

## APPROVED

THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON AUGUST 10, 2017 IN THE RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY HOUSE, LOCATED AT 908 SEWARD STREET, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.

Commissioners Present: Rob Bady (Vice President), Debby Braun, Ann Covode (President), Dan Coyne, Pat McCourt

Commissioners Absent: (none)

Also Present: Gerald Gibbs (Treasurer), Julie Larson (Minute Taker), Brian Rosinski (Director of Parks and Recreation), Natalie Sallee (Program Director), Charles Valente (Attorney)

Citizens: (none)

President Ann Covode called the meeting to order at 7:48pm.

### Citizen Comment Part 1:

There was no Citizen Comment offered.

### Approval of Minutes:

**Motion #1:** Pat McCourt moved to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2017 Board meeting. Debby Braun seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Approval of Bills:

Brian Rosinski discussed the monthly bills outlined in the document, "Ridgeville Park District: CORPORATE - Monthly Bills Summary: August 10, 2017," noting (among other items) that "Nice Rink" is the ice rink liner that was mentioned at last month's meeting.

**Motion #2:** Dan Coyne moved to approve payment of July 2017 bills in the amount of \$19,485.04. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Approval of Petty Cash Expenditures:

Brian Rosinski discussed the petty cash expenditures outlined in the document, "Ridgeville Park District: Petty Cash: August 9, 2017," noting that many of the expenditures were going towards music performers.

**Motion #3:** Dan Coyne moved to approve payment of July 2017 petty cash expenditures in the amount of \$980.00. Rob Bady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Program Update offered by Natalie Sallee, Program Director:

- This month, Ridgeville Park District celebrates Dick Peach, President and Director of the Evanston Rotary Club for World Humanitarian Day on August 19th. He has devoted his

life to serving the Evanston community! He is honored this month on our website. Many present at the meeting knew of Mr. Peach and spoke highly of him.

- Summer Camp: We received positive feedback from parents. This was Natalie's first experience with running Ridgeville's summer camp and expressed that she learned a lot.
- Dance Camp: This was our first summer offering dance camp. We had six kids participate in each of two camps, and we made a small profit. There is lots of potential with this camp for future years.
- Concerts on the Ridge: Overall, this program was a big success. The taco truck came to one concert and was awesome; there was a line for tacos for hours. Natalie has lots of ideas for next year.
- Shakespeare on the Ridge: The show will be closing this next weekend. We have been averaging 75 attendees per night and have received great reviews.
- Farmers Market: We have two farmers and Katz Cookies that come consistently as well as three other vendors who sell at the market. This program continues to do well.
- Fall Class Sessions: Natalie is streamlining class sessions by offering two, eight-week fall sessions (Fall I and Fall II). In addition, she is making it possible to sign up for more than one class at a time online, as per patron feedback. Seniors get a \$25 discount on all classes. The fall sessions for adults and youth will start up this next week.
- LatinX Event: Ridgeville will host an event for Hispanic Heritage Month on September 17th with music, food trucks, activities for kids, and giveaways. This event is a collaboration with the Evanston LatinX Business Alliance and the City of Evanston at Kamen East park.
- Commissioner Dan Coyne offered positive feedback to Natalie about the online Facebook live-stream video coverage of the meeting, and he reported that he was able to watch it while he was out of town for last month's meeting.

Financial Update offered by Gerry Gibbs, Treasurer:

Gerry Gibbs distributed and discussed the following document:

1. "Preliminary - With Closing Accruals from July 2018 (pending August) Ridgeville Park District Appropriations Ledger - Fiscal Year 2016/17". He shared that overall, the picture is looking pretty good.

Monthly Update offered by Brian Rosinski, Director of Parks and Recreation:

- Brain gave credit to Natalie Sallee and the many camp counselors for a wonderful and successful camp season.
- Soccer Fest: This event was a great success; 11 teams registered to play.
- Food Truck Fest at Brummel Park: This was also a huge success; 600-700 people enjoyed the evening together.
- National Night Out on August 1st was successful. There was a moon bounce, DJ, and taco vendor. About 200 people attended in addition to Cicely Fleming, 9th Ward Alderman.

