



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
Committee Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners
Goldberg Administration Center
3301 Flossmoor Rd, Flossmoor, IL 60422

Minutes of July 7, 2026

The Committee Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Bachus. Commissioners Coderre, Dennison, and Walker were present in person and Commissioner Schafer was present via Zoom. Also present were Executive Director Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Patrick McAneney, Superintendent of Recreation Oralethea Davenport, Recreation Supervisor Brandon Diaz, Recreation Supervisor Zak Kerby, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas, Executive Secretary Anne Brabec, and Visitors Tim, Miyu and Wakana Hill and Alexandra and Imani Green.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – Items 4b. and 4c. were reversed.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – Wakana Hill provided information about Youth on Course and followed up on her request to have it return to Coyote Run. Imani and Alexandra Green continued the conversation and shared their family's interest in reduced youth fees at Coyote Run.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. Girls Co-op Intergovernmental Agreement

Recreation Supervisor Brandon Diaz provided background and progress on the development of a girls co-op intergovernmental agreement between the HFPD, Oak Forest Park District, Mokena Park District, and possibly the New Lenox Community Park District. The co-op would begin with a volleyball league in which girls would represent their community, with the potential to add basketball and/or flag football.

c. Apollo Ballfields

Supervisor Diaz led discussion on baseball fields #1 and #2 on the west side of Apollo Park, which have been underutilized for many years and could be redeveloped by the Parks Department into green space or soccer fields. Homewood Baseball and Softball has indicated they would like to keep the field closest to the playground, which has the bigger outfield, and bring it back to life for their older baseball league. They plan to discuss this with their past league presidents and determine costs before proceeding.

Commissioners commended Supervisor Diaz for his efforts in working with and bringing together the presidents of the affiliate organizations for an in-person meeting.

b. Irwin Park

Executive Director Boehm reported we are getting close to opening most of Irwin Park. There have been issues with large groups gathering at Irwin, and the park district is working with the Homewood Police Department on controlling those gatherings. The police department has recommended the district change the closing time of Irwin Park from 11:00 pm to dusk, just like all other parks. A recommendation for approval of this time change will be on the July 21 meeting agenda.

c. Friends of the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District Foundation

Executive Director Boehm researched and shared the history of the Foundation, which began when the Village of Homewood was no longer interested in maintain the Auditorium. The park district worked with the village in 1996 to raise the \$400,000 needed for items such as ADA washrooms, a lift, ventilation, roof and a boiler through the "Save the Auditorium" campaign, which took about a year and eight months. At that time, the Foundation was comprised of one non-staff person, two Board members, and one member of the park district's business department. From there, the Foundation

was involved in the community's "Keep It Green" initiative in 1998. To reactivate the Foundation at this time, a cause would be needed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Executive Director Boehm

- An RFP is out for concession services at the Ice Arena, and Manager Carlson has spoken with three interested vendors, however none attended today's walkthrough. Proposals are due July 21 and a report for approval will be presented at the August 4 meeting
- The district is busy with upcoming events: this Friday, July 10 is the America 250 Hot Dog Day at Homewood Estates; July 12 is The Beast at RFC; the opening for Irwin Park is July 15 with a 1:00 pm ribbon cutting; and Brew & View is on July 17
- Can't thank the staff enough who forego their personal storm issues to keep the park district running as well as giving up part of their July 4 weekend
- Fall brochure went to the printer this week
- The RFC fitness flooring is being installed and the roof repaired
- The Sports Complex roof project is delayed until mid- to late-August

Commissioner Schafer

- Thanks to Doug and Patrick and everyone who helped to deal with all the storm damage control
- Asked if the park district has meetings with the other government bodies regarding natural disasters, etc. Director Boehm indicated the HFPD has a Crisis Management Plan, and that the intergovernmental agencies meet monthly and annually review these plans

Commissioner Walker

- Had a great time on the 4th of July float; thank you to Patrick McAneney for being their driver
- Asked if the Commissioners can see the Crisis Management Plan; Director Boehm indicated it is already on the July 21 meeting agenda for its annual review and approval

Commissioner Dennison

- Thank you to everyone for all their work after the storm
- It was amazing that even after such a storm, so many of our community showed up in between their cleanup efforts to the parade to celebrate 250 years
- Inquired as to the next step for the new HFPD logo; Manager Davenport reported that Slate is preparing directions and standards for the roll out

Commissioner Bachus

- Ditto on all the thank yous!

ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Commissioner Coderre seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Doug Boehm, Secretary