

Minutes of a Regular Session of the
Board of Commissioners of the Lemont Park District
Held on April 23, 2025, 6 p.m.
Centennial Community Center
16028 West 127th Street Lemont, IL 60439

CALL TO ORDER – President McAdam called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Commissioner Richmond, Commissioner Scarlati, Commissioner Mescher, President McAdam. Staff in attendance were Executive Director Louise Egofski, Lauren Raspanti, Lisa Dian, Greg Hooper, Kyle Murray, Shannon Kazmierczak, Kristy Lambrakis, Joseph Loburgio, Craig Meadows, Scott Delano, Kathy Cliff, Leah Sisk, Anna Caruso, and Christine Aguirre as recording secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by President McAdam

CHANGE TO AGENDA –

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS –

COMMUNICATIONS –

- Ellie Strong Foundation Thank You Note
- Illinois Referendum Seminar Flyer
- Lipowski Family Thank You Note

VALUES IN ACTION, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT AWARDS –

Values In Action – Anna Caruso

“I would like to nominate Anna Caruso for the Values in Action Award this month. Although she has only been with us for a few months, Anna has already shown tremendous dedication and an outstanding attitude that truly embodies the values we strive to uphold.

From day one, Anna has consistently gone above and beyond. She has an exceptional ability to handle challenging situations with a positive attitude and a smile, which is rare to find. Her approachability and willingness to ask questions, when necessary, showcase her dedication to learning and improving.

Moreover, Anna has already made a significant impact on our patrons. Every interaction I hear about has been nothing but positive, with patrons expressing how much they enjoy her presence. Her willingness to take on difficult tasks is evident, and she doesn’t hesitate to step in when needed. For instance, when I required someone to cover the 4:45 a.m. shift, Anna volunteered without hesitation, always maintaining a positive and helpful demeanor.

Anna Caruso truly exemplifies the Values in Action award through her exceptional work ethic, positive attitude, and commitment to both her team and our patrons. I wholeheartedly believe she deserves to be recognized for her outstanding contributions.”

Submitted by Kristy Lambrakis

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT - Leah Sisk, The Creamery

Leah and The Creamery have always gone above and beyond for our Park District and our Community. Not only do they participate in our community events they just signed up to be our food vendor at the Quads for the summer baseball and softball season.

This past month, I reached out to Leah on behalf of the IDEA committee, asking if they would be interested in providing free ice cream cone certificates for our Summer Kit Program - this initiative will provide 50 students from our community with a tote bag filled with summer essentials. Not only did Leah jump at the chance to help she upped the contribution to 2 certificates per kid.

Her generosity and dedication to Lemont is truly admirable and we here at the Park District are truly grateful to have The Creamery as a partner.

Distinguished Service – Debra Counter

“Debbie has been with the Park District for 10 years, and her dedication shines through every day. When I first started, she was one of the people who helped train me, and I’m so grateful for her guidance and support. Debbie is the kind of teammate you can always count on—whether it’s picking up an extra shift, keeping our file cabinets perfectly organized, or jumping in wherever help is needed. She’s never not doing something, always going the extra mile, and her attention to detail makes a big difference. We’re lucky to have her on the team!”

Distinguished Service – Louise Egofske

“In 2025, we celebrate Louise’s 15 remarkable years as Executive Director—a milestone that reflects not only her dedication but the transformative impact she’s had on our parks, programs, and community. Since stepping into the role in 2010, Louise has led with vision and a drive for excellence. From breaking ground on many beloved parks including Mayfair, Athens, Gleneagles and Copper Ridge; to renovating 10 others including Brown, Abbey Oaks, Virginia Reed, and Northview; her legacy is etched in every path, playground, and pavilion.

Under her leadership, the district earned the title of Distinguished Park and Recreation Accredited Agency, a testament to the relentless pursuit of quality and innovation.

Beyond bricks and mortar, Louise has enriched our community in countless ways from establishing strong community partnerships, putting Lemont Park District on the map, receiving multiple OSLAD grants and orchestrating unforgettable celebrations like the 50th Anniversary. She’s championed inclusively with ADA-compliant upgrades and partnerships with SEASPAR- so much to make Canal Center their home in Lemont-and empowered staff whose talent continues to drive growth. From navigating the challenges of a global pandemic to the passage of a game-changing \$17M referendum, Louise’s leadership has been a constant source of strength and inspiration.

It’s her passion, people-first approach, and unwavering commitment that truly define her legacy. It’s been an unbelievably successful 15 years and we’re looking forward to the future!”

- President Bill McAdam

L. Egofske stated kind words regarding her time here at the Lemont Park District.

Studio GC Presentation – Referendum Project Updates

Scott Delano and Craig Meadows from Studio GC presented concept plans regarding the Referendum Projects – CORE Fitness and Aquatics Complex building, Centennial Community Center building, and the 127th court complex and Centennial Campus pickleball courts.

The Board of Commissioners had several questions regarding security, program spaces, features, and finishes related to the projects.

CONSENT AGENDA – The following items were presented to the board as consent:

- C.1 – Approval of Minutes – March 25, 2025, Regular Board Meeting
- C.2 – Approval of March 2025 Treasurer’s Report
- C.3 – Approval of April 2025 Payables in the amount of \$548,214.79

Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, with a second by Commissioner Wagner.

