



Medinah Park District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

August 28, 2024

Connolly Recreation Center

22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Medinah Park District, DuPage County, Illinois was held on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at the Connolly Recreation Center, 22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Jean Ott.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Jean Ott, President

Irene Jarocinski, Treasurer

Russell Bean, Commissioner

John Blankenship, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Steven Muenz, Executive Director, Board Secretary

Vince DeGrado, Superintendent of Parks

Maria Piworski, Superintendent of Finance/HR

Jim Huetson, Superintendent of Recreation

Dan Touzios, Assistant Superintendent of Parks

Others Present:

Peggy Ott, Janan Jarosinski

Public in Attendance

None

Quorum

President Ott recognized a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

President Ott asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the agenda. President Ott requested item 14, letter B under NEW BUSINESS be moved to the next agenda item. It was moved by Commissioner Jarocinski and seconded by Commissioner Bean to approve agenda as amended. President Ott asked for discussion. There was none. Ex. Director Muenz stated that the agenda could move forward as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ott, Bean, Jarocinski, Blankenship

Nay: None

Abstain: None

New Business

B. Board of Commissioners vacant seat appointment. President Ott requested a motion be made to appoint Janan Jarosinski effective today and through the April 1, 2025 general election. It was moved by Commissioner Jarocinski and seconded by Commissioner Bean to appoint Janan Jarosinski as Commissioner. President Ott asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ott, Bean, Jarocinski, Blankenship

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Board Secretary Muenz administered the oath of office. Janan Jarosinski joined the meeting as Commissioner.

Approval of Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of June 19, 2024 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of July 17, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
- C. Approval of July 17, 2024 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- D. Filing of August 28, 2024 Treasurers Report for the month ending July 31, 2024 with a beginning balance of \$2,357,818.22 and an ending balance of \$2,232,403.30.
- C. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
 - 1. Past and Future Bills as presented.
 - a. July 29, 2024 totaling \$6,526.43, August 12, 2024 totaling \$7,816.92, and August 28, 2024 totaling \$106,429.74
 - 2. Payroll totaling \$81,956.98

It was moved by Commissioner Jarocinski, seconded by Commissioner Bean to approve consent agenda of August 28, 2024 as presented. President Ott asked for discussion. Commissioner Blankenship stated he feels the consent agenda does not need totals read aloud. President Ott stated the totals are read to provide transparency. It was agreed to discuss how the consent agenda should be presented at the September 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Jarocinski, Ott, Blankenship, Bean, Jarosinski
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried.

Staff Reports

A. Finance/HR report. President Ott asked if the invoice from IDES has been received. Superintendent Piworski stated it has not and provided additional information. Superintendent Piworski stated the personal property replacement tax is projected to be 33% lower in fiscal year 2025. President Ott asked if IT concerns were resolved. Superintendent Piworski stated the computer is currently working. President Ott thanked her for securing a \$5,000 sponsorship. Commissioner Bean stated Superintendent Piworski is doing a good job controlling expenses and discussed possible contracting out mowing. He discussed NEDSRA and if no participants, the district may want to look into the NEDSRA/district relationship. Executive Director Muenz stated the district had 7 participants requiring inclusion aides.

B. Recreation report. President Ott thanked Superintendent Huetson for working toward a 70/30% split with contracted programs. President Ott stated she enjoyed the summer concerts. President Ott asked if the district sends emails to previous fitness members to encourage continued membership. Superintendent Huetson stated emails are not currently being sent. Superintendent Huetson reviewed the 2024 Summer Camp program. He mentioned the school district is now offering all day kindergarten and Club Kindergarten is no longer running but preschool attendance is up from last year. Commissioner Blankenship requested staff review neighboring private camp program and child care pricing.

C. Risk Management Report. There were no questions for Supt. Huetson.

D. Parks/Maintenance Report. Supt. Degrado will research the removal of a branch from a large tree at Goodenough Park. The roofing project at Connolly Recreation Center is done. Ridgway Heating & Cooling will fix the air conditioner for a cost of \$410.00. Comed will be out to move the powerline running to the barn. Since it was nicked during construction and needed to be spliced already Supt. DeGrado feels it would be safer to move the line from underneath the playground which would involve splice it in a second place before construction is completed because to have a line running underneath the playground would not be safe and would make repair if needed at a later date nearly impossible.

Attorney's Report – There was none.

Citizen Comments – There were none.

Communication from Citizens to Board/Staff. Commissioner Blankenship said a neighbor of his said the tall light in the Manary Park parking lot is flickering, and there are a lot of tree branches around the light. Brooks received a letter from a parent about a positive camp experience and will be signing up her child for future camps, they drive here from Des Plaines. Ex. Director Muenz said we also received a letter from the Felcan family along with a \$500.00 donation.

