

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, December 21, 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, December 21, 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.**
Commissioner Graves was absent.

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: **Graves.**

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

Guests at the Board meeting were:

Laura Kvasnicka, Sycamore

Mike Kvasnicka, Sycamore

Ken Goodman, Sycamore

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

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

Roll Call Vote

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.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the November 23, 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.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$966,016.09. 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 Graves was absent.

Correspondence –

- Neighbors House Thank You
- Golf Course Thank You's

Public Input –

- Commissioner Strack asked about the WWE event that was held. Supt. Tevsh noted the Windy City Wrestling needed a building to hold their event and they came to our park district. Supt. Tevsh noted she made sure all the equipment would not damage our gym floor and it was a great event.
- Commissioner Strack also asked about the Chili Cookoff. Supt. Tevsh noted this is a series of events that happens throughout the United States. We will be the first in Illinois to kick off their season.

Planning Commission Report: Commissioner Strack noted he was not able to participate since Brian Grainger was asking the commission to rezone some property. The Plan Commission approved it and it will go to council next.

Old Business

Construction Updates:

- **Founders Park:** Director Bailey noted there is no playground equipment yet. Kids Around the World removed the old playground equipment to be recycled. Georges Landscaping took out the old sod, etc. Since the project wasn't done when projected it would be, there will be an additional cost. This would be about \$2325.00 and would include fencing, port-o-pots, and dumpster rental. President Kroeger asked Director Bailey asked her to check out the additional costs for the dumpsters.
- **Memorial Park:** Director Bailey noted that William Charles did a shape of the soil berm area for the winter. Field A is close to being ready for surface and Field E will follow that. She also noted that the conduits and water lines have been installed. Supt Donahoe noted that the plumbing lines and electrical lines are in and ready for spring.

Pool Updates:

- **Pool Heater Information:** Supt. Donahoe noted the WT engineer came out and will be working this week on drawing up the final plans. We will then get quotes from contractors. Once the contractor is locked in, we will turn in the application to the State. He also noted that when you change models you have to go through the process with the State for approval. They have a list of State approved contractors we have to use. We are going with two separate ones this time. It will be about \$20,000 to \$30,000 total.

Pool Updates – cont’d:

- **Focus Group:** Director Bailey noted we have three members of the Focus Group here tonight. We have a really good group on our Focus Group that is positive but yet realistic regarding the challenges we face. From the last meeting it was discussed that there not be a gap between closing down the pool and opening a new one. We do not want to be a community without a pool. The committee didn’t feel the pool was promoted enough and why there was a lack of attendance. There was a survey done and when a joint pool was discussed it showed 52 to 48 in favor of a joint pool.
- **Ken Goodman:** He noted he is a teacher at the Sycamore High School, and he gave thanks for the opportunity to be on the committee. He feels a pool is valuable and is important. The committee would like for the current pool to stay open as long as possible. He feels the Park District is a great steward throughout the years of funds. They realize the location is a problem. The results from the survey showed people wanted it to be walkable and not drivable.
- **Laura Kvasnicka:** Noted the mention of three towns sounds like a good idea, but then the capacity would have to be much larger and larger expense. She also noted she was surprised about the cost of the heater. She wondered if components can be replaced to fix it. President Kroeger noted staff has been very frugal and put band aids on the heater for years. DeKalb and Sycamore are the oldest in the State and still using the gas chlorine system. Supt. Donahoe noted we have exhausted all avenues with this heater. It is rusted out and so old parts for this model are not available.

Commissioner Strack noted that he feels a town like Sycamore needs to have a pool. He does realize there is a financial reality and that becomes a real financial factor. Can we financial digest it and how much longer can we keep putting band aids on it. President Kroeger noted that we will listen to the community to see what they want.

Holiday Party: Director Bailey gave the current information on this.

RFP Draft: Director Bailey noted that they were asked to look at our banking options. So, they put together a banking RFP. She noted they are hoping to have the recommendation to the Board in March and then implement it by May 1st.

New Business

MOU Recommendation Sports Affiliates: Supt. Tevsh noted there were no major changes.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the MOUs as presented subject to extra consideration to AYSO, as necessary. 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 Graves was absent.

Policy Manual Review: Director Bailey noted that she, Supt. Hienbuecher and Jeanette met for several months reviewing the full time and part time manual. The manual was updated and there will be one manual. Supt. Hienbuecher noted the manual is being reviewed by our attorneys before the board approves it.

Tax Levy Ordinance 06-2021:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance 06-2021. Commissioner Strack 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.

First Review of Annual Operating Budget: Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is a first draft and she will present the final in January.

Final Draft of Capital Budget: Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is the final version.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Capital Budget as presented. 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.

Consider 2022 Meeting Dates:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the 2022 meeting dates as presented.
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.

Consider 2022 Holidays:

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the 2022 holidays as presented. 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.

Travel Approval:

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Travel recommendation for Conference as presented. 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 Graves was absent.

Executive Director Evaluation: Executive Session

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 7:25 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 7:29 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Doty and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey, Supt. Hienbuecher, Supt. Lundbeck, Supt. Tevsh and Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

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 8:40 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey and Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman.

Job Position Creation/Change: Executive Session

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the four different positions as presented.
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 Graves was absent.

Staff Compensation & adjustment recommendations: Executive Session

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the staff compensation and adjustments as presented. 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 Graves was absent.

Special Announcements – January Study Session: None was scheduled.

Public Input – None

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 8:45 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Doty. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

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