

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, August 24, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, being held at our Clubhouse, located at 940 E. State St., Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Ackmann, Doty, Strack, and Kroeger.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting: **Commissioner Graves.**

Staff members present were Director Jonelle Bailey, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Lisa Metcalf, and Theresa Tevsh.

Guests at the Board meeting were:

**Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –
Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

**Approval of Minutes –
Motion**

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the July 24, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the July 24, 2021, Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$53,817.79.
Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Correspondence –

- Fizz Ehrler Car Show Thank You
- City of Sycamore
- Kate Romano Email

Public Input –

Positive Feedback –

- Director Bailey noted that staff has done a fabulous job this summer. Everyone has worked really hard to keep everything running with minimal staff and lots of challenges.
- President Kroeger noted he played the course and it looks great even with a tough growing season.

Planning Commission Report: Commissioner Strack noted there was no meeting.

Old Business

Community Pool Update: Facilities Supervisor Metcalf handed out the information on the pool stats. Supt. Tevsh noted we are \$15,000 negative pool operations as of end of July. She anticipates by the end of August we will be about \$19,000 negative. Supt. Tevsh gave information from Supt. Donahoe – We will need to replace the pool heater for 2022. Since we are putting new equipment in an old facility, there will be a requirement of an IDPH architectural drawing. Director Bailey also noted that it will need to be installed by an approved IDPH installer. Director Bailey noted there will be an OSHA assessment that there will be a cost to that. Facilities Supervisor Metcalf noted the report has comparison numbers. Director Bailey noted they will pull all the expenses for the pool and try to have it ready for the next meeting. Also, they would like to have the numbers ready for the community volunteer meeting. She also noted they will move forward if everyone is good if under \$25,000 to probably open next year.

Construction Updates:

- **Reston Ponds:** Director Bailey noted they had a public input meeting and Plan 2 was chosen. Now we need to focus on the OSLAD grant. She then went over the design and what will be in the grant application which is due October 1st. We do need approval to accept the property transfer from Shodeen to get everything in our name. Tentative closing is set for Sept. 2nd. There was some discussion on where the parking could be. She also noted we are looking for things to help get the grant.

Construction Updates – cont’d:

- **Reston Ponds – cont’d:**

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to accept the Reston Ponds Property from Shodeen.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Ackmann was absent.

Construction Updates – cont’d:

- **Memorial Park:** Director Bailey noted they broke ground today and the fencing is up. There was still a tournament this weekend and it went well. They are now going to dig out all the areas that require cement so all the cement work can be done in one day.
- **Soccer Complex:** Director Bailey noted they met with William Charles. We now have drone photos of the soccer complex, and it shows some areas not able to be used. Probably about 60% is playable, but the rest will need to be reseeded, fertilized, and watered. William Charles will be taking care of this. She noted we would like to do a groundbreaking photo in the next few weeks.
- **Great Western Trail:** There was discussion a few of the parcels.
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MMNH update: Director Bailey noted everything is still on track, but she does not have a closing date yet. The last piece needed is the approved minutes which will be sent to Derke after tonight’s approval.

Foundation Information: Director Bailey noted we have our 3 initial board members. They have all signed the papers so it can now be submitted to Ancel Glink to submit for the 5013C status. We have Rebecca Metcalf, Karen Schmidt, and Edward Valdez. This is good a start and we can continue to add to the board.

New Business

Executive Session Minutes Review:

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve releasing only April 22, 2008 minutes.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Ackmann was absent.

National Fitness Council Information: Director Bailey noted she and Sarah are working with the National Fitness Council on where we could potentially put a fitness court. They have identified 3 parks to look at, but Old Mill seems to be the best fit. We would need to get a grant for this, but the council will need to know what grant cycle or year we would be going for. They will also help us get sponsors for this. There was a consensus on the board for the 2023/2024 timeframe.

Evaluations: This will be discussion in Executive Session.

Tree Project: Commissioner Strack noted he has an idea to plant a 1000 trees in a 1000 days. He really likes the idea of tree canopies in open grass areas not committed to sports like out at the Steam Power Show. He realizes this would take 30-40 years. Director Bailey noted this could be a challenge and we would need to identify where we could put them and what it would affect in later years. We need to be very strategic where we are placing them and when we place them. We do not have staff to maintain, so we need to be strategic about how we would maintain them long term. She is ok creating a plan working with Nicholas and Jeff to look at all the parks and areas.

Special Announcements – None

September Study Session: None was scheduled.

Public Input – None

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 7:05 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Doty for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:06 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, Supt. Tevsh, Supt. Lundbeck, Supt. Hienbuecher and Lisa Metcalf.

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Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 7:22 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, Supt. Tevsh, Supt. Hienbuecher and Lisa Metcalf.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:22 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Graves was absent.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeanette Freeman
Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District