

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Sycamore Park District  
Tuesday, October 26, 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 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 26, 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, Graves, 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: **None.**

Staff members present were Director Jonelle Bailey, Jeanette Freeman, Kirk Lundbeck, and Theresa Tevsh.

**Guests at the Board meeting were:**

None

**Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –  
Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda with Supt. of Finance, and the Directors reports being pulled for discussion.

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 5-0.

Commissioner Strack noted that National Bank & Trust -First Midwest is no longer a locally owned bank. Our banking business should be connected with the community, and he would like to open up the idea of moving to totally locally. President Kroeger asked which banks are still locally owned. Commissioner Strack noted only Resource Bank is and he no longer works there so there is no conflict of interest. President Kroeger noted that First Midwest is also being bought out. Director Bailey noted we should table this and talk about it with Supt. Hienbuecher. Commissioner Graves asked if we could get comparison rates.

Commissioner Strack asked about the succession plan for Golf. Director Bailey noted that eventually Kirk will retire, and we need a plan in place when that happens. President Kroeger noted we should have a plan in place for everyone. He also asked Director Bailey how many people she has made connections with within the community. Director Bailey noted that about half of the list the previous director had.

**Approval of Minutes –**

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the September 28, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the September 28, 2021, Executive Session Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the October 12, 2021, Special Study Session Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the October 12, 2021, Special Study Session Executive Session Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Claims and Accounts Approval**

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$30,134.11. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Correspondence –**

- Jim Waszak – Golf Course
- Cindi Moller & Steve Martin – Golf Course/Concessions
- James Cleven – Golf Course
- Kent Wrenn – Golf Course
- IAPD Letters from Peter Murphy

**Correspondence – cont'd**

President Kroeger gave kudos to Kirk and his staff for a successful season.

**Public Input – None**

**Positive Feedback –**

- Supt. of Recreation noted that Facilities Supervisor Metcalf wanted to give an update to the Recreation report on memberships. She noted that in October of 2020 we had 46 and October of 2021 has 67 presently paid in full with the 20% off. So that is approximately \$12,756 for Pathway Fitness.
- Director Bailey noted that we received an email today about masks from Andrea Stark with the DeKalb County Health Department on behalf of their Director. The email stated that someone had complained to them that we are not compliant with the Executive Order in place. Director Bailey responded to her that we are in compliance. We have the correct wording and doing what we are supposed to be doing. Andrea noted that it happened in the fitness area, and she knows we are doing what we are supposed to be doing.
- Commissioner Strack that Roy Smith's parents had a park bench put in at Wetzel Park. They had a simple request about where to place it, and they could not say enough good things about Supt. Donahoe and his staff.
- Commissioner Graves noted he wanted to let Kirk know that he and his staff are doing a great job. He was also out the community center and saw all the kids on the hill doing the pumpkin rolldown. Everyone is doing an outstanding job and keep doing what we are doing. He is hearing great things in the community.
- Commissioner Strack noted that our reputation is great in the community.
- President Kroeger noted the ribbon cutting for the trail was great and there were quite a few people there.

**Planning Commission Report:** Commissioner Strack noted there was no meeting. He also noted that someone has raised concern on his recent job change and the Plan Commission. He noted that anything related to Brian Grainger, he would recuse himself. He feels he has a good thought process about what is best for Sycamore. The Board was good with Commissioner Strack keeping his role on the Plan Commission.

**Old Business**

**Construction Updates:**

- **Founders Park:** We still have no date on the playground equipment to be delivered. The old equipment has been removed and was taken by Kids Around the World. They will refurbish it and reinstall in a community elsewhere. Georges Landscape will start the site prep next week and they are trying to get the cement work done in the next two weeks.

**Construction Updates – cont’d:**

- **Great Western Trail:** Director Bailey noted they met with IDOT and FHWA. They are needing a resolution saying we can afford to pay the engineering costs. We will then need a second resolution saying we can afford the cost of the whole project before being reimbursed by IDOT. We are waiting on the agreement. She is working with Nathan with the County on a way to improve the nine-month waiting period.
- **Memorial Park:** Director Bailey noted that we had delays due to the rain. They are trying to get the curbing and asphalt done this fall. We have received the playground equipment and trying to get it installed before winter. Now that soccer is done, the fence will come down so they can go full force on the entire area.
- **Riverside Soccer Complex:** Director Bailey noted they will do the final walk-through next week. Supt. Donahoe had the last True Green treatment that was scheduled for the baseball fields shifted to the soccer complex. With the rain, it looks really good now. We should be able to start soccer there in the spring.
- **Bridge:** Supt. Lundbeck noted that surveyors were out last week, and the mussel survey has been done. They checked out where the irrigation goes in and took measurements. Director Bailey noted it should be put out to bid in the spring.

**Community Pool Focus Group Update:** Director Bailey noted they have had two meetings. She is trying to show them why we can't build outside of the space. They went over the FEMA document. At the next meeting she and Sarah will talk to them about a survey about more specifically what people are looking for. This will be sent out in an eblast, be put on the website and in the brochure. Director Bailey noted she showed the committee what the pool only figures were for the last two years. In 2019 we lost \$7306 and in 2021 we lost \$50,000. President Kroeger asked what other communities are doing. Director Bailey noted that she has looked up pool trends nationally. Public agency pools lose money on the average. Water parks made money but they are a destination and not a community pool. Supt. Tevsh noted a pool is more of a service to the community.

**Pool Heater Update:** Director Bailey noted that Supt. Donahoe has found a company that might be able to find the same heater we have. They are coming out next week.

**Division of proceeds from the MMNH:** Director Bailey went over the breakdown that staff has suggested. She also went over some of the other changes that will be happening.

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the breakdown as presented. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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### **New Business**

#### **Bina Public Hearing:**

President Kroeger stated: The next agenda item for the Board of Park Commissioners is a public hearing to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds in the amount of \$1,800,000 for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto. All persons desiring to be heard will have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

To open the discussion, the reasons for the proposed issuance of the Park Bonds are for items to be approved in the capital budget, including equipment replacement and capital asset improvements, and to make the debt service payment on the General Obligation (Alternative Revenue Source) Park Bonds, Series 2015A.

Are there additional comments from the Park Commissioners? Commissioner Strack asked why it was for so much. Director Bailey noted this covers multiple years.

Is there written testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Park Bonds? There were none.

Is there oral testimony or any public comments concerning the proposed issuance of the Park Bonds? There were none.

All persons desiring to be heard have been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of the Park Bonds.

Can I have a motion to adjourn the Hearing:

#### **Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to close the Hearing. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

#### **Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**IAPD Resolution for IAPD annual business meeting:** Director Bailey noted the annual meeting is January 29, 2022, which is followed by the social. We need a representative at the meeting. It was decided that Commissioner Ackmann is the first delegate and Commissioner Graves will be the second delegate. Conference is January 27, 28, and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Health Insurance Information:**

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Health Insurance as presented. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Capital Budget first draft:** Director Bailey noted this is a draft. They haven't gone through it as a team yet to see what can be deleted. They are hoping to have the final at the November meeting.

**Resolution #05-2021 for GWT FHWA paperwork:**

**Motion**

Commissioner Strack moved to approve Res. #05-2021 for the GWT FHWA Paperwork. 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 5-0.

**Golf Survey Results:** President Kroeger noted he went through the survey and there was a lot of detail. The summer was all very good. There was more discussion on the survey and the suggestions that were made in the survey.

**Special Announcements** – None

**September Study Session:** None was scheduled.

**Public Input** – None

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:30 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann. 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 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeanette Freeman  
Recording Secretary  
Sycamore Park District