Executive Director Report

A. NEDSRA – Nothing to update at this time.

B. Goodenough Park – Commissioner Bean asked if the broken and missing parts of the new playground will be replaced, Supt. DeGrado said the parts were delivered yesterday and will be brought over to the park.

C. OSLAD – Nothing to update at this time.

D. Metra- Attorney Asprooth suggested Ex. Director Muenz contact Metra regarding the termination of the current contract. A Zoom meeting will take place Friday, August 30 with Metra’s attorney, Ex. Director Muenz and Attorney Asprooth. Ex. Director Muenz will keep the board updated.

Items for Discussion

Thorndale Park & Goodenough Park ribbon cutting/grand reopening – Ex. Director Muenz said we could possibly set a date in October. Commissioner Bean said he would pass out flyers in his neighborhood for the Goodenough Park ribbon cutting, and President Ott suggested that we post pictures of the ribbon cuttings on the website since attendance may be low. Supt. DeGrado said they are looking into how to have the signs redone for the name changes for the parks. President Ott suggested marketing could make a flyer to be handed out at Harvest Fest announcing the new Thorndale Park playground and do the ribbon cutting at a later date.

Commissioner’s Comments & Future Agenda Items to Consider

Commissioner Jarocinski – She drives around and looks at the playgrounds and it looks they are getting the work done.

Commissioner Bean – No comment.

Commissioner Blankenship – Would like to see on the new agenda that we vote on a new Board Policy Manual construction and completion. Consent Agenda what’s in scope and what’s out of scope, have that in future new business. Also, a discussion regarding the possible annexing of Thorndale Park to the Village of Roselle, Ex. Director Muenz said that has been moved to new business.

Commissioner Jarosinski – For Harvest Fest could we have a handout showing all the parks in the district because some of the new families might not know about all of them.

President Ott – She would like an email copy of the board packet as well as the printed hard copy. She met with Senator Lewis and thanked him for his help with the OSLAD grant. The Senator stated he spent 3 days with the county building and zoning department to get our permits approved. President Ott would like a letter prepared to send to Senator Lewis thanking him for his time on behalf of the Board and staff. She would also like to bring up for discussion next month being reimbursed for the sandwiches from the last meeting totaling \$42.79 or everyone could pay out of pocket.

Old Business

Personnel Policy Manual updates – Ex. Director Muenz gave hard copy updates, made some changes but it is basically what was discussed last month. Board brought up questions regarding who is in immediate family, how voucher amounts are kept, and what program items must be paid for. They were discussed and agreed upon. These policies have been approved and completed.

New Business:

Resolution 24-25: Robbins, Schwartz Representation Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Blankenship and seconded by Commissioner Jarocinski to approve Resolution 24-25, a resolution approving a contract between the Medinah Park District and Robbins, Schwartz.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: IJ, JO, JB, RB, JJ

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Village of Roselle Meeting – Ex. Director Muenz and President Ott met with the Mayor and Village Administrator of Roselle. Discussion included IGA with the Roselle Police Department which would allow the police to enforce the district rules and ordinances in parks within Roselle. The IGA is currently in place for Roselle and Bloomingdale Park Districts. President Ott suggested a similar IGA with the Itasca Police and asked the Village of Itasca be contacted. President Ott passed along an article she received from the IAPD regarding electric bikes and other mechanized items within parks as well as an item regarding rules in place for when people can be in parks.

Engineers from the Village of Roselle have designed a plan for the berms placed around Manary Park pond as it does not retain enough water, as it was designed to do. Village of Roselle staff are looking into a grant for the work. Ex. Director Muenz suggested dredging the pond instead. Supt. DeGrado stated water always rises to its level and dredging would not work. The silt may contain to many harsh substances and be dangerous to remove, and he suggested instead to build a smaller pond off the stream and use that to collect the extra run off.

The final discussion with the Village of Roselle was the annexation of Thorndale Park. The Village stated it would allow police services to the property as well as fire. Roselle staff stated water and sewer lines run under Thorndale Park and enough linear feet may cause annexation. Commissioner Blankenship stated he witnessed the fact Roselle does not force annex private properties. The Board did not feel comfortable with the information and would discuss further if/when more information is provided.

President Ott stated the Mayor of Roselle brought up renaming Thorndale Park for Maryann Grygiel. President Ott stated the Board does not want to name parks after Board members. A possible sculpture through the Roselle Arts Council was brought up as well. President Ott asked the Board for thoughts on style and location. After discussion between Board members took place, the final decision was not to go forward with the sculpture.

Other Business:

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Jarocinski and seconded by commissioner Bean to adjourn the regular meeting of August 28, 2024 at 9:00pm. President Ott asked for discussion. There was none.

All in Favor: ___Ayes (5)

Opposed: ___Nays (0)

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Muenz, Board Secretary

Jean I. Ott, Board President

Date: August 28, 2024