

PEKIN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
6:00 p.m. Thursday, August 18, 2022
At the Mineral Springs Park Robert N. Blackwell Building
1701 Court Street, Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to Order:

President Cain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call:

The following Commissioners were present: Marv Brown, Kyle Cain, Gary Gillis, Paula Helm, Sue McMillan, Greg Ranney and Kristen Walraven (arrived 6:05 p.m.). Also, in attendance were; Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Dori Smith, Board Secretary/Asst. to the Executive Director; Mike Seghetti, Park District Attorney; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Chip Hill, Business Manager; Alisha Dault (arrived 6:50 p.m.), Miller Center Administrator; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Steve Fitzanko, Chief of Park Police and Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation.

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

4. Comments from the public: None

5. Consent Agenda and Approval of the same:

A. Approval of August 4, 2022 meeting Minutes.

B. Approval of bills paid from 7/30/22 thru 8/15/22 in the amount of \$87,512.85

C. Approval of bills to be paid 8/19/21 in the amount of \$46,120.82.

Move to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: 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: Marv Brown 2nd: Paula Helm

All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried

6. IRVSRA Representative Report:

Commissioner Ranney stated no meeting – no report

7. Fair Board Representative Report:

Commissioner McMillan stated no meeting – no report

8. Park Foundation Representative Report:

Commissioner Gillis reported the following: Board Treasurer Chip Hill announced that he had separated \$142,000 and titled as “Unrestricted Funds” in its own account. This breaks it out from our commingled different bank balances. Given our \$80,000 plus commitment to the Golf Leasing program, that leaves us with \$61,000+ truly unrestricted. This is separate from our large Endowment balance.

PERFORMANCE SHELTER:

The Executive Director announced that he had attended a meeting of the band shell committee. They have two conceptual designs they are pursuing and will seek Foundation and Park Board approval after their final selection. The board approved acceptance of the Project Services Agreement from Farnsworth with \$5000 deposited in a new separate Foundation fund with \$500 to follow.

ZAMBONI:

The executive Director announced that an effort is being made to raise funds to purchase another Zamboni. Dustin Maquet from the Railhouse recently conducted a golf outing that raised \$6000. There’s been a request for a grant of \$2500 from the Independent Sports Club of Peoria. Dustin is also working with another foundation hoping to acquire a grant of \$20,000-\$25,000. There’s also a company bringing a new energy drink that’s coming out. They’ve offered directing some of their profits to go to the Zamboni if they’re allowed to advertise on it.

FOUNTAIN UPDATE:

Board president Gary Gillis announced that he has discussed the fountain with Pekin’s mayor who has recently met with Pekin hospital. The hospital expressed a strong interest in being part of the project with charitable funding they have available. The Park foundation will be seeking a special meeting with Terra engineering to fast track its conceptual recommendations and projected costs to submit to the hospital as soon as possible. The hospital has one of its own affiliates also showing a strong interest in the community funding that the hospital has available making this time sensitive.

FUNKY MONKEY:

Cory Proehl, Director of Golf reported on the success of the Funky Monkey Golf Tournament held on May 14. It was very successful with 84 players participating; 28 sponsors and \$4000 raised for the Jr. Golf Fund. The long-term goal is to have greater participation and bringing back the “Pekin City Junior Golf Tournament.”

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING REQUEST FORM:

Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation reported on his drafting of a new program tuition assistance support or grant funded by the Terri Gambetti Scholarship Fund. He fashioned it using forms from other districts. Maximum funding, based on proven need, is 95% ensuring all participants always have their own investment in the program. There also was agreement by the board to create a maximum cap per family.

LARRY’S CASTING KIDS:

Shawn also reported on another successful “Larry’s Casting Kids with 176 kids in attendance. Each registrant received a t-shirt. It continues to be a popular event. However, funding is available through 2025 with Larry’s family having

discontinued its involvement. Funding currently available \$6000+ with costs between \$1000- \$1500 per year.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ZOOM MEETING:

Foundation and Park boards can make a decision on their role as funding is depleted. It was announced that there will be a Zoom meeting hosted on by the NAPF on conducting a Capital campaign on Monday Aug 22nd in the board meeting room at 2 pm.

