

NOVEMBER 12, 2015 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes – Approved Page 1 of 1
APPROVED

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

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

Late Arrival: Rob Bady (at 7:55 p.m.)

Also Present: Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski, Programs Director Kari Lindquist, Treasurer Gerald Gibbs

Citizens: Debby Braun, Pat Schumacher

President Michael Drennan called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Citizen Comment:
none

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1: Dan Coyne made a motion that minutes from the October 8, 2015 board meeting be approved. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion #2: Dan Coyne made a motion that minutes from the commissioners' October 10 tour of park district buildings and parks be approved. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

Motion #3: Dan Coyne made a motion to approve payment of November bills in the amount of \$18,173.41. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Petty Cash Expenditures:

Motion #4: Dan Coyne made a motion to approve November petty cash expenditures in the amount of \$946.38. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Gerry Gibbs presented his monthly report. Highlights:

Gerry gave board members a copy of the latest appropriation ledger figures for fiscal year 2015-16.

The auditors' report will be presented at the board's December meeting.

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

Highlights:

After commissioners toured buildings and parks on October 10, Brian and Ruben Sierra compiled a list of projects to be completed and needed repairs. Work has begun on these assignments.

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Between 50 and 60 families attended the "Halloween Happening" at the Community house on

October 22. Staff members did a great job -- Ruben and Marcos decorated. Kari and Anna Christina dressed in costumes and handed out candy to trick-or-treaters.

Brian has asked for an estimate of what it would cost to prune Siberian elm trees along the alley north of Leider Park. It would cost \$3,500 to remove the trees. The City of Evanston will pay \$875 toward the cost of pruning or removing the trees. The trees are outside the fence but partially on Ridgeville property.

Programs Director Kari Lindquist presented her monthly report. Highlights: Four weeks remain in the fall term of classes, which have the largest number of participants in more than two years.

Singer/guitarist Joel Frankel entertained at the Halloween Happening. The weather was beautiful so those who attended could enjoy the entertainment and decorations inside the Community House and play in Ridgeville Park.

Five students participated in Ridgeville's second S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) workshop, which took place on November 4 in the Community House. The students made miniature farmers' market stands and learned about sustainable food practices. The next workshop -- on December 2 -- will focus on green technology. The program is for students in 4th through 8th grades.

Y.O.U. contacted Kari about starting a partnership for after-school programming. Ridgeville and Y.O.U. cooperated in offering the S.T.E.A.M. program November 3 at Dawes Elementary School.

Kari met with the program director and art director for the FUSE program at Northwestern University to learn about their youth S.T.E.A.M. programs. Kari wants Ridgeville's program to be different from Northwestern's and use the park district's special resources, such as green space.

Kari and the graphic designer Sarin Seesawat are working on the park district's spring/summer brochure. Kari hopes to have the brochure delivered to households the first full week of December. It will include information about the new ice rink system that will be used at Kamen East Park. Board members discussed possibly scheduling a special event to kick off the ice skating season and publicize the new rink system.

The Garden2 Table program ended with a potluck on November 1. Kari is making plans to promote the 2016 program.

Old Business

Employee Benefits

NOVEMBER 12, 2015 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes – Approved Page 3 of 1

Dan Coyne has asked the board to discuss the benefits offered to each of Ridgeville's full-time employees. Brian will compile a short list of park districts similar in size to Ridgeville. Dan will investigate benefits offered to employees of those park districts and report to the board in December. The matter will be listed on the December agenda as: Review of Comparable Equity in Employee Benefits Between Park Districts.

Review Commissioner Code of Conduct

Pat McCourt asked that board members sign the Illinois Association of Park Districts' Board Member Code of Conduct. Discussion followed. Rob Bady, Ann Covode, Michael Drennan and Pat McCourt signed the code of conduct. Dan Coyne did not sign it.

New Business

IAPD Annual Business Meeting

The board appointed Anna Christina Nelson to be Ridgeville's delegate to the Illinois Association of Park Districts business meeting in late January. Rob Bady will be the alternate.

Commissioners Tour of Facilities

The board reviewed reports Brian Rosinski and Michael Drennan compiled after commissioners toured Ridgeville buildings and parks on October 10. Brian's report listed each building and park and what repairs/improvements need to be made in each place. Michael's report included photos taken during the tour, highlighting improvements that could be made and categorizing them as:
1.) costing the district money, 2.) unsafe, 3.) unsightly, 4.) lost opportunity

Capital Improvement Plan

It was the consensus of the board that replacing play equipment in Brummel Park will be the next major capital improvement in the park district. Ridgeville will apply for federal Community Development Block Grant funds to pay for the new equipment. Ann and Rob agreed to be a subcommittee that will take a look at the Garage/Art Studio (just east of the Community House) and report on what other functions the building could serve and whether it makes sense to install plumbing and heat in the shed.

It was the consensus of the board that a special board meeting be scheduled after January 1 to discuss a long-term plan for capital improvements to be undertaken in the next three to five years. Each commissioner is to submit a list of five projects he/she would like to see included in the long-term plan.

Motion #5: At 9:25 p.m. Pat McCourt made a motion that the board go into executive session.

Rob Bady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rita McCourt

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The purpose of the executive session was the annual review of Kari Lindquist, Ruben Sierra and Marcos Cruz.

Motion #6: At 10 p.m. Pat McCourt made a motion that the board come out of executive session. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion #7: Pat McCourt made a motion to increase the wages of Kari Lindquist from \$18.00 to \$19.50 per hour effective October 15, 2015; to increase Ruben Sierra's wages from \$19.10 to \$19.70 per hour effective November 20, 2015; and to increase Marcos Cruz's wages from \$18.10 to \$18.70 per hour effective October 23, 2015. Rob Bady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion #8: At 10:05 p.m. Dan Coyne made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Rob Bady seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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