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Brian shared that we have signed the grant agreement for \$76,250 but we cannot spend money until the money is in the City of Evanston's hands, which it is NOT. Hopefully the money will get transferred from the federal government to the City in the coming weeks. Brian will put the project out to bid this month and have it back for the Board's approval in the September Board meeting.
- Leider Park: The drinking fountain in Leider Park has been repaired. The City tested the water and it came back high again; they think the water that sat in the pipes for 6-8 weeks affected this outcome. They and Brian are not worried about it; the fountain is getting flushed and will be retested before it is turned back on for public use. The City is paying for the testing.
- Brian distributed great Evanston Roundtable reviews for Natalie and the Shakespeare on the Ridge productions.
- Commissioner Dan Coyne praised Brian for all the great events and all the hundreds of people served this summer through the park district. Improvement work on Brummel Park was a 2-year process and now it's a big deal to finally get it done this coming fall.
- Vice President Rob Bady noted that St. Francis Hospital has a new president who lives in Evanston, Kenneth Jones. He wondered if RPD partners with St. Francis for anything. Rob agreed to reach out to Kenneth and invite him to our next meeting.

#### Capital Improvements Committee Update:

- Leider Park: Rob Bady talked with Natalie Sallee recently about a skate spot idea. He noted a skate spot in the Lincolnwood Park District that is 30x70 feet and gets a lot of use by the local kids. For Ridgeville, we could look into distributing a survey to gauge public interest and then look into funding. Dan Coyne noted that he visited the Lincolnwood skate spot in the past and casually interviewed neighbors while there; they reported positive feelings about the skate spot.
- Art Studio: President Ann Covode met with Natalie Sallee and an architect recently. Natalie did a fabulous job of cleaning up the second floor for a theater Green Room. Ann noted that currently, the AC is operational but the heat and water do not work upstairs. Brian Rosinski explained there's no gas supply to the building at this time. The water is simply turned off and could be turned on again if desired. Putting in heat would make the space useable in the winter. Brian will get an estimate for the cost of a furnace.

#### Old Business:

- Corporate Budget: There was some conversation regarding the shortfall in revenues from programming. Gerry Gibbs offered some explanations to the shortfall being due to a handful of things. He discussed transferring tax revenue to future years in addition to the Community Development Block Grant situation this year. In addition, Natalie Sallee suspects that the shortage in programming profits could be in part due to the turnover in her position last fall. Gibbs noted that in the big picture, "we're okay." The Board also discussed Personal Property Replacement Tax and how Ridgeville benefits from this tax

each year. Brian Rosinski noted that he will raise camp fees and class fees going forward to make them closer to a market value (e.g. a 5% increase for camp fees).

- Schedule for Approval of FY 2017-2018 Budget: A public hearing will be held September 14th, at 7:15pm (15 minutes prior to the 7:30pm meeting). Gibbs noted that he will close out the books after tonight's meeting. At that point, he can schedule a budget review meeting sometime after August 21st (and prior to the public hearing) and agreed to communicate with Commissioners and Ridgeville staff about scheduling dates/times.

New Business:

- Commissioner Dan Coyne brought a topic of conversation to be had in the fall. He would like to explore interest from the Board in hearing from each Commissioner about their personal perspectives on the happenings in Ridgeville parks and Evanston at large. The Board could hear from one Commissioner per meeting, perhaps. President Ann Covode noted a previous conversation she had with Vice President Rob Bady regarding the idea of having Commissioners "adopt-a-park."

Citizen Comment Part 2:

There was no Citizen Comment offered.

**Motion #4:** Ann Covode moved to adjourn the meeting. Pat McCourt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Larson, Minute Taker