

THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON JANUARY 14, 2016 IN THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY HOUSE, LOCATED AT 908 SEWARD STREET, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.

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

Also Present: Programs Director Kari Lindquist, Corporate Secretary/Office Manager Anna Christina Nelson, Ridgeville Foundation Director Mike Miro, Treasurer Gerald Gibbs, Cate Moulton of Knutte & Associates

Citizens: Debby Braun, Pat Schumacher

President Michael Drennan called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m.

Citizen Comment: none

Ridgeville Foundation Director Mike Miro presented a report:

The new name is Ridgeville Foundation, formerly Ridgeville Cultural Arts Foundation. The foundation netted \$2,000 from its fall fund-raising event and now has \$10,000 in the bank. Arc Theater Company and Mudlark Theater Company will perform two Shakespeare plays in Ridgeville Park next summer -- "Midsummer Night's Dream" and "As You Like It."

Annual Auditor:

Cate Moulton of Knutte & Associates reviewed the annual audit and answered board members' questions.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1: Dan Coyne made a motion that minutes from the December 10, 2015 board meeting be approved. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

Motion #3: Pat McCourt made a motion to approve payment of January bills in the amount of \$21,581.65. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board members discussed a \$400 donation to the Ridgeville Band of Evanston. Dan will ask the band director to attend a board meeting.

Approval of Petty Cash Expenditures:

Motion #2: Dan Coyne made a motion to approve January petty cash expenditures in the amount of \$579.88. Rob Bady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Programs Director Kari Lindquist presented her monthly report. Highlights:

Registration for Ridgeville's summer camp programs is off to a great start. First day registrations (January 4) totaled more than \$20,000. Day camp for 5-7-year-olds is filled but a few spots are being reserved for scholarship students.

Winter classes have begun. Fall classes had the highest participation in more than three years. Kari has been marketing Ridgeville programs by:

- placing an ad in the Evanston RoundTable newspaper
- distributing flyers in various parts of Evanston
- posting information in the District 65 digital backpack
- e-mailing participants in classes from last winter and fall
- posting information on Facebook (reaching approximately 800 people)
- offering a deal to people who registered for summer camp sessions to save money when registering for a winter class

Ten students have signed up for four STEAM Workshops (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) that are being held at Nichols Middle School in partnership with Y.O.U. The workshops are starting with a two-part series on Claymation.

Promotion continues for the 2016 Garden2Table program, which will begin in March. There is an "Early Bird Special" offer, \$20 off for those who register by January 25. Garden2Table Instructor Amy Dale and her team members are promoting the program at the Evanston Farmers Market and are helping design marketing materials.

From 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, January 23 there will be a free workshop on propagation from Edible Evanston. Amy Dale and Ridgeville's Garden2Table class will be featured. Ridgeville will host another Edible Evanston Seed Swap in February.

During the evening of Thursday, February 18 Ridgeville is partnering with the Evanston Public Library to host a discussion as part of the library's Big Read program. Evanston residents are invited to read "Into the Beautiful North" by Luis Alberto Urrea.

Treasurer Gerry Gibbs presented his monthly report. Highlights:

Gerry gave board members updated appropriation ledgers for July 2015 through December 2015 and a list of "Outstandings" as of December 31, 2015. These total \$6,666.88 and include items charged but not approved by the board or approved by the board but not cleared. Gerry also reported on certificates of deposit at First Bank & Trust totaling \$195,113.98.

Kari Lindquist presented the report from Director of Parks & Recreation

Brian Rosinski. Highlights: Installation of the new ice rink system in Kamen East Park was completed on January 9. A team of staff members and volunteers finished the job. Skating began this week. Alejandro Ramirez will staff the David Wood

Fieldhouse/Warming House. Hours will be Monday through Friday from 4-8 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday from noon-8 p.m (weather permitting).

In mid-November a tree in Reba Park damaged the top of a building at 717 Reba Place. The damage was caused by heavy winds that pushed a tree limb against the top of the building. Brian had the tree pruned immediately. Building occupants asked Ridgeville to pay for the repairs, which totaled \$850.00. Ridgeville's insurance company denied the claim. Michael Drennan will speak with Brian about investigating the matter further.

Old Business

Review Comparable Equitable Employee Benefits With Other Park Districts

Tabled until January meeting.

Review Commissioner Code of Conduct

Dan Coyne said he will not sign the Illinois Association of Park Districts' Board Member of Conduct that was signed by the other four board members at the November 12, 2015 meeting.

New Business

Capital Improvement Plan

There was lengthy discussion about board members setting short-term and long-term goals for the park district. Ann Covode will work with board members to decide a date for a special board meeting to focus on planning. The goal is to have the meeting before April 1.

The annual review of Brian Rosinski was postponed until the February meeting.

Motion #4: At 9 p.m. Dan Coyne made a motion that the board go into executive session. Rob Bady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rita McCourt

Rob Bady requested the executive session to discuss Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski's health issues and how to support him.

Motion #5: At 9:15 p.m. Rob Bady made a motion that the board come out of executive session. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion #6: At 9:16 p.m. Rob Bady made a motion that meeting be adjourned. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Pat McCourt