

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, July 26, 2022**

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, July 26, 2022.

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, 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: **Commissioner Doty**

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

Guests at the Board meeting were:

Baseball Concession Staff

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda with pulling reports from Supt. Hienbuecher and Supt. Lundbeck along with noting the minutes to be approved are for June 28 and not May 24 as stated on the agenda.

Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

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

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the June 26, 2022, 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 4-0. Commissioner Doty was absent.

Motion

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the June 26, 2022, 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 4-0. Commissioner Doty was absent.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$131,514.60. 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 Doty was absent.

Commissioner Strack went over results for this year compared to last year. He noted he would like us to reevaluate the tax levy at some point.

Commissioner Strack noted it looks like private parties at the pool have been great this year. He suggested doing more advertising regarding renting the pool. Supt. Tevsh noted just about every weekend was booked with rentals and we can't take on any more rentals. Supt. Tevsh noted there will be a report at the end of the season how things have gone for the year.

Commissioner Strack asked about the comment regarding people wanting to use our tennis courts to give private lessons. He asked why we are not allowing this. Director Bailey noted it would be conflict of interest for our lessons. Supt. Tevsh also noted it could bump out the general public using the space. She also noted that we have an ordinance regarding people making money on our property.

Commissioner Strack noted he would like to see why commissioners are not allowed to play in the club championship. Director Bailey noted she would look into this and follow up.

Correspondence –

- GSNI Double Tree Service Unit
- Aurora Christian Schools-Cornerstone
- KSRA – Thank You
- IDNR OSLAD Grant

Public Input –

Positive Feedback –

- Commissioner Graves noted he is amazed by our staff and everything staff does to make everything run as it does. He gets comments from the community that are all positive. The attendance at the concerts is great, along with the sports complex and golf course being full. It is neat to be a part of this and appreciates what staff does.
- President Kroeger noted with the amount of work staff does for Storm Dayz, he wants to recognize them for that. It was pretty tough Saturday with the storms and staff was able to get the fields ready in a short period of time after with 38 games played that day. He noted that SAY Golf is doing great. Director Bailey noted both sessions are full.
- Commissioner Graves noted the staff did an incredible job. He also noted the new baseball complex looks very nice.

- President Kroeger asked if the Bocce court was open. Supt. Donahoe noted it is and they will be putting a board out there with information about it. Trying to get the ground around it go grow more before really promote. Frisbee golf is also being used and the playground is being used.

Appreciation of Concession Staff: Recr. Specialist/Food & Beverage Coordinator Melissa Dobberstein gave a presentation to the board and staff thanking her amazing staff. She noted her staff has to contend with all the different weather elements from being cold, to hot to wet, etc. She receives a lot of compliments on concessions. She also gave a big thanks to Missy to helping keep the baseball concessions on task. She then introduced each of the baseball concession staff and noted how many years they have been with us.

Commissioner Graves noted he has a lot of respect for the staff. There is a shortage of workers. You stepped up and do what you do – he is impressed with this, and he thanked them for this. Commissioner Strack noted the reason we have elevated our stature in the community is because of staff like you and he thanked them.

President Kroeger asked Melissa is there is anything that needs to be updated. Melissa noted that yes there is, but we need a second location before updating the current one with the new fields in.

Commissioner Ackmann noted they really are the front line with the community, and she thanked them for everything they do.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Strack noted that Nicor has applied for a special use permit to put a tower up by Hyvee that will read gas meters.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

- **Founders Park:** Director Bailey noted that Founders Park is up and running. The part for the spinner came in but the cords were too short. Supt. Donahoe made the provider come out and fix and it is not up and running.
- **GWT:** Director Bailey noted a letter was sent out and we are waiting for a response from the property owners.
- **Riverside:** Director Bailey noted that Riverside is up and running and will be ready for the fall soccer as well. We are resting field 11, but we can still use the fields at South Prairie. Supt. Donahoe noted this spring the field got beat up, so we are working on the field to improve it.

Construction Updates-cont'd:

- **Memorial Park:** Supt. Donahoe noted we still have the final punch list they are working on. Director Bailey went over a few things left to do, but officially it is completed. Supt. Donahoe noted the landscape company knows the turf has to get to a certain condition before they are done with it.
- **Reston Ponds:** Director Bailey noted we received the OSLAD Grant for \$240,000. The project will be \$480,000 so we need to still raise the other \$240,000. We are ready to move forward. We have three years to complete the project and not the eighteen months. Supt. Hienbuecher noted this was put in the budget along with the OSLAD Grant. Her concern is months down the road, the pricing going up. President Kroeger noted that he has heard that construction costs will be going up another 14%.

SPF Update: Director Bailey noted the Foundation was officially created last year in November of 2021. So far, we have had some great events this year. She went over the different events the foundation has had, is planning and the status of the things they want to accomplish.

New Business

Bi-Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes: Director Bailey is recommending no executive session minutes be released at this time.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the recommendation on the Biannual Review of the Executive Session minutes 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 Doty was absent.

RecStar Staff Survey Review: Director Bailey noted the survey was good overall, but there are some areas we need to work on.

Sycamore Chamber of Commerce Request: Director Bailey noted she has to officially ask to allow them to continue to come through the property and have the beer tent behind the house.

Motion

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the Sycamore Chambers request.
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 4-0. Commissioner Doty was absent.

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Special Announcements –

August Study Session: None was scheduled.

Public Input –

- Commissioner Strack noted he responded to the email regarding the parking lot area by the proposed park at Reston Ponds.
- Commissioner Strack noted he would like to get approval at our next meeting to have a survey done to get our easement by the Old Anaconda.
- Director Bailey noted we need to reduce the September board meeting to the bare bones due to staff being gone during board pack week and board meeting week. Since this was not on the agenda the board came to a consensus to not have the September meeting. A motion will be done at the August meeting, and we will post notice regarding this.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:10 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Graves.

Voice Vote

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Freeman
Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District