

Minutes of a Regular Session of the
Board of Commissioners of the Lemont Park District
Held on September 24, 2024, 6 p.m.
Canal Center, 55 Stephen 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 Wagner, Commissioner Mescher, President McAdam. Staff in attendance were Executive Director Louise Egofske, Anthony Morelli, Jerry Hernandez, Lauren Raspanti, Lisa Dian, Greg Hooper, Josephine Wimunc, Christine Aguirre, Rebecca Ladner, Shannon Kazmierczak and Carlene Dickman as recording secretary. Lemont Fire District Chief Dan Tasso and Deputy Chief Matt Petska, Mark Pawlak and Raymond Negrete were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by President McAdam

CHANGE TO AGENDA – None

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – No visitors to address the board.

COMMUNICATIONS – Thank You for hosting Paycom User Group and Best of the Best Gala Invite were included in the packet.

VALUES IN ACTION, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT AWARDS – Lisa Dian and Greg Hooper presented Rebecca Ladner with the Values In Action Award for the month of September. Below is Rebecca's nomination.

One thing that stands out to me about the Summer of 2024 was the unwavering professionalism and poise that our new Recreation Program Manager, Rebecca Ladner, has displayed since arriving to take on 2 of the District's most involved programs. This summer the Lemont Park District hosted its highest attended day camp experience hosting 1,265 participants and with 245 participating in Before and After Care throughout the summer. Rebecca arrived on May 13th and immediately jumped INTO ACTION and was ready to host a colossal record setting year that started on May 28th. She immediately settled herself in working with a staff she was just meeting for the first time and most who were experiencing their first job. Rebecca then implemented a few updates in operations such as a new drop off and pick up that created a more structured experience for parents and day campers. Not only was this beneficial due to the construction of Miracle Field but contributed to an overall traffic improvement for the campus. Throughout the season Rebecca displayed creativity to meet the demands of the high attendance while having limited outdoor space (i.e. Miracle Field construction) as well as juggling various staffing schedule challenges. Under Rebecca's leadership the result was a highly successful season with many smiling faces who will have great memories of their Lemont Park District Summer Camp Experience of 2024. And while the day camp season ended on August 9th, Rebecca was busily preparing for the upcoming preschool year which is seeing an increase of participation since the pandemic with 187 registrations. She was able to prepare for the new year, hire new teachers to have them ready and put them in place to welcome students on September 3rd. She did all this while managing to get married this past July without missing a beat. Congratulations Rebecca.

Presentation – Lemont Fire District Chief Dan Tasso provided a presentation regarding the Lemont Fire District referendum question that will be on the ballot this November. All information regarding the referendum is on the Lemont Fire District website.

Presentation – Anthony Morelli, Director of Facilities, provided a presentation regarding a recap of the 2024 Centennial Outdoor Pool season. The new Aquatic Manager, Raymond Scribano, will begin on October 7th. There was discussion regarding the rescue report. There was also a discussion regarding shade options at the outdoor pool for next year and future years. There was also a discussion regarding the concessions lines and plans to better serve our patrons next summer.

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

- C.1 – Approval of Minutes – August 27, 2024, Board Meeting
- C.2 – Approval of August 2024 Treasurer’s Report
- C.3 – Approval of September 2024 Payables in the amount of \$1,815,927.51

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

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

BOARD BUSINESS –

President’s Comments – President McAdam thanked Louise for sending updated photos of the Athens Park progress. President McAdam thanked everyone for their vision and leadership with the project. He also thanked the staff for a great summer and looking forward to winter.

Commissioners Comments – Commissioner Scarlati commented on what a fun summer it was and staff did a great job.

ACTION ITEMS

- E1. Approval of Pepsi Agreement for all service vending until June of 2027 with a volume threshold count of 1800 cases within that time period.**

Commissioner Richmond made a motion to approve the Pepsi Agreement for all service vending until June of 2027 with a volume threshold count of 1800 cases within that time period, with a second by Commissioner Mescher.

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

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS –

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Executive Director Louise Egofske thanked staff for a great outdoor pool season. Louise spoke about a legislative survey that IAPD is gathering information for. The survey is basically to understand the top issues that we are facing and how they can help lobby for us. A few items in discussion were the unfunded mandates as it relates to the minimum wage and how that impacts everyone making minimum wage as well as other staff members, paid time off as it relates to seasonal workers who leave and go back to college and those who have their first jobs with us, pickleball and sound ordinances. Another item for the survey comments would be our difficulties with state

regulatory agencies such as working with the Illinois Department of Transportation as well as Cook County regarding traffic signalization and a reasonable solution.

