

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Special Board Meeting  
Wednesday, September 28, 2022; 7:00 p.m.  
Community Center  
9560 Franklin Avenue  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 7:03 p.m.**

President Zinga called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Commissioners Joseph E. Zinga, AnneMarie Casas, Susan E. O'Connell and Michael A. Vonesh.

Absent: Commissioners Mark K. White.

Also Present: Daniel LoCascio, Director of Parks and Recreation; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Jen Costa, Parks Services Assistant; Marco Galassini, Marketing & Communications Manager; Kevin Meyers, Ice Arena Manager; Liz Strack, Program & Aquatics Manager and Attorney Thomas Hoffman.

Absent: Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology and Steven Selimos, North Park Manager.

**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 August 23, 2022**

Motion #1 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated August 23, 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion Carried.

**Presentation / Approval of the Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated August 23, 2022**

Motion #2 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes dated August 23, 2022, as presented by Director LoCascio.

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

**Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated August, 2022 in the amount of \$218,773.34**

Motion #3 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to approve the August, 2022 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$218,773.34.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion Carried.

**Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated September, 2022 in the amount of \$81,564.25**  
Motion #4 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the September, 2022 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$81,564.25.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion Carried.

### **Correspondence**

Park District of Forest Park thank for use of stage.

Andy Smolen, Village of Franklin Park thank you for participating in World Honeybee Day.

### **Reports of Officers and Commissioners**

Commissioner Casas commented that she likes the photos of all the programs hung in the Pine Room.

She is happy to see that the marketing team was able to get our program / events link in the Hester Junior High School emails to parents. She emailed the principal and stating that she loves the collaboration. She was happy to see Teen Night was well attended and looking forward to the Halloween Teen Night. Commissioner Casas is receiving a lot of positive feedback regarding the coaches at the Ice Arena. Photos of our skaters were included in the Worlds Championship bulletin.

Commissioner Vonesh thanked the District for opportunity to go to National Conference, even though it is more geared to staff and Director. He attended a class presented by Dr. Grandin a prominent author and speaker on autism, Commissioner Vonesh commented that it was one of the best classes he's attended.

Director LoCascio stated that we will be creating a rotation of staff for future National Conferences.

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

Chuck Sebastian neighbor of Timber Park addressed the Board on behalf of himself and his neighbors regarding issues occurring at Timber Park. The Board thanked Mr. Sebastian for coming to the meeting and appreciate his concerns.

A discussion was held. Director LoCascio spoke with Police Director Witz regarding more police drive-bys. The police are getting out of their vehicles and walking into the parks. He will follow-up with him again.

### **Reconvene at 7:44 p.m.**

President Zinga reconvened public comment at 7:44 p.m.

### **Staff Reports:**

#### *Director*

Director LoCascio highlighted IAPD Legal Legislation regarding our ability to re-capture future property taxes if we levied under our maximum abilities, and Senate Bill 3789, requires us to form a committee to study local efficiencies by June 10, 2023 and every ten years thereafter. A discussion was held.

Director LoCascio shared that we will be going out to bid next week for the Community Center Water Line project with recommendation for approval at the October Board Meeting. Superintendent Wick has been doing a great job gathering information.

#### *Superintendent of Finance/Technology*

Director LoCascio reported on Superintendent Bersani's behalf. The Audit is moving along. The General Obligation Bond Sale will be on the agenda for the October Board Meeting.

#### *Superintendent of Recreation*

Superintendent Visteen introduced Manager Strack, the newest member to the Recreation Department team. The Board welcomed Manager Strack to the Park District.

Superintendent Visteen reported that we are receiving more registration for the Early Childhood Program. We had to cancel and combined some Dance classes due to no instructor, but she will be taking on another day for next season.

The Fall Fest Parade has 47 entries and the Pumpkinfest will have painting/stickers for pumpkins and a Haunted Maze and Giant Pumpkin inflatables.

#### *Ice Arena Manager*

Manager Meyers reported that the NWHL scheduling meeting was held in Niles last weekend. Games have been posted on the website. The Holiday Ice Show registration starts next week. The Ice Arena will have two floats in the Fall Fest Parade.

#### *Superintendent of Parks*

Superintendent Wick reported that Ruby and Addison Park had safety surfacing installed today. An outside contractor was used to blow the mulch into the parks. He is looking at scheduling them for after the first of May to install around 500 yards of surfacing in several parks.

Parks staff is preparing for the Fall Fest Parade and Pumpkin Fest.

The Vipers will be in playoffs and will be scheduling fields as needed. Schiller Park School District 81 finished up their season this week.

A contractor will be installing bike rack at the Ice Arena and North Park.

Commissioner Casas is glad to see that the parking spot paver lines will be redone.

#### *Marketing & Communication Manager*

Manager Galassini reported that we received the Fall Newsletter draft and we expect the Winter Spring brochure draft next week.

Volleyball League flyers were distributed to Grades 5-8 at School Districts 81, 83 and 84. Program and Event Flyers were digitally sent to Hester Students.

Johnson Signs completed the Gaga Ball Rules signs for Timber Park. Fall Fest banners are at four locations around town.

Video footage of After School Program jarring honey was shared on our social channels. Residents have interest in purchasing our rooftop honey.

The Franklin Park Herald-Journal published a preview story for Fall Fest. The story was also in nine other Pioneer Press publications.

The Park District is attending D84 PTA's Fun Fair. The Chamber by O'Hare voted to dissolve and merge with the Grand Corridor Chamber.

Rocha Photography will be on site November 10 and 11 for Staff and Commissioner photos.

#### *North Park Manager*

Director LoCascio reviewed the Concrete project. A discussion was held. November / December Board meeting target date of April / May. Seeking bids for new bleachers in Sports Arena, ADA accessible and up to code.

Comparison possibly look into an increase. New carpet, chandeliers. A discussion was held.

#### *WSSRA*

Meeting scheduled next week. Shares flat this year.

#### **Unfinished Business**

##### *CV-19*

Cook County has aligned with the CDC for eliminating quarantine.

##### *Police Department Camera Access*

Director LoCascio will work on over the winter months, for Spring.

##### *Zamboni Replacement Plan*

Director LoCascio stated that the Zamboni is 29 years old. We have been fortunate to be able to get another machine for backup. We need to start preparing due to lead times.

Manager Meyers highlighted the proposal. A discussion was held. Manager Meyers will have updated numbers for the Board and will include on October Board Meeting Agenda for recommendation.

#### **New Business:**

##### *Parks Foundation Honey Fundraiser*

Assistant Costa reported that we harvested 300 pounds of honey this year. She presented the Board with the honey jars sales ideas.

##### *Legal Updates*

Already discussed.

##### *Personnel Policy Updates*

Director LoCascio stated that there are quite a bit of recommended updates. Items that were omitted or updates based on laws and legal updates. A discussion was held regarding the required mandates.

##### *Architect/Windows/Doors at Ice Arena & North Park*

Motion #5 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to adopt Resolution #22-23-2/R, a Resolution Pursuant to Section 8 of the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act Regarding Services to be Provided by Castellano Design.

Director LoCascio reviewed the plans. A discussion was held.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion Carried.

*IAPD/IPRA Conference January 26-28, 2023*

Manager Laskowski asked the Board to let her know if they are planning on attending, and what housing they will need.

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

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

**Rise Out of Closed Session**

Motion #7 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to rise out of Closed Session at 10:09 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes; Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion Carried.

**Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session**

No action taken.

**Commissioner Transition**

A discussion was held.

**Adjourn at 10:17 p.m.**

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to adjourn at 10:17 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; Casas, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion Carried.

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Michael A. Vonesh, Secretary