



Call to Order:

President Eric Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Cathy Cagle Jason Heisler, Michael Jacobson, Karen Johnson, Linda Matthias, Sarah Michehl, Eric Anderson

Legal Counsel: Scott Puma, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni and Krafthefer, P.C.

Staff: Jason Herbster, Executive Director, Erik Jakubowski, Superintendent of Park Services, Amy Olson Manager of Park Planning and Development, Tina Becke, Superintendent of Business Services, Kurt Reckamp, Superintendent of Recreation Programs and Facility Services, Claire Naughton, Manager of Facility Services, Anne Sandor, Recording Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizens: None.

Approval of Agenda

Executive Director Herbster requested the removal of item E. Haligus Park Design Review Update from the agenda. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Cagle. All were in favor.

Matters from the Public: None

Discussion Items

A. Channel Review

Executive Director Herbster reported that he and Attorney Puma met to review information received from Hey and Associates regarding the channel. There are numerous conditions that contribute to the situation at the channel. There are existing drain tiles located in the watershed that lead to the wetland and another source of water that enters the Honeysuckle Road storm sewer.

Commissioner Cagle noted that she spoke with Jessica Beverly, McHenry County Zoning Board of Appeals, Ms. Beverly commented that the county drainage commission is responsible for the drain tiles. Attorney Puma noted that the draining district is responsible for overseeing the drainage tiles, which has not been done in years. The county oversees the storm water not the drainage district.

Executive Director Herbster noted that the plats showed no change on Honeysuckle from year 1916 to present. Attorney Puma added that no one is taking ownership of the Honeysuckle drainage tile and it looks like all city storm sewers go into the channel off the private road. Three title searches were done since the channel was built and it was found that the homeowners that back up to the channel own the channel. Puma presented the plats dated from 1927.

The Board agreed the Park District is not the cause of the silt problem in the channel. Executive Director will have Hey and Associates continue the monitoring the sewer line at Lippold Park and Executive Director will send a letter to the residents regarding the District's findings.

B. Park Police Budget Draft Revision

Commissioner Cagle stated that it was hard for her to follow the budget, draft revision, for the Park Police and requested staff to present an easier format. Commissioner Anderson noted that the requested format did not show a reduction in expenses. Commissioner Cagle requested a report showing which expenses can be covered without the Park Police. Commissioner Johnson said the revisions were confusing and requested a breakdown showing the reduction of expenses that were presented. Commissioner Michehl requested a line by line explanation of expenses and a list of what the District would be losing without the Park Police. Commissioner Anderson requested a comparative budget be presented at the next meeting. Commissioner Anderson requested moving to Executive Session.

C. The Racket Club -American Red Cross Shelter

Superintendent Kurt Reckamp reported representatives from the American Red Cross had toured The Racket Club and requested the facility be designated a disaster shelter site. An agreement between the Crystal Lake Park District and the American Red Cross was presented. The Board agreed to enter in to an agreement with the American Red Cross.

D. Haligus Silo Update

Manager Amy Olson noted that the IDNR has approved a mitigation plan to mitigate the removal of the Haligus Road Park Silo. Ideas to use materials for artwork and other projects were presented.

E. Haligus Park Design Review Update -Removed from the Agenda

F. Intergovernmental Agreement -Randall/Miller Road Trail Improvement

The McHenry County Department of Transportation has requested certain property along Miller Road for improvements that will include a bike path. The Board agreed to place an Ordinance on the agenda for approval at the next Park Board meeting.

G. Seasonal Program Report

Superintendent Reckamp presented the Recreation Programming Report. The Board discussed new teen programming ideas, i.e., summer concerts, battle of the bands. Reckamp noted that staff is working on summer programming for teens and will present the ideas to the Board Commissioners at a future Board meeting. Matthias suggested looking into adding program information to the high school newsletters.

H. Annual Park Board and Committee of the Whole Meeting Dates

The Board reviewed the upcoming dates for Committee Meeting of the Whole Meetings and Regular Park Board meetings for 2024. It was agreed to reschedule the Regular meeting on December 20 to December 12, and eliminate the July and December Committee Meetings of the Whole. The revised schedule will be placed on the agenda for the Regular Park Board meeting on December 21, 2023.

I. Main Beach and Spoerl Park Playground Surfacing Update

Manager Amy Olson reported that the Main Beach playground resurfacing costs came in \$130,000 over budget. She suggested putting a hold on this project and installing woodchips. Olson recommended installing the artificial turf overlay on top of the existing surface at Spoerl Park.

Commissioner Cagle suggested using the ADA fund to pay for the poured in play surface. Manager Olson noted the cost may increase close to \$200,000. Olson will look in to the poured in place to resurface the Spoerl playground.

J. Employee Policy Manual Changes

The following Employee Policy Manuals changes were presented to the Board. Policy 1.05 Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment, 1.07 Pre-Employment Medical Exam, 2.03 Personnel Files, 3.16 Victim's Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA), 4.07 Bereavement Leave, and 4.10 Organ Donor/Blood Donor Leave. Attorney Puma noted that the Employee Policy manual changes presented are mandated by the State of Illinois. The Board agreed to add an Ordinance for the revisions to Employee Policy Manuals on the agenda for the Park Board meeting on December 21, 2023.

Executive Session:

Commissioner Anderson moved to enter Executive Session at 7:30 pm for the purpose of Personnel 2(c)1. Seconded by Commissioner Cagle. All were in favor.

Reconvene:

Commissioner Anderson moved to reconvene at 7:43 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. All were in favor.

Action from Matters from Executive Session: None

Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM. All were in favor.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
President Secretary