

PEKIN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25, 2021
At the Mineral Springs Park Robert N. Blackwell Administration Building
1701 Court Street, Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to Order:

President Helm called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

2. Roll Call:

The following commissioners were present: Gary Gillis, Paula Helm, Greg Maloney and Greg Ranney. Absent were: Commissioners Marv Brown, Kyle Cain and Kristen Walraven. Also in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Dori Smith, Board Secretary/Assistant to the Executive Director, Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Scott Clausen (by phone), Superintendent of Parks; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator; Chip Hill; Business Manager and Luke VonDerHeide, Chief of Park Police. Press was not present.

3. Additions to and/or Deletions from the Agenda, if any:

None.

4. Public Input: None

5. Consent Agenda and Approval of the same:

Commissioner Maloney expressed that he wanted to apologize to Dori Smith publicly for comments made at the February 11, 2021 meeting. She thanked him and accepted his apology.

A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2021.

B. Approval of the January 2021 Treasurer's Report

C. Approval of the bills and payroll for 2/9/2021 thru 2/22/2021 in the amount of \$18,961.47

D. Approval of bills to be paid 2/26/2021 in the amount of \$4,305.31

Move to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Ranney
All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

6. Motion to pass the items of business listed in the Consent Agenda:

Move to pass the business items in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote as stated in the meeting agenda.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Maloney
All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried.

7. Budget Performance Summary Report: January 2021

The Executive Director reported that there are transfers that need to take place and some corrections. He also noted that gas, electric and waste water expenses were all up. He noted that he would highlight adjustments that needed to take place in a memo.

8. IRVSRA Representative Report:

Commissioner Gillis stated no meeting – no report

9. Fair Board Representative Report:

Commissioner Maloney stated no meeting – no report. He stated that the March 16th meeting would be his last as Fair Board representative.

10. Pekin Park Foundation Report:

Commissioner Gillis reported they met last week and that the agenda was included in Board meeting packets. He reported they discussed the process for bringing on new Director's to their Board, and setting up accounts with Vanguard, Investment Broker for the Endowment Fund. He also reported that Cameron Bettin gave an update on current challenges and needs of the Park District.

11. Executive Director's Report: (ED)

The ED reported the "draft" of Stable Lease Agreement was done and that it had been given to Amanda Schwarz for review by her and her Attorney.

The ED reported that he and Dori Smith met with Dick Wherry and Mike Seghetti regarding Mike Seghetti becoming the Park District's Attorney. He noted that his recommendation was to appoint Mike Seghetti as Park District Attorney. He noted that if we choose to, we can always go out for an RFP for Attorney services later. He also noted that he felt his hourly

rate was very reasonable. He also noted that Mike Seghetti has been working with Dick Wherry on the Village of Tremont needs. The ED asked if the Board would like for Mike Seghetti to attend a meeting in March – the answer was “yes”.

The ED reported that removal of the playground was taking place, the climbing wall was picked up and a donation is to be made to the Foundation, and the dragon from the 2-5 year area was saved.

The ED reported that he is working with Amy Wilson from the Farnsworth Group getting ready to go out for bids on the Tennis/Pickleball Courts. He noted work will take place mid-June – August.

The ED reported that he attended the IAPD Legislative Breakfast virtually.

The ED reported that he and Dori Smith met with Shawn Powers and Carrie Smith regarding scheduling at the Pekin Sports Complex.

The ED reported that he is working with the Health Department to develop a Health and Wellness Policy.

The ED also reported that he attended a virtual IPRA & IPRF Joint meeting.

12. Attorney’s Report: No report

13. Staff Reports:

Cory Proehl reported he is looking at opening Parkview Golf Course the middle of next week. He indicated he didn’t want to open too early and noted concerns with clean-up and potential damage to turf.

14. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Gillis reported he also attended the IAPD Legislative Breakfast. It was noted that Mayor Mark Luft is now also our State Representative and that IAPD is hoping the Park District could work together with State Representative Luft and get a little closer to get help with essential services.

