angela Weathers, Sheryl Hammonds, Andrew Schwartz, Richard Porter, Valerie Franklin and Raissa Katz-Hass.

Executive Director Boehm indicated staff are still working on the best plan for the dominate lining of the RFC courts after they are resurfaced. He also indicated that the new racquet sports program supervisor has only been with the park district for three months and needs a little more time to continue to develop the programs so that both tennis and pickleball succeed.

A community meeting is scheduled at the Racquet & Fitness Club on Wednesday, August 21 at 5:30 pm to hear concerns and input.

Nate Schwartz shared that at a recent visit to Apollo Park, the restrooms were locked, the water fountains not working and a handmade “trashketball” sign posted.

Commissioner Johnson indicated that the Board’s perspective is to find a balance for the entire community while dealing with financial realities. Vice President Ojode thanked visitors for attending the meeting and for their input and invited them to stay for the remainder of the meeting if they would like.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes - July 16, 2024
- b. Approval of HFPD Mission Statement

c. Dental Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the proposed policy from Ameritas Dental Plan for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

d. Life Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the policy proposed by MetLife to provide a \$100,000 life insurance plan for all full-time employees for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

e. Irwin Community Center Generator

A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning to approve the proposal from Buckeye Power Sales in an amount not to exceed \$58,441.00.

f. Flossmoor Hills Fence

A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the proposal from K Brothers Fence in an amount not to exceed \$26,900.

g. Resolution of Authorization

A Resolution certifying and acknowledging that the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District has the sufficient funds necessary (includes cash and value of donated land) to complete the pending OSLAD project, Irwin Park, within the timeframes specified herein for project execution.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Johnson and Ojode. Nays: none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Racquet & Fitness Club Indoor Courts

There were no additional comments as this topic was already covered during Comments From Visitors.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Medical Insurance Renewal

Superintendent Garrity reviewed the annual insurance renewal process and the justification for keeping the current grandfathered Blue Cross/Blue Shield HMO and HSA/PPO plans. Renewal of these plans falls below budget by approximately \$34,700. Commissioners Dennison and Johnson both spoke in favor of continuing with the grandfathered plans, and Commissioners Coderre and Ojode agreed.

Commissioner Coderre moved to approve the renewal of the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield HMO and HSA/PPO employee medical insurance policies for October 2024 through September 2025. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Johnson and Ojode. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Racquet & Fitness Club Fees & Charges

Executive Director Boehm reviewed the recommended minimal fee increases. Commissioner Coderre inquired about comp rates; Executive Director Boehm indicated research had been done and he will forward the report. Commissioner Dennison commented she is glad fees are being streamlined; they will be easier for both staff and members.

Visitor Wertiseen Bradley asked if there will be an increase in the membership fee and if that fee is the same for both pickleball and tennis memberships. At this time, membership fees are not changing and the Racquet Sports Membership is the same cost for players of both sports. Another visitor inquired how long it had been

since court fees were increased; it has been 15 years.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the H-F Racquet & Fitness Club tennis convenience fee, guest fees, and court fees and times as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Johnson and Ojode. Nays: none. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioners Coderre asked why she saw GoldyLocks at the Ice Arena; Superintendent McAneney indicated they were working on the handicap door opener.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the claims list in the amount of \$527,779.73. Commissioner Coderre seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Johnson and Ojode. Nays: none. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING July 31, 2024

Commissioners had no comments or concerns.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Executive Director Boehm

- The park district has been officially removed from the Heather Hill lawsuit.
- Asphalt repairs around the district have begun
- Asked Manager Vargo to give an update on the injury which occurred the day before at Irons Oaks; kudos to the staff for handling everything so well
- Discussions with the Village of Homewood regarding Tower Park have begun. The next step will be to hold a community meeting.

Commissioner Coderre

- Saw some nice graphics related to sponsorships included in the board materials and asked Director Boehm for more information on this newer initiative. He answered that the park district hired a third marketing person to address sponsorships within our community. After initially organizing, researching, meeting with staff and putting packages together, she has now begun to solicit potential sponsors. She has already had a good response and we're really excited about her progress. The first major event targeted is Halloween Happenings.
- Wondered how work is going on the Master Plan. Director Boehm indicated a lot of work is being done. Commissioner Coderre thanked everyone for participating and keeping everything on target; it will be a great tool once it is completed.
- Based on the recent weather, summer is coming to a close – thank you everyone for a great summer.

Commissioner Johnson

- Thank you to Mike (Gianatasio) and Jennah (Carlson) for a great pool season; it's a lot of effort for a very short period of time but it is truly appreciated by the community.
- Thank you to Cheryl Vargo and the staff at Irons Oaks. Their camp numbers were crazy; they served a lot of kids this summer, and that's great.

Commissioner Dennison

- Welcome, Ethen (Frierson)! You're going to have a blast with all of those EI and Extra Innings kids!
- It was interesting to see in the pool revenue that daily admissions were about \$65,000 and memberships \$72,000, so that the two are about the same.
- Jennah (Carlson) builds a great team at the pool; received compliments almost daily about the staff. Congratulations on the two 5-star reviews. She has known one of the lifeguards since he was little and he is now a naval officer candidate. He indicated he truly had a great four years working at the pool and

she is very proud of him.

- Enjoying Christine's (Banks) new Insta reels as well as the sponsorship marketing materials.
- Great to see the scheduled February ice competition.
- Who is going to be on the park district curling team?
- Great numbers on personal training at RFC; very impressive.

Commissioner Ojode

- Ditto on everything that was said.
- Again, welcome Ethen (Frierson).
- Can't believe summer is over, it's been a busy one. Thank you to all of the staff for keeping everything going, we can't say enough. Excited to see what the upcoming holiday seasons will bring.
- Will check out the Insta reels as her homework.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Douglas P. Boehm, Secretary