

**APPROVED**

**THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON MARCH 12, 2015 IN THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY HOUSE, LOCATED AT 908 SEWARD STREET, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.**

**Present:** President Pat McCourt, Vice President Michael Drennan, Ann Covode, Dan Coyne

**Absent:** Robert Bady

**Also Present:** Attorney David Saunders, Attorney Richard Schumacher

Pat McCourt called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Attorney Richard Schumacher was present to review the complaint filed by Brian Rosinski with the Illinois Department of Human Services against the Ridgeville Park District and the proposed settlement between Brian Rosinski and the Ridgeville Park District.

**Motion #1:** Michael Drennan made a motion that the board go into executive session. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion #2:** At 7:35 p.m. Michael Drennan made a motion that the board come out of executive session. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Notes submitted by Pat McCourt

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The meeting resumed at 7:45 p.m.

**Also Present:** Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski; Programs Director Kari Lindquist; Mike Miro, representing the Ridgeville Cultural Arts Foundation; Treasurer Gerald Gibbs; Corporate Secretary/Office Manager Anna Christina Nelson; Attorney David Saunders

**Citizens:** David Braun, Debby Braun, Socorro Clarke, Pat Kelly, Kristen Lems, Jean Zuiker

**Motion #3:** Michael Drennan made a motion to approve the proposed settlement agreement between Ridgeville Park District and Brian Rosinski. Ann Covode seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote:	Commissioner Covode	aye
	Commissioner Coyne	aye
	Commissioner Drennan	aye
	Commissioner McCourt	aye

Motion approved.

**Citizen Comment:**

Kristen Lems, a former board member, urged the board not to forget about constituents who live west of Asbury Avenue. She said she sometimes gets the feeling that all of Ridgeville's attention is focused east of Asbury. She also said sometimes she does not receive the Ridgeville brochures that are mailed to each household twice a year.

Jean Zuiker expressed concerns about plans to place port-a-potties in Elks Park, Kamen West Park and Ridgeville Park in June, July and August, 2015. She asked if residents will be informed about this. The matter is to be discussed at the April 9 board meeting.

David Braun asked why nepotism was included on the meeting's agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion #4:** Ann Covode made a motion to approve minutes from the February 12, 2015 meeting. Michael Drennan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Bills:**

**Motion #5:** Michael Drennan made a motion to approve payment of March bills in the amount of \$15,952.97. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Petty Cash Expenditures:**

**Motion #6:** Ann Covode made a motion to approve March petty cash expenditures in the amount of \$858.74. Michael Drennan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski's presented his monthly report.**

**Highlights:**

The maintenance crew has been focusing on indoor projects because of the ongoing cold winter weather and will be slightly behind schedule when they are finally able to begin spring cleanup in the parks. Two badly damaged trees in the northeast corner of Elks Park were removed.

Brian and Kari attended the volunteer fair at ETHS on March 4 to meet potential summer employees and volunteers. They hope to complete summer hiring by mid-May.

Eagle Scout candidate Ryan Prestangen met with Brian to discuss doing a project for Ridgeville.

A new computer is being ordered for Kari's office. Brian will use Kari's old computer.

Knutte & Associates has submitted a bid to do Ridgeville's audit for three years.

A review of the budget indicates spending is on course. There will be increased payroll costs during the summer because of various projects and camp programs.

**Program Director Kari Lindquist presented her monthly report. Highlights:**

The February 28 Seed Exchange co-hosted by Ridgeville and Edible Evanston at the Community House was successful. Edible Evanston is proposing continuing the partnership by co-hosting workshops and/or another seed exchange.

The 2015 Garden2Table class has begun, with nine people enrolled in the Introduction Class and 12 people enrolled in the Advanced Class. There is a budget in place for the two sessions of the classes to make sure the classes don't lose money.

Class participants have been notified that the spring schedule begins soon and an e-mail blast was sent to all patrons.

Work continues on a plan for Elks Park garden plots with more detailed rules and procedures, including required cleanup of each plot by June 1.

Registrations are coming in for Spring Break Camp (April 6-10). Flyers in English and Spanish were distributed to neighborhood schools and are included in the District 65 on-line site.

Many counselors from last summer have expressed interest in working at Ridgeville again this coming summer. There also is much interest in the Counselor In Training Program. Kari will be interviewing applicants.

