



Call to Order:

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

Commissioners Present:

Cathy Cagle, Jason Heisler, Michael Jacobson, Karen Johnson, Eric Anderson

Commissioners Absent: Linda Matthias, Sarah Michehl

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, Rob Laue, The Racket Club Manager, Heidi Stolt, Manager of Recreation Programs, Anne Sandor, Recording Secretary

Citizens: None

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Cagle moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Heisler. All were in favor.

Matters from the Public: None

Discussion/Direction Items

A. Annual Recommendations

Staff presented the proposed recommendations to the Board.

- i. The Racket Club
An increase of 5% to the Racket Club fees for all program, class and lesson fees. The Board agreed to the 5% increase across the board, to include the annual membership fee, and requested the fees be rounded up to nearest dollar amount.
- ii. Lippold Park Family Golf Center
An increase to the Birdie Birthday package from \$10/person to \$12/\$15.
- iii. Main and West Beach
There will be no increase to the beach admission or boat rental fees. The watercraft decal fee schedule was included.
- iv. Hound Town
The gate key fee will be increased \$5 for residents and non-residents.
- v. Picnic, Building and Field Rentals
Picnic fees will remain the same. Hourly rates for the following facilities are as follows. The Rotary Building Group B rental rates: \$60/hour and Resident/Non-Resident rates: \$100/\$130. The Grand Oaks rental rates: \$110/\$145/hour for residents/non-resident. The Oakwood's Lodge Group B rental rate: \$40/hour. Main Beach Pavilion Group B rates: \$125/hour and Group C Resident/Non-residents \$300/\$425 per hour.

Staff will present proposed recommendations to the Board at the Regular Park Board meeting on November 16, 2023. The Racket Club proposed revisions will be listed under New Business. Commissioner Cagle requested a notation of profit/non-profit be made on all special event requests when seeking Board approval.

B. Tax Levy Ordinance

The Board agreed to adopt the tax levy ordinance of \$7,566,955.40 (4.99%), for the Corporate and Special Revenue Funds for the 2023 Tax Levy. The ordinance will be placed on the agenda for approval at the November 16, 2023, Regular Board meeting.

C. Crystal Lake Channel Update

Executive Director Herbster had taken photos of the channel showing the foliage on the channel and distributed them to the board. He reported that Hey and Associates continue to research the channel information. An email from Gary Shaffer, Hey and Associates was discussed. The dredged material moved from Veteran Acres to Lippold Park was returned to Veteran Acres. There was no issue with the material at Lippold because it was not placed near the wetlands. Lippold may have contributed some silt, but not to the extent of the amount of silt in the channel. Commissioner Cagle suggested contacting past employees regarding their recollection of this matter. She also questioned if there was a connection with the Honeysuckle Sewer contributing to the muck in the channel. Commissioner Anderson stated that the problem needs to be resolved and suggested a joint effort with the City of Crystal Lake. He noted concerns that the channel is dangerous. Commissioner Cagle suggested looking into the original design of the channel. Manager Amy Olson noted that some contributors to the muck could be that the shoreline's edge has not been properly maintained and the non-invasive plantings. The water level has been low for a couple of years. Executive Director Herbster will update the Board when more information is received from Hey and Associates.

D. Goals- Quarterly Update

Executive Director Herbster noted that progress has been made and there is still a long way to go. Commissioner Cagle noted her appreciation with the progress made.

E. Teen Programming Update

Superintendent Reckamp reported that staff is working with the school district to form focus groups. A staff survey will be going out to the District's seasonal staff. This year, participation numbers increased in the summer Teen Camp and The Racket Club lessons. Executive Director Herbster noted that he will seek a meeting with the Superintendent to discuss teen focus groups. The District has also advertised events for The Break. Sport Affiliate and Theatre Group also provide options for teens. Commissioner Cagle noted that she attended a Skateboarding workshop on multigenerational skateboarding events. She stated that the Lippold Park Skate Park is too far for kids to travel and suggested looking into offering a skate park at Woodscreek Park. Commissioner Jacobson noted that years ago, the District offered Battle of the Bands. The events were very well attended.

F. Haligus Park Update

Manager Amy Olson reported that the archaeological survey showed that Silo B needs to remain and the IDNR is requiring the District to adopt a Preservation Covenant for the preservation of Silo B. Once the Preservation Covenant is received, staff will file it with the deed at the County and the IDNR. Executive Director Herbster noted that there is no extension date on the Grant for the completion date for this project, so the District needs to

keep moving. Amy presented new playground design with more physical activity and engaging opportunities. Executive Director Herbster noted the accessibility areas and sensory equipment.

G. Hill Farm Barn Community Input Meeting Update

Manager Amy Olson reported there was great feedback given at the Hillfarm Barn Community Input meeting on October 24. Passive Park, playground, community gardens were among the requests. Herbster noted that the community gardeners expressed that they did not want the gardens to go away. Members from The Historical Preservation Commission were present. They asked the District to reach out to them in future so they can be part of the planning process. Olson noted that a hardwood supplier may have connections of people that would be interested in salvaging the barn wood. There was a concern of no access from the east side of the property; staff is waiting to hear back from the City.

Museum Grant Update:

Manager Olson noted that the District will receive an additional \$145,000 funding from the IDNR Grant for the Interpretive Exhibit project.

H. IAPD Annual Meeting Credentials Certificate

It was agreed that Executive Director Herbster will serve as the Delegate for the annual business meeting at the IAPD/IPRA State Conference. Commissioner Cathy Cagle will serve at the alternate delegate. The Credentials Certificate will be on the agenda for Board approval at the Regular Park Board meeting on November

Matters from the Board

Commissioner Cagle attended the NRPA Conference. Some of the workshops she attended included discussion on embracing art features in parks and suggested possibly using some of the barn wood to create an art piece, multigenerational skate park events and National Grant programs for trail systems. She attended a session with Jamie Seebach regarding planning for growth, the upkeep of capital projects, capital investments and value concerns to not burden the community. Executive Director Herbster stated he has the materials from this cost recovery program.

Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:06pm.

Approve: _____ Attest: _____
President Secretary