

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND OFFICERS
OF THE PROSPECT HEIGHTS PARK DISTRICT
GARY MORAVA RECREATION CENTER
110 W. CAMP MCDONALD ROAD, PROSPECT HEIGHTS, IL 60070
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024**

Call to Order

Roll Call

Commissioner Jones called the Regular Board Meeting of the Prospect Heights Park District to order at 7:00p.m.

Commissioners present: Ellen Avery (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Betty Cloud, Paul Fries, Karl Jackson, Tim Jones, Eric Kirste (arrived at 7:31 p.m.) and Steve Messer

Commissioner absent: None

Also Present: Executive Director Christina Ferraro, Superintendent of Recreation Ray Doerner, Superintendent of Parks & Facilities Mark Grassi, Superintendent of Finance, HR & IT Shawn Hughes, Marketing & Communications Manager/Recording Secretary Edlyn Castil

A quorum was present.

Tim Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Fries and seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was approved by a voice vote with two absent (Commissioners Avery, Kirste). The motion carried.

Recognition/Welcome

Resident Jill Moskal was in attendance.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jones requested tabling Agenda Item V. B.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cloud and seconded by Commissioner Fries to approve items A, C and D as submitted. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Cloud, Fries, Jones, Messer

Nays: None

Abstain: Commissioner Jackson

Absent: Commissioners Avery, Kirste

The motion carried.

Commissioner Avery arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Announcements (Meetings)

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at Old Orchard Country Club.

Attorney's Report

There was none.

Administrative/Operational Summary

Executive Director – In addition to the submitted report, Executive Director Christina Ferraro provided updates about the ongoing projects which included Wedgewood Park and Tully Park. Staff continues to work on the proposed 2025 Budget. A federal court in Texas has struck down the Department of Labor rule intended to significantly raise the salary threshold used by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). She thanked the Commissioners for completing their sexual harassment prevention training. There was discussion about the potential resumption of charitable poker events at Old Orchard Country Club with consideration for the need for security and adherence to local regulations. They reviewed the financial implications, including a \$1,500 rental fee and potential net profit of \$900 per night. Concerns about past issues, such as police calls and inappropriate activities, were addressed. Staff will explore parameters to put in place for the charitable events, such as no outside vendors, no outside food/drink, and a zero tolerance policy for issues. Christina invited all Commissioners to attend the City of Prospect Heights Annual Tree Lighting and Santa Visit being held at the park district on Saturday, November 30 at 5pm.

Marketing & Communications Manager – In addition to the submitted report, Marketing & Communications Manager Edlyn Castil highlighted marketing efforts, including newsletter ads and event attendance.

Superintendent of Finance, HR and IT – as submitted.

Superintendent of Recreation – In addition to the submitted report, Superintendent of Recreation Ray Doerner thanked the City of Prospect Heights for providing additional support for the band entertainment for the 2025 Block Party event, including up to \$10,000. Ray invited all to attend the holiday dance recital scheduled on Saturday, December 7 at Fairview School. The Picklepalooza Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, November 16. There are 10 teams registered. Ray praised the Arts Showcase which had around 35 vendors and over 300 attendees. There are plans to rebrand and possibly reschedule the event for early December 2025. Ray addressed the importance of spreading out events to avoid overloading the community with too many activities in a short period.

Commissioner Cloud requested (1) 2024 camp survey results which included a question asking how important daily swim is to campers and (2) whether or not using neighboring community pools was an option. Ray will provide feedback at the next board meeting.

Administrative/Operational Summary (continued)

Superintendent of Parks and Facilities – In addition to the submitted report, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities Mark Grassi reported the district received a \$2,500 grant from PDRMA for safety steps on the GMRC rooftop. He has submitted all amenities for Tully Park to local landscaping company and should receive a quote soon. There was discussion about the importance of maintaining and improving park facilities, including addressing drainage issues and ensuring accessibility.

Director of Golf Operations – as submitted.

Superintendent of Golf - as submitted.

Recreation Supervisors – as submitted.

Unfinished/Ongoing Business**DISCUSSION: Aging Infrastructure including tennis and pickleball courts**

Executive Director Christina Ferraro discussed the need for a master plan and strategic plan, including a 10-year master plan for physical assets and a 5-year strategic plan for programs. She emphasized the importance of gathering community feedback and educating residents about the need for future plans. There was discussion about the financial implications of these plans and the need for transparency with the community. There was consideration regarding the potential impact of upcoming referendums and the need for the community to support these initiatives.

Commissioner Kirste arrived at 7:30 p.m.

New Business**ACTION: Approve Resolution #11.19.2024 Truth in Taxation for Levy Year 2023**

A motion was made by Commissioner Messer and seconded by Commissioner Fries approve Resolution #11.19.2024 Truth in Taxation for Levy 2023 as submitted. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Avery, Cloud, Fries, Jackson, Jones, Kirste, Messer

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

ACTION: Approval of Decennial Report on Local Government Efficiency and authorization to File Report with Cook County

A motion was made by Commissioner Avery and seconded by Commissioner Kirste to approve Decennial Report and request to file report with Cook County as submitted. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Avery, Cloud, Fries, Jackson, Jones, Kirste, Messer

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

Committees of the Board

There were none.

Commissioner's Comments

There were none.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Commissioner Cloud and seconded by Commissioner Fries to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 7:54 p.m. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The motion carried.

Betty Cloud, Secretary