

PEKIN PARK DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF  
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
9:00 a.m. Saturday, May 15, 2021  
Mineral Springs Park Robert N. Blackwell Building  
1701 Court Street, Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to Order:

President Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call:

The following Commissioners were present: Marv Brown, Kyle Cain, Gary Gillis, Paula Helm, Sue McMillan, Greg Ranney, and Kristen Walraven (arrived 9:07 a.m.). Also in attendance were; Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Dori Smith, Board Secretary/Assistant to the Director and Mike Seghetti, Park District Attorney. Press was not in attendance.

3. Additions to and/or Deletions from the Agenda, if any: None

4. Comments from the public: None.

5. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of April 22, 2021 meeting Minutes (two sets – Old and New Board).
- B. Approval of the bills and payroll for 4/20/21 thru 5/10/21 in the amount of \$254,838.80.
- C. Approval of bills to be paid 5/17/21 in the amount of \$32,765.86.

Move to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2<sup>nd</sup>: Greg Ranney

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

Move to pass all items of business listed in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

Motion: Greg Ranney 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kyle Cain

All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried

6. Executive Director's Update:

The ED reported that while he was on vacation, Dori Smith forwarded an email that was sent to the Board to Marv Brown and Kyle Cain regarding the change in hours at Parkside Fitness. The ED reminded the Board that discussion had taken place during the budget process regarding a reduction in hours. It was noted that Covid restrictions have been hard on this facility. The hours were adjusted starting in May by mainly adjusting the schedules of two full-time employees. It was noted that Parkside Fitness did lose a few members. It was noted that the "Bridge Phase" was getting close and the intention is to revisit operating hours.

The ED noted that in the Superintendent of Recreation's April Staff Report Shawn Powers reported having conversations with Bo Cheeseman, the head coach and part owner of a startup junior hockey team known as the Vikings. He indicated that he did not bring it up verbally. He indicated they would like to have the Veterans Memorial Arena be their home ice rink, but that they require locker rooms with showers. He also noted that when the Vikings were traveling or in off season, the locker rooms could be used by others. The ED reported he and staff reviewed plans prepared by Darrell Becker in 1972 and that he and staff met with Darrell, who is consulting for Midwest Engineering to figure out an estimated cost. He indicated the Vikings would like a 5 – 7 year commitment and that they would want to sell beer during their games. The ED stated that it's a great opportunity, but there will be expense. He indicated that the Park District would need to talk with the Pekin Park Foundation. Commissioner Ranney stated that he had received a packet this week from Mayor Luft and agreed it could be beneficial.

The ED reminded commissioners of the Farmers Market taking place at the Miller Center from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. on Thursday's at the Miller Center.

The ED reported that the boat dock replacement project is complete. He noted that the old dock posts still to be cut down more due to safety concerns. He noted that the original dock was well built.

The ED reported that bids for the viewing and fishing piers open next week. He noted that wood costs are going through the roof.

The ED reported Mike Seghetti had prepared the Agreement for tennis court rental by Bradley University at Parkside Fitness and that it had been sent to Bradley for review.

The ED noted that in Luke VonDerHeide's staff report he talked about giving a \$500 donation to an area school in need of softball equipment. He noted that a majority of the funds came straight from Luke.

The ED reported that he had been asked to serve on the hiring committee for the Executive Director of the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association.

The ED stated he did not ask staff to attend a Saturday meeting. He noted that it's been very busy and he thought he'd give them a break.

7. Staff Reports: None

8. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Helm commented that there was a big soccer tournament (67 teams) taking place at the Sports Complex over Memorial Day weekend.

Commissioner Ranney commented that he hoped staff would be in attendance.

9. Unfinished Business: None

10. New Business:

1. Review of March Budget Summary –

The ED indicated that he worked on a new format with Chip Hill and asked commissioners if they were ok with the new format. He also noted that Chip was able to be caught up better with the transfers and corrections. He asked again, if anyone had questions. Commissioner Cain stated that she would like to see column headings rearranged. Commissioner Ranney indicated he would like to see the "Check Report" display more information like the "Payable Register Report". Commissioner Gillis indicated he would like to see the Budget Summary Report display revenue over expense management.

2. Discussion of the Strategic Plan –

The ED indicated he had been working on updates to the Strategic Plan when his wife came down with cancer and then Covid came about and he put it aside. He noted that he plans to use July/August to work on the Strategic Plan update. He noted that it should then tie in with the new fiscal year (January – December). Commissioner Gillis mentioned a tie in to with Replacement Plan also.

3. Tour of Parks –

The Board of Commissioners, Executive Director, Assistant to the Executive Director and Park District Attorney went by bus to visit the following parks: Blenkiron Park, Pekin Sports Complex, SSBA Park, Railsplitters Park, Riverfront Park/Miller Park, Willow Park, Rotary Park, Kiwanis Park North, McNaughton Park, and Dirksen Park.

11. Adjourn:

Move to adjourn this meeting.

Motion: Paula Helm 2nd: Kyle Cain

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dori K. Smith, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Pekin Park District