There was also a discussion regarding remote attendance for board meetings and current restrictions. We can create our own policy to allow remote attendance and voting on action items.

- Board management Software Change Information – Carlene Dickman mentioned that the BoardPaq software will be migrated to BoardEffect Software beginning in November. The whole process of the site build and training should be completed before the December holidays. Trainings will be online and recorded for all who need them. The software will be more user-friendly for all.

RISK MANAGEMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT – Director of Risk and Personnel, Christine Aguirre

Athens Park Proposal for CITGO – Memo was in the packet. Jerry and Christine will be going to Athens Park this week to decide on the best areas for the safety items to be placed. There will also be signage recognition for CITGO for their donation of the monies for the blue light box, security cameras and Perry Weather system. There was a discussion about the placement of the items. Also discussed were the Athens Park operations including parking lot usage by other than park patrons.

General Use Ordinances – Draft of Section 5 of the General Use Ordinances in the packet. With some recent law changes on micro mobility vehicles, there were a few sections updated in our ordinances. Staff will meet again to discuss further how we should move forward with signage and ordinances for the motorized vehicles being used on our properties. We can also speak with our attorney for more guidance on this topic. This could also be a workshop discussion for everyone.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL – Executive Director Louise Egofske and Commissioner Scarlati attended a public meeting at the Village of Lemont for an introduction to the Grand Prairie Water Commission. The areas they cover include Joliet, Crest Hill, Shorewood, Channahon, Minooka and Romeoville. They have plans for an upcoming project to connect and source Lake Michigan water to these communities. The plans include a line to be installed on the south side of 131st Street on a county easement through Lemont. The project plans to have the pipe installed on the same side as Derby Farms Park. We are currently working on permitting for our water lines for the park at this time so we can avoid delays or interruptions as the Grand Prairie project begins

MARKETING REPORT – Director of Marketing and Community Engagement, Lauren Raspanti Introduced Shannon Kazmierczak, the new Communications Coordinator at the Lemont Park District. Shannon will be responsible for social media, digital marketing as well as other digital content. Shannon will also help with new advertising and sponsorship partnerships. We are pleased to announce a new event this fall, the Community Costume Swap. From September 25th through October 6th, residents can drop off gently used Halloween costumes at The CORE. We will then sort through them and host a free community “shopping day” on October 7th. From 4:30-7:30 p.m. The Harvest Fest event will take place on Saturday, October 5th, 3-6 p.m. on Centennial Park Campus.

RECREATION REPORT – Director of Recreation Greg Hooper mentioned that the new Aquatics Manager , Raymond Scribano, will start on October 7th.

FACILITIES, FITNESS, AND AQUATICS REPORT – Director of Facilities, Anthony Morelli mentioned that the Lemont Baseball and Softball Club approved a \$5,000.00 donation to the Lemont Park District for permanent fencing on Bambrick Field D. The Lemont Park Foundation is also donating \$5,000.00

towards the fencing. Jerry is currently working on quotes and we hope to have the fencing/field ready for spring 2025 opening day. Anthony spoke about a challenge with bees in the indoor pool area. The area has been treated and will be treated again next week. The District 113a Back to School Bash was a huge success. Anthony thanked Liz, Jerry and Kyle for all they did to accommodate District 113a. Regarding the tv's at The CORE, a meeting took place with Comcast and we will be getting all new cable boxes. Anthony mentioned that they are working on the tv needs for when we replace the cardio equipment in the fitness center as well so that we can better accommodate our members needs. There was a short discussion regarding the equipment costs.

MAINTENANCE REPORT – Director of Maintenance and Planning, Jerry Hernandez, nothing to add to his report.

FINANCE REPORT – Director of Finance and IT, Josephine Wimunc, nothing to add to her report.

POLICY & PROCEDURE – Nothing to add.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Nothing to add.

NEW BUSINESS –

BINA Hearing Information Update – The BINA Public Hearing will take place during the October 22nd Board Meeting.

The next Lemont Park District Board Meeting will be held on October 22, 2024, 6 p.m. at the Lemont Park District Canal Center, 55 Stephen Street, Lemont.

ADJORN TO CLOSED SESSION – Commissioner Wagner made a motion to adjourn to closed session, with a second by Commissioner Scarlati for the items listed below at 7:44 p.m. for the items listed below.

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

Those invited into closed session were Commissioners Richmond, Scarlati, Wagner, Mescher, McAdam and Executive Director Louise Egofske.

1. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussion whether a particular parcel should be acquired, pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5)

Regular meeting resumed at 7:59 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



President



Secretary