



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

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

**Minutes of August 19, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Bachus. Commissioners Coderre, Dennison, Schafer and Walker were present. Also present were Superintendent of Parks & Planning Patrick McAneney, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Gianatasio, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Coyote Run General Manager Tom Denklau, Human Resources Manager Kelly Rose, Marketing & PR Manager Bob Birgel, Irwin Center Manager Oralethea Davenport, Racquet & Fitness Club Manager Dan Schaffer, Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Freeman, Recreation Supervisor Kayla Cook, and Secretary Anne Brabec.

**CHANGE IN AGENDA – None**

Superintendent Gianatasio introduced new Recreation Supervisor Kayla Cook.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – None**

**PRESENTATION**

a. Summer Video

Manager Birgel shared the video put together by the Marketing Department highlighting the park district's many summer activities and events. The video will be shared with the community through social media.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of Minutes – July 1, 2025 and July 15, 2025

b. Dental Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the current Ameritas dental plan for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.

c. 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, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

d. Vision Insurance Renewal

A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners approve the policy proposed by EyeMed vision insurance plan for all full-time employees for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.

e. Ordinance #778\*

An ordinance authorizing the disposal of certain items of personal property by the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District.

f. Policy & Procedure Manual, 3.3 Purchasing Policy\*

A recommendation that the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve updated policy 3.3 Purchasing Policy as presented.

g. Confined Space Program and Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Plan\*

A report from the Superintendent of Recreation recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the Confined Space Program and Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Plan as presented.

Commissioner Dennison asked about the confined space program, and Commissioner Bachus asked for clarification on the surplus ordinance guidelines.

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Medical Insurance Renewal\*

Human Resources Manager Kelly Rose met with the park district's insurance broker, who provided Blue Cross Blue Shield and United Healthcare options for this year's medical insurance renewal. Manager Rose explained the justification for keeping the current grandfathered Blue Cross/Blue Shield HMO and HSA/PPO plans, which are a great benefit for current employees and is a recruiting and retention tool. The park district also offers an incentive for employees to waive coverage if they have healthcare from another source. Renewal of these plans would be at a rate of 9.65%, which is far below the 20% budgeted.

Commissioner Dennison asked if employees have had negative experiences with the current plans. Commissioner Shafer commented that an increase under 10% is great.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the renewal of the current Blue Cross/Blue Shield HMO and HSA/PPO employee medical insurance policies for October 2025 through September 2026. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. NRPA Conference Travel Expense Approval

Superintendent Garrity reported that it is beneficial for key staff to attend the National Recreation and Park Association annual conference, which will be held this year in Orlando. Attending will be Executive Director Doug Boehm, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, Irwin Center and The Clubhouse Manager Oralethea Davenport, Marketing and Public Relations Manager Bob Birgel, and Commissioners Dennison and Walker. RFC Manager Dan Schaffer and Recreation Supervisor Ethen Frierson will take advantage of the two complimentary virtual conference registrations.

Conference expenses, including registration, air fare, hotel and per diems are covered by the park district, and \$18,515 was budgeted. There was discussion on whether it would be necessary to rent a car at this conference location.

Commissioner Coderre moved to approve travel expenses for the NRPA Conference from September 16-18, 2025, in Orlando, Florida, in an amount not to exceed \$17,000. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

c. Ice Arena Fees & Charges

Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Freeman presented that due to newer legislation that taxes rental items, a small fee increase is recommended for skate rental. Also recommended is an increase in hourly rink rental rates to help offset operational costs. These rental fees were last increased when the Ice Arena reopened.

Commissioner Bachus asked if volume discounts are given for ice time, which Manager Freeman indicated is not an industry standard because it is more important to be guaranteed a secured day and time slot. Lower rates are offered for the later nighttime slots.