Roll Call – Ayes – Commissioners Scarlati, Wagner, Mescher, Richmond, and McAdam
Nays – None

BOARD BUSINESS –

President’s Comments – Thanked the staff for all the hard work staff have been putting into the planning for the Referendum Projects.

Commissioners Comments – Commissioner Wagner reiterated the thanks of the staff and mentioned the care and consideration the staff are taking on the back end of the coordination of planning and organization of these projects. All agreed.

Commissioner Scarlati asked if we can close down a gym for the offices. Discussion regarding the programming was had. G. Hooper stated the goal is the least disruption for programming.

ACTION ITEMS –

E.1. - Approval of Surplus Ordinance #2025-3 authorizing the disposal of certain surplus personal property

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve Surplus Ordinance #2025-3 with a second by Commissioner Richmond.

Roll Call – Ayes – Commissioners Wagner, Richmond, Mescher, Scarlati, McAdam
Nays – None

E.2. Approval of updates to the Personnel Policy Manual

Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to approve the Personnel Policy Manual, with a second by Commissioner Mescher.

Roll Call – Ayes – Commissioners Scarlati, Mescher, Richmond, Wagner, McAdam
Nays - None

E.3. Approval of updates to the Administrative Policy Manual

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to the Administrative Policy Manual, with a second by Commissioner Scarlati

Roll Call – Ayes – Commissioners Wagner, Scarlati, Mescher, Richmond, McAdam
Nays – None

Commissioner Richmond asked about policy 2-1 stating it has good information. Discussion relating policy vs. procedure was had. All agreed the previous information for policy 2-1 should be maintained in the Maintenance Department Procedure Manual.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS –

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT –

L. Egofske thanked Commissioners and staff for their work and presence at the Field 32 Opening.

L. Egofske gave an update on Derby Farms Park including adjustments to amenities that had to be made to meet MWRD requirements for drainage. Commissioner Mescher asked if there is anything that we could do with the open space? Egofske explained that the MWRD requirements are driving the need for permeable space. Several commissioners stated that the open space is ok and needed.

L. Egofske stated there is a meeting on May 6 for the Cook County Highway and the Grand Prairie Water Commission.

L. Egofske stated the Cook County Election results are in process and we should be able to ratify the results at our next board meeting.

L. Egofske gave an update on the status of the financial audit.

L. Egofske informed the Board that she was asked to participate in an initiative with The Lemont Clergy Committee. The goal is to bring awareness to the mental health of teenagers. The book being discussed is “The Anxious Generation” by Jonathan Haidt

Commissioners congratulated L. Egofske on the invitation to the Women to Watch event. Discussion regarding the event was had.

Commissioner Scarlati asked about the silo at Derby Farms Park. L. Egofske explained some of the options regarding the silo.

RISK MANAGEMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT – Staff had nothing to add to their report.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL – President McAdam stated that he and Commissioner Scarlati met with officials from the Village of Lemont regarding the viaduct project adjacent to Athens Park. President McAdam gave an update about the status of the project. Constant communication regarding the project with the park district and the village will continue.

L. Egofske reported that Chief Maton from the Lemont Police Department is retiring. A replacement has not been announced yet.

L. Egofske explained the Ancel Glink waiver and indicated that it will be presented for approval next month.

L. Egofske stated that Superintendent Ticknor, from the Lemont High School, has asked for someone to take the lead on the Lemont Tax Consortium. L. Egofske indicated that she will not be taking the lead on for the consortium.

L. Egofske gave an update on the Village of Lemont ADA Transition Plan. Egofske mentioned there is a survey that has gone out to residents. There are several crosswalks proposed that would make it easier for residents to access parks, downtown Lemont, and other access points.

MARKETING REPORT – L. Raspanti stated there has been two mailers that has gone out to residents. She also reported that the Quarryman Challenge Race is coming up on May 10th and that registration is currently up by fifty runners when compared to 2024.

RECREATION REPORT – Staff had nothing to add to their report.

FACILITIES, FITNESS, AND AQUATICS REPORT – Staff had nothing to add to their report.

MAINTENANCE REPORT – K. Murray updated the Board on the Gleneagles water fountain project. He also reported that Athens Park construction has been mobilized. Discussion regarding where some of the paths and grass surfaces are and/or will be was had.

FINANCE REPORT – Staff had nothing to add to their report.

POLICY & PROCEDURE – Staff had nothing to add to their report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS –

Field 32 Enhancements: L. Egofske mentioned there are some areas that we would like to enhance adjacent to the field to align with our branding. L. Raspanti explained what some of those items might be such as additional statutes, an updated plaque and a flag pole.

Egofske announced Shannon Kazmierczak's new role as the administrative assistant.

The next Lemont Park District Board Meeting will be held on May 27, 2025, at the Lemont Park District Canal Center, 55 Stephen Street, Lemont.

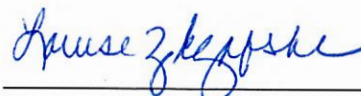
President McAdam motioned to go into executive session under section 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act at 8:22pm. Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion. Invited was Commissioners Richmond, Scarlati, Wagner, Mescher, President McAdam and Executive Director Egofske.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to adjourn with a second by Commissioner Richmond. All Ayes, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



President



Secretary