9. Executive Director's Update: (ED)

The ED reported the following:

- We received a thank you from Groveland Library for providing DragonLand, Mini Golf and Boat passes for their summer reading program. He also noted they had 40 participants and the park district was recognized as a sponsor. He also reported receiving a thank you note from a Sunshine Camp parent that was very pleased with this year's camp. He noted we are receiving good feedback from surveys received.
- He met with Justin Reese of the city regarding the riverfront park splash pad. He indicated the city has \$200,000 in this year's budget to go towards replacement. He noted the city feels the same way regarding the non-circulating system. He also noted they are working with MSA and Vortex on a proposal. Scott Clausen is working on numbers. The city will have this item on their 9/12 meeting agenda.
- Attended the transportation committee meeting. They discussed ITEP bike trail funding and Court Street. He indicated there will be some utility work starting on Court Street next year. He noted he wasn't sure of the status of the trail from Court Street to our bike trail along Stadium Drive.
- He and Dori Smith participated in a IPRF loss control visit.
- He and Keith Knox met with a food vendor. He indicated they are trying something new at Parkside Fitness in October/November. There will also be new options at the Veterans Memorial Arena.
- He and Keith Knox met regarding tennis court repairs on the indoor courts.
- He, Scott Clausen and Steve Fitzanko attended a Marigold Festival safety committee meeting.
- The ED reported he was working on gathering information to be able to submit an OSLAD grant. He noted his focus will be on Phase II and III of the skate park and resurfacing tennis courts across from Parkside Fitness.
- The ED reported he is working on demolition of the old restroom located on the hill by the dugout parking lot. He indicated he was told the park needs a permit from EPA and he was not aware. Burling is working on permits. There is mandatory testing that must also take place.
- He noted there will be at least one adjustment to the budget schedule that was in meeting packets. The Recreation Fund budget will be presented on a different date. The Superintendent of Recreation is not able to present the night he is scheduled.
- The ED has a scheduled call with Aaron Gold next week regarding the annual October bond sale.

- He passed out a memo regarding an email received and noted he wanted to talk about it at the August 18th board meeting.

10. Staff Reports:

Shawn Powers reported DragonLand season has ended and said Mason Carr did a great job his first season. He also noted camp ended Friday. He also said this was Andrew Richey's first year on his own with over 90 campers daily and that he also did a good job. He noted that mini golf and boats were open weekends only now. He also noted that the ice rink was to open Monday but did not due to a mechanical issue but will now open this coming Monday.

Cory Proehl reported he, Cameron Bettin, Chip Hill, Ben Thomas and Mike Thrasher will sign paper work and be squared away with the gaming vendor next week.

11. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Gillis shared a magazine article he wrote and was published in the Illinois Parks & Recreation magazine regarding the power of rebates.

12. Unfinished Business: None

13. New Business:

1. Approval of Ordinance No. 22-5 -

Cameron Bettin stated there were no changes made, it's the same as our last meeting. He noted Casey Smith has done a great job with the new rental contract and he reviewed the contract.

Move to approve Ordinance No. 22-5 – “An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 16-5, Ordinance Regulating the Use of the Parks and Property Owned or Controlled by the Pekin Park District (Alcohol)>
Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Kristen Walraven
All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried.

2. Approval of Ordinance No., 22-6 –

Cameron Bettin reported the subject of service animals came from Alisha Dault and some experiences with the Miller Center transportation service. The Miller Center requires pets to be crated. Mike Seghetti indicated the more difficult part is to determine whether or not an animal is in fact a service animal. There is no certification or other qualification of service animals, and you are limited in what you can ask the person about the service animal. He noted that what he did was change wording to be in compliance with service animals.

Move to approve Ordinance No. 22-6, “An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 16-5, Ordinance Regulating the Use of Parks and Property Owned or Controlled by the Pekin Park District (Service Animals).

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

3. Approval of Ordinance No. 22-7 –

Cameron Bettin noted the items were old food machines from Parkside Fitness and Veterans Memorial Arena that are just taking up space.

Move to approve Ordinance No. 22-7 “An Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the Sale of Certain Excess Personal Property of the District.

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

4. Review and discussion of RFP for audit services –

Cameron Bettin stated that he, Dori Smith and Chip Hill have worked together to update a previous RFP that originally came from Peoria Park District. He indicated a little frustration currently and felt it was just a good time to do it. He also noted they would be posted on Demand Star (a bid platform). He also noted approval of the RFP will be on the October 6, 2022 agenda.

5. Review and discussion of Agreement with the City of Pekin Fire Department -

Cameron Bettin noted he, Dori Smith, Trent Reeise and Tony Rendleman sat down to discuss how everything was going. He noted the Agreement was cleaned up a little and provided a little better clarification. He also noted that Mike Seghetti had reviewed and made a few little changes.

Move to authorize the Executive Director to execute an Agreement with the City of Pekin Fire Department.

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

14. Adjourn:

Move to adjourn this meeting.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Marv Brown

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

Time: 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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