Commissioner Schafer moved to approve the Ice Arena fees and charges as presented. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

d. ADA Transition Plan Review

Manager Davenport reviewed the ADA Transition Plan that a contractor prepared for the park district in 2022. The plan is designed to help the district provide accessible areas in parks and facilities, and to prioritize, plan and budget for necessary improvements. The plan is continually reviewed and updated by staff as work is completed and is being presented for the Board's review and approval.

Commissioner Walker asked if there is a plan to work with patrons who let the park district know they need special accommodations in one of our programs or facilities. Manager Davenport explained how the park district works with SSSRA for program aides, and also that the district prioritizes certain upgrades when there is a need, such as the sidewalk wheelchair entry point at the Irwin Center where a participant was having difficulty and is now repaired.

Commissioner Coderre moved to approve the updated ADA Transition Plan as presented. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the claims list in the amount of \$534,558.04. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

**PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 2025**

Commissioner Schafer inquired about several funds; Superintendent Garrity indicated what she is seeing is tied to the delay in the park district receiving real estate tax, which was budgeted to be received this month. Commissioner Bachus acknowledged seeing a black number in July for the Racquet & Fitness Club, which is very encouraging.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Executive Director Boehm

- We're glad to have Kayla with us and are looking forward to her non-pool programming this fall and winter.
- The Highlands Park grand reopening was this past Sunday. It was a fantastic day for the park district, with 100-150 attending. RFC staff provided demonstrations, and an ice cream truck was a big hit.
- With the heavy rain, Sunday and Tuesday were walking only at Coyote Run.
- Next month there is only one Board meeting, on September 2, due to the dates of the NRPA Conference.

- The joint meeting with the Village of Homewood regarding their purchase of Tower Park is schedule for 5:00 pm on August 28 at Goldberg.
- The Ice Arena is benefitting from Oak Lawn's shutdown.
- Distributed an updated surplus spending report.

#### Commissioner Coderre

- Had a great Recreation Committee meeting with Superintendent Gianatasio, who really highlighted the summer fun.
- Welcome, Kayla.
- Thank you for the update on the Highlands courts.

#### Commissioner Schafer

- Thank you for partnering with a well-known community member who has embarked on a new venture for the ice cream provided at the Highlands grand reopening.
- Asked what a puppa-chino is.
- Inquired why there were two different revenues for a senior trip that was held twice; Superintendent Gianatasio indicated it was most likely due to the differences in resident and non-resident registration numbers, which have different registration rates.
- Asked Manager Birgel how the virtual backpacks work for the inclusion of the park district's newsletter.

#### Commissioner Walker

- Applauds everyone for doing a great job; he's in the neighborhood and is hearing great things. He was unable to attend the Highlands event this past weekend and feels like he missed a great thing.

#### Commissioner Dennison

- Welcomed Kayla and asked if there will be a pool wrap-up report like there has been in the past.
- Wondered if there are Goldberg and/or Irwin family members who the park district is able to keep in touch with to let them know that those parks are being updated.
- Very anxious to see a new website; looking forward to it.
- Good luck to those who will be part of the District 153 AM Club and Extra Innings that already start tomorrow!
- Really likes that Devin is putting miles on the new recreation bus by offering so many senior trips.
- Likes the social media strategy and all the work going into getting sponsorships.

#### Commissioner Bachus

- The hype that Bob and Dan are creating regarding the new equipment going into RFC is very cool.
- Kayla, welcome aboard!
- Loved that there were 200 people at the Lions Club Pool Teen Night.
- The Highlands event was amazing.
- Thank you all for all you do, day in and day out.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:06 pm, Commissioner Dennison moved to enter in the Executive Session for the purpose of 2(c)(1) discussion of the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Meeting reconvened at 8:39 pm.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### a. Consideration of action on discussion in Executive Session

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve a salary increase of 4% for Executive Director Doug Boehm of the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District effective May 1, 2025. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Coderre, Dennison, Schafer, Walker and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Commissioner Schafer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. P. Boehm", written in a cursive style.

Douglas P. Boehm, Secretary