**Treasurer Gerry Gibbs presented his monthly report. Highlights:**

Gerry distributed updated figures from the park district's General Ledger and Appropriation Ledger. Gerry noted that \$9,783 has been spent on attorney's fees so far this fiscal year compared to the budgeted amount of \$10,000 for the entire year.

**Mike Miro presented a report from the Ridgeville Cultural Arts Foundation. Highlights:**

The Foundation is planning three summer events:

- Community Soccer Festival in Kamen East and Kamen West Parks on July 18
- Shakespeare on the Ridge performances in Ridgeville Park in July + August
- End of Summer Food Truck Festival in Ridgeville Park on August 23

In addition, a fundraiser for the Foundation probably will be scheduled in October or November.

**Corporate Secretary/Office Manager Anna Christina Nelson presented a report.**

**Highlights:**

Anna Christina thanked Rob Bady for organizing the board's honoring of Ray Knox at the February 12 meeting. Mr. Knox lives in Evanston and played in the Negro Baseball League. She also asked the board to adopt a resolution each February celebrating African American History Month.

Brett Flickinger passed away. He was the son of Ted Flickinger, long-time president of the Illinois Association of Park Districts. On behalf of the board and staff, Anna Christina sent a message of condolence through the funeral parlor's on-line system.

Anna Christina would like have an alternative to using her personal credit card for some park district purchases. Brian and Gerry will come up with a recommendation.

Anna Christina suggested that the park district have a policy for screening those who want to volunteer. Kari will check with other park districts' policies.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Commissioner Guidelines: Best Practices**

Michael Drennan distributed a statement for board members to consider.

#### **IAPD Board Development Program Update**

Michael Drennan is speaking next week with Nancy Sylvester, master parliamentarian. He suggested the board may want to meet with her in the future.

#### **Racial Justice Statement:**

Dan Coyne distributed copy of: "A resolution acknowledging the racially exclusionary past of Goshen, Indiana, as a Sundown Town."

#### **Board Agenda Procedure:**

Attorney David Saunders reviewed the procedure for preparing the agenda for each monthly meeting:

- Commissioners are to turn in agenda items by the Friday before each monthly meeting-- sending them to Brian Rosinski + Anna Christina Nelson.

- Agenda item language should be neutral.

- Anna Christina Nelson will e-mail Commissioners the draft agenda on the Friday before the monthly meeting.

- Revisions are to be communicated to Brian and Anna before noon on the Monday before the meeting. Draft version to be reviewed by District's attorney.

- The final version of the agenda is to be posted 48 hours before the meeting (by 7:45 p.m. Tuesday) and Kari Lindquist will post the final version on-line.

A new category is being added to each agenda – "Other New Business." At that time of the meeting, Commissioners may bring up matters for discussion that are not listed on the agenda. No votes can be taken on these issues.

### **New Business:**

#### **Elks Park Garden Plot**

See Kari Lindquist report (above)

#### **Contract Proposal from Knutte & Associates (auditing firm):**

**Motion #7:** Dan Coyne made a motion to approve a three-year contract with Knutte & Associates to complete the Ridgeville Park District annual audit as follows: \$5,900 for the year ending June 30, 2015; \$6,000 for the year ending June 30, 2016 and \$6,100 for the year ending June 30, 2017. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Brian Rosinski Discrimination Complaint Discernment Process**

See Executive Session and Motion #1 (above)

**FOIA Clarification**

Dan Coyne asked about board members' having access to e-mail addresses for Ridgeville patrons. David Saunders said the e-mail addresses are to remain private.

**Nepotism Policy Review**

Dan Coyne would like the board to re-visit the nepotism policy at a future meeting.

**Condition of Basketball Court in Ridgeville Park**

Dan Coyne said there is a large crack in the Ridgeville Park basketball court that was refinished a year ago.

**Portable Potties in 3 Ridgeville Parks**

The board has budgeted for portable toilets be placed in three parks – Elks, Kamen West and Ridgeville Parks – during June, July and August. It has been suggested that the time be extended to include May and September. The matter will be on the agenda for the board's April 9 meeting. Pat McCourt repeated his opposition to placement of the portable toilets in any of the parks.

**Motion #8:** At 9:00 p.m. Michael Drennan made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rita McCourt