

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Tuesday, February 22, 2022; 7:00 p.m.  
Community Center  
9560 Franklin Avenue  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 7:02 p.m.**

President Zinga called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Commissioners Joseph E. Zinga, Susan E. O’Connell, Mark K. White, and Michael A. Vonesh.

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas.

Also Present: Joseph D. Modrich, Director of Parks and Recreation; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Daniel LoCascio, Superintendent of Recreation; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Steven Selimos, North Park Manager (arrived at p.m.; Marco Galassini, Marketing & Communications Manager; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Kevin Meyers, Ice Arena Manager and Attorney Thomas Hoffman.

Absent: Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda**

There were no additions, corrections or deletions to the Agenda.

**Presentation / Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated January 25, 2022**

Motion #1 by Commissioner O’Connell, second by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated January 25, 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O’Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated January, 2022 in the amount of \$253,719.60**

Motion #2 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O’Connell to approve the January, 2022 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$253,719.60.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated February, 2022 in the amount of \$60,192.27**

Motion #3 by Commissioner O’Connell, second by Commissioner White to approve the February, 2022 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$60,192.27.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Employment Agreement Approval for Dan LoCascio as Park District of Franklin Park – Director of Parks & Recreation**

Motion #4 by Commissioner O’Connell, second by Commissioner White to approve the Employment Agreement for Dan LoCascio as the Park District of Franklin Park – Director of Parks & Recreation.

Honored and up for the challenge and looking forward to working with the staff.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence was received.

**Reports of Officers and Commissioners**

Commissioner O’Connell feels everyone is doing good and waiting for parks to open. Thanked Manager Galassini on his post regarding President Ronald Reagan being a lifeguard to recruit lifeguards.

Commissioner White stated that the State Conference was lonely. There are usually 2800 in attendance, there were 1700 this year. The exhibit hall had 255 vendors with 70 something booths left. Food was not allowed in the exhibit hall this year. He commented that the sessions were the same, some good, some bad. A mask had to be worn everywhere, but if you sat down and you had vaccine bracelet you could take mask off. Was run very well and hotel was happy to have us there.

President Zinga reported the following for Commissioner Casas in her absence:

Special Thanks to Vito and arena staff. The two winter storms we had did not stop them from keeping the parking lot plowed and a path to the arena clear and safe for our families. I was there for a 7:00 a.m. practice and was surprised that the lot was already cleared of snow.

Big month for speed skating. Franklin Park Speedskating Club was featured in a story by WGN. Kids were excited to meet a two time Olympian Dave Tamburrino and FPSC alum Ermery Lehman brought home a bronze medal in the Men’s Team Pursuit.

Congrats to Franklin Park Fusion club for earning 1st place at the Marti Gras competition in their production of Hair Spray.

Excited to see Paint and Sip is back!

**Recess for Public Comment at 7:23 p.m.**

President Zinga recessed for Public Comment at 7:23 p.m.

**Reconvene at 7:24 p.m.**

President Zinga reconvened Public Comment at 7:24 p.m.

**Staff Reports:**

*Director*

Director Modrich reported that the DCO Grant is being reviewed. Hoping in a week or so we will hear something. No longer in a holding pattern.

Marianne Birko will be attendance next month for the WSSRA Annual Report.

Director Modrich asked everyone to keep their eyes on the energy situation, as it has a giant inflation impact.

Director Modrich shared the artwork for Project Aurelius with the Board. Staff will be working on communication with the community and the schools.

A discussion was held regarding fencing at North Park. Superintendent Wick will get aerial map for the Board.

*North Park Manager*

Manager Selimos reported that CNN will be reopening mid-March.

*Superintendent of Finance/Technology*

Manager Laskowski reported that Superintendent Bersani just had a BOY!! The Board sends congratulation wishes to her and family.

*Superintendent of Recreation*

Superintendent LoCascio reported that the Basketball League is going good. Starting games with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. We will be hosting a game in March.

Teen Night had 80 teens in attendance, being one of the best attended.

Manager Skladzien and Pool Managers are going to lifeguard training this weekend.

We are receiving field use requests for North Park.

*Ice Arena Manager*

Manager Meyers reported that February has been busy. Looking forward to March and the Spring. Tot and beginners classes full with a wait list. It is nice to see.

*Superintendent of Parks*

Manager Menolascina finished up light project, with the Community Center Gym still needing to be done this month.

Superintendent Wick reported that the BAF fans were ordered and will need to be hung once delivered.

Park Staff is painting the west garage at Service Center.

Staff continues to keep up with snow and ice.

President Zinga asked when the new bus will have a logo on it. A discussion held.

*Marketing & Communication Manager*

Manager Galassini reported that the Spring into Summer brochure is at Creekside. We were waiting to receive the proof before printing. Design Spring is sending the first draft of the Summer brochure this week.

Staff continue to work on Marketing plans for Preschool, Playschool and Tot School registration. Teen Night reminders were sent to Hester Students. Spring Break Camp flyers are pending approval from school districts. Summer Camp documents are being edited and uploaded.

Manager Galassini promoted Fitness Classes, Spring Break Camp, Teen Night and graduation parties at North Park on social media. We have been sharing heart healthy tips for American Heart Month. We congratulated Maria Laskowski on 35 years with the Park District.

WGN TV and U.S. Speed Skating visited Franklin Park Speed Skating practice. The Franklin Park Herald-Journal spoke with Coach Steve Penland for an article.

Summer Camp and Pool information is being entered on the website and will go live once the next brochure is mailed.

*WSSRA*

Coming in March.

### **Unfinished Business**

*Ice Arena Fire Update*

Will be discussed in closed session.

*Timber, Hawthorne and Little Pearl Parks*

Superintendent Wick and Eric Horning walked through parks for punch list. Superintendent Wick reviewed the punch list with the Board.

*Budget 2021-2022*

Superintendent LoCascio, Finance Coordinator Rhymes and Director Modrich are going over the budget.

*CV-19 Adaptation 2021*

Discussed.

*Energy/Utility Policy*

Director Modrich reported that there will be more detail in the budget presentation.

*Construction Manager Services*

Attorney Hoffman is compiling changes to bidding documents. A discussion was held.

### **New Business:**

*Fitness Center Equipment Purchase*

Motion #5 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner White to approve the Purchase of New Fitness Center Equipment, as presented by Cody Nelson, Athletics and Facility Manager, in an amount not to exceed \$59,545 from Midwest Commercial Fitness, as the sole authorized provider of True Fitness Products in Illinois and the Tri-State area.

Superintendent LoCascio reviewed the proposed equipment. A discussion was held.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

*Intergovernmental Agreement to Conduct Youth Athletic Leagues*

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner White to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement to Conduct Youth Athletic Leagues with Norridge Park District, Rosemont Park District, Village of Schiller Park, and Leyden Township, as presented by staff.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Suggested Motions:**

No Suggested Motions.

**Required Signatures**

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

**Closed Session to discuss Probable / Imminent Litigation 2(c)2 and Personnel 2(c)1**

Motion #7 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner White to enter into Closed Session to discuss Probable / Imminent Litigation 2(c)2 and Personnel 2(c)1.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Rise Out of Closed Session**

Motion #8 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O'Connell to rise out of Closed Session at 9:08 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

**Adjourn at 9:11 p.m.**

Motion #9 by Commissioner Vonesh, second by Commissioner O'Connell to adjourn at 9:11 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

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Michael A. Vonesh, Secretary