Commissioner Maloney asked about the car that sits in the parking lot east of the Administration Building. Cameron Bettin replied IRVSRA uses it, but not much. Commissioner Maloney suggested that maybe it could be parked under shelter.

15. Unfinished Business: None

16. New Business:

1. Presentation of the 2021 Golf Fund Budget –

Cameron Bettin asked that Chip Hill explain starting and ending cash first. Chip Hill explained that the ending (December) and starting (January) cash for Golf is showing approximately \$160,000 negative more than it would during our previous FY end. He added this is because of how our line of credit borrowings in June would be posted to the Golf Fund and then get paid back in July. The \$160,000 is related to the debt from the golf course buying golf carts in October 2018. The debt was to be reduced by \$40,000 per year. With the change of the fiscal year to a calendar year, the Golf Fund will now show the full debt at the end/beginning of the fiscal year.

Cory Proehl first talked about the state of golf in general and how well golf is doing. He shared some national golf statistics. He reported an uptick in participation of children and women. He indicated that he was working hard on how to retain golfers. He stated that all green fees are going up a \$1, except for Adult Non-Resident fees will increase \$3. He also stated that Range Passes, Coupon Books and Passes were all seeing a slight increase. He mentioned that we are still well below the average cost of \$62.50 for a round of golf and cart rental. The following are increased expenses he highlighted: equipment purchases in the amount of \$3,000 split between both courses, LC maintenance equipment repair is up due to new reels for mowers, LC fungicides is up - need to purchase more wetting agents to protect turf, LC irrigation is up – more water due to the inefficient 46-year old system, and course improvements is up to fix culvert on #11.

He took a moment to note that we are lucky to have Greg Funk as the Golf Course Superintendent. He explained that there are only three individuals that know the aged irrigation system and that Greg was one of them. He indicated that the time will soon come that repairs will no longer be able to be made and was emphatic that the Park District needs a plan in place to replace the irrigation system at Lick Creek Golf Course. He noted that irrigation system replacement comes with a 2.5 million-dollar tag. Commissioner Gillis noted that maybe we could be proactive and begin conversations with Speer Financial.

He stated that his Goals and Objectives were as follows: continue to grow more outings, keep teaching adults and juniors to get more people playing golf, keep promoting the game of golf to women, children and families, golf in school program, Sunday – Family day kids play free with a full paying adult after 2 pm, and purchase seven more sets of junior clubs from the River Cup Grant. Cameron Bettin noted that the Steve Funk Junior Golf Fund in the Foundation now has a little over \$17,000.00 and that a scholarship package for kids/young adults needs to be developed.

2. Presentation of the 2021 Pekin Sports Complex Concession Budget –

Shawn Powers presented the PSC concession budget for 2021. He reported that he basically budgeted from an average over the past years and that he adjusted salaries to reflect the increase in minimum wage.

3. Presentation of the 2021 Racquet & Health Fund Budget –

Commissioners were given handouts regarding Parkside Fitness Timeline, Parkside Fitness Financial Timeline, Parkside Fitness Cuts, Parkside Fitness Increase Membership/Revenue Actions, and a preliminary 2021 Budget. Cameron Bettin stated he felt the need to schedule a Special Board Meeting to discuss Parkside Fitness. He noted that in budget meetings we've tried to be creative, but that he didn't feel too much more could be done. He noted that we've looked at adjusting hours and cutting classes. He indicated that we will have to increase rates next year. A Special Board meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. March 4th. Cameron Bettin asked commissioners to review the information handed out and submit any questions they may have to him or Dori Smith before the meeting on the 4th so that Keith Knox would have time to get answers. Commissioner Gillis stated he would like to see Goals & Objectives for the coming year, as in what value members get for what they pay.

4. Board approval for the appointment of Valerie Moehle to the Pekin Park District Board of Directors -

Move to approve the appointment of Valerie Moehle to the Pekin Park Foundation Board of Directors.
Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Ranney
All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried.

17. Adjourn:

Move to adjourn this meeting.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Maloney

All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried

Time: 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dori Smith, Board Secretary
Board of Commissioners