

APPROVED

**THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON MARCH 9, 2017 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:** Program Director Natalie Sallee, Treasurer Gerald Gibbs

**Absent:** Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski

**Citizens:** J. Boarini, Jason Brown, Shama Jacover, J. Kunz, Rev. Dr. Michael Nabors, Vincent Thomas

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

**Citizen Comment:** None

Dan Coyne introduced Rev. Dr. Michael Nabors, president of the Evanston chapter of the NAACP and pastor of Second Baptist Church in Evanston. Rev. Dr. Nabors was invited to address the board as a belated way to celebrate Black History Month (February).

Rev. Dr. Nabors gave a summary of his background and that of Second Baptist Church. He said he would like to foster a partnership and collaboration between the African-American community and Ridgeville. He was presented with a letter expressing welcome and thanks signed by Ridgeville board members and staff.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Treasurer Gerry Gibbs noted an error in the draft minutes from the February 9, 2017 meeting. In Motion #5, the amount should be \$39.90, not \$9.90.

The motion as amended:

**Motion #5:** Dan Coyne made a motion to move \$39.90 from Outstanding Items to Income as a check reissue fee. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion #1:** Dan Coyne made a motion to approve amended minutes from the February 9, 2017 meeting. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Bills:**

**Motion #2:** Dan Coyne made a motion to approve payment of March bills in the amount of \$11,844.72. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Petty Cash Expenditures:**

**Motion #3:** Dan Coyne made a motion to acknowledge there were no petty cash expenditures to approve at the March 9, 2017 meeting. Rob Bady seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Program Director Natalie Sallee presented her monthly report. Highlights:**

Ridgeville hosted one of the city's free Winter HeARTh events on February 18 outside the Community House. Between 30 and 40 people attended the event – “Rocks and Rolls” – that included music, rock painting and serving soup and rolls. The painted rocks then were made into rock gardens.

Natalie is interviewing and hiring summer staff members for Ridgeville's various camps. Many of the 2016 counselors are eager to return and some of the former Counselors In Training (who have turned 16) have applied for jobs.

Spring classes begin March 20. A new class will be offered on Saturday afternoons – Intro to Acting and Improv for Adults. There has been an increase in the number of Sampler Cards sold.

Natalie has created a Celebration Board on the park district website, which she plans to update each month. Black History month was celebrated on the website in February. Plans are to celebrate Women's History month in March and Asian Pacific American Heritage in April.

From 7-8 p.m. on March 20 in the Community House Natalie will lead a discussion of the book “The Other Wes Moore” as part of the Evanston Public Library's Community Wide Read event.

Ridgeville Park District is partnering with the City of Evanston in a “Clean Up, Evanston!” event on April 22, in honor of Arbor Day and Earth Day.

The Farmers Market in Ridgeville Park will begin June 7 and end October 11. Natalie is seeking new vendors has updated the vendor application and posted it on the Ridgeville website. She also has contacted previous vendors about returning for the 2017 season.

**Program Director Natalie Sallee presented the monthly report of Director of Parks & Recreation Brian Rosinski. Highlights:**

Summer jobs have been advertised and staff is taking applications. Natalie has done a nice job working with returning staff, interviewing applicants and attending job fairs.

The annual Golden Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 8. Mr. Bunny will be on hand and there will children's entertainment in the main studio of the Community House.

The maintenance crew has taken down the Kamen East Park ice rink and stored it. The liner could not be saved and has been recycled. A new liner will be purchased during the annual Nice Rinks sale.

The Community House was a polling place for two precincts for the city election on February 28 and will again be a polling place for the election on April 4.

Spring Break Camp will take place from March 27-March 31. Vee Witter will be the director and counselors will be Bryan Richards and Wesley Shavers.

Brian hopes to hear from the city before the April board meeting about the status of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money for proposed improvements to Brummel Park.

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

Gerry recommended the following motion:

**Motion #4:** Dan Coyne made a motion to write off various outstanding/unresolved items with a gross total of \$646.32. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Gerry distributed and reviewed the updated appropriation ledger, balance sheet, statement of revenue and appropriations and general ledger.

**Capital Improvements Committee**

Leider Park – no report

Art Studio (east of Community House) – no report

It was the consensus of the board that the April agenda include proposed improvements to Brummel Park as part of the capital improvements report. It also was suggested that alternative funding sources be researched if CDBG funds are not forthcoming.

**Old Business**

**Illinois Association of Park Districts Code of Conduct**

Brian will be asked to send each board member a digital copy of the code of conduct to be discussed at the April meeting.

**Video Taping of Ridgeville Board Meetings**

It was the consensus of the board that the monthly board meetings be recorded on park district equipment and then posted on the park district's Facebook page. Dan will work with staff to select the equipment and explore options for placement of the equipment in the meeting room.

**New Business**

**Summer Staff**

The board was asked to consider for summer employment brothers Kevin and Darren Williams, brothers Mike Miro and Patrick Baranovskis and Lois Rosinski, Brian's wife. In addition, the board was asked whether Rita McCourt, Pat's wife, should be retained to take minutes at board meetings. This discussion was in accordance with the park district's personnel policy, requiring annual board approval of hiring employees related to full-time employees, part-time employees and board members.

**Motion #5:** Ann Covode made a motion that Kevin Williams, Darren Williams, Mike Miro and Patrick Baranovskis and Lois Rosinski be hired for the summer and that Rita McCourt be retained to take minutes at board meetings. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-2.

**Citizen Comments:**

Jason Brown, a member of the Ridgeville Foundation board, invited board members to look at the new rock gardens. He also invited board members to suggest cultural and artistic events for the foundation to sponsor/support.

**Motion #6:** At 9:01 p.m. Pat McCourt made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ann Covode seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rita McCourt

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