

PEKIN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 2, 2023
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, and Greg Ranney. Absent was Kristen Walraven. Also, in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Dori Smith, Board Secretary/Asst. to the Executive Director; Lane Alster, Attorney; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Chip Hill, Business Manager; Casey Smith, Marketing/ Communications Superintendent; Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator and Steve Fitzanko, Chief of Park Police. Absent was Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager.

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

The ED asked that the closed session be removed from the agenda. He indicated that the semi-annual review of the minutes would take place at the February 16th meeting.

Move to delete closed session from the agenda.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Ranney

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

4. Comments from the public: None

5. Consent Agenda and Approval of the same:

A. Approval of January 19, 2023 meeting Minutes.

B. Approval of the bills and payroll for 1/18/23 thru 1/27/23 in the amount of \$90,808.78

C. Approval of bills to paid 2/3/23 in the amount of \$26,367.88

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: Greg Ranney 2nd: Paula Helm

All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried

6. Executive Director's (ED) Report:

The ED made mention on the first bullet point of his Board Report that he would be on vacation for the March 16th meeting. The 2nd was a mistake. He noted a decision would need to be made to meet with or without him.

The ED reported that the state conference was great. Commissioner Gillis added there was over 3,800 people that attended.

7. Staff Reports: None

8. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Ranney commented that he also felt the conference was great. He noted he attended a lot of good sessions and received some good information.

Commissioner Gillis commented that he moderated one session that had over 80 attend which was not expected. He indicated he would like the park district to look into the Illinois Park District Assets Fund, which are state approved funds. He also commented that he had received a text from a friend that was disappointed in the condition of the Soldwedel Program Center. He stated he felt the park should post on the park website the dilapidated condition of the facility and the plans to demolish so the community can be informed.

9. Unfinished Business:

1. Update on Riverfront Park splash pad –

The ED reported he met with the City Manager and the topic is on the City's February 13th agenda. He indicated the City Manager was hopeful the \$200,000 expense would be reallocated in the City's budget for 2023. He reviewed information sent in board packets. He indicated the water feature was within the same foot print in the same area as the old one at the Riverfront Park. He noted that the wall on the southside would need to be redone and that something other than traditional benches would be added. He indicated that the plans being looked at currently are conceptual, not knowing for sure if the City Council will move forward with the renovation of the current splash pad. He added that the system was noncirculating with touch pad controls and that the cabinet would be located above ground. The plan is to control hours of operation. He also noted he is trying to include every aspect in the cost estimate. He stated it depends on the City at this point. Board President Cain asked if the Health Department had been consulted regarding their shower requirement. The ED answered no showers were necessary due to the noncirculating system.

10. New Business:

1. Discussion of Midwest Engineering Comprehensive Infrastructure Maintenance and Capital Improvement Planning Study for Mineral Springs Park -

The ED noted that he, Dori Smith and Scott Clausen met with Nate Parrot of Midwest Engineering Associates, Inc. a couple of times and introduced Nate.

Nate prepared the Mineral Springs Park Comprehensive Infrastructure Maintenance and Capital Improvement Planning Study which was sent to all commissioners in their board meeting packets. He stated the Study is intended to provide the Park District with a guide for both immediate and future infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements. The Study focuses on the roadway, parking lots, and drainage infrastructure and provides summaries of the existing conditions, priority for needed improvements, recommended improvements, and budgetary opinions of probable construction cost. He noted it is intended to be a "living document" and can be updated. He reviewed the information with a PowerPoint presentation. He also explained the surface material recommended, changes to improve parking lots, detention areas, etc. Commissioners asked questions throughout the presentation.

Cameron Bettin noted he met with Josie Eskers of the City of Pekin and the trail going in along Stadium Drive will take away the first row of parking along Stadium Drive. He also noted he has a proposal from Midwest Engineering for engineering and bid documents for the first phase of the Mineral Springs Park Study.

2. Presentation regarding Pavilion Porch Parties –

Shawn Powers displayed a map and gave a presentation regarding a new special event wanting approval from the Board of Commissioners. He indicated Pavilion Porch Parties were being planned as a fun family event. He stated they will be held on three different Friday evenings in June, July, and August, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. with bands playing underneath the pergola. Beer and wine can be purchased in the Pavilion by a caterer with the needed permits and licensing. He indicated he is seeking sponsors for the events and expects to at least break even. Food trucks will be available. At least one park police officer will be on duty exclusively at the event. Cameron Bettin noted that Mike Seghetti was consulted and he sees no problem with the plan as being presented. Shawn spoke of similar events taking place at Peoria, Decatur, Rockford, and Champaign Park District's. Cameron Bettin cited an article that was in the January publication of NRPA noting the trend and revenue it provides. Commissioner Gillis asked where the proceeds would be directed. Shawn Powers answered let's see if we make a profit. Commissioner Brown asked Chief Fitzanko how comfortable he was with one officer. Chief Fitzanko answered, I think I might want two on duty.

Move to approve Pavilion Porch Parties as presented.
Motion: Sue McMillan 2nd: Marv Brown
All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried

11. Closed Session: Deleted from the agenda

12. Adjourn:

Move to adjourn this meeting.
Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Marv Brown
All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried
Time: 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dori Smith, Secretary
Board of Commissioners
Pekin Park District