

**BATAVIA PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
CIVIC CENTER – BARTHOLOMEW ROOM**

REGULAR MEETING – The regular meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Callahan.

ROLL CALL – President Callahan called for the roll. Commissioners in attendance were Larson, Bell, Tilmon, Gray and Callahan.

Staff in attendance were Director of Finance Brent Strumpf; Director of Facilities and Trades Josh Wyant; Director of Parks Kim Hansen; Director of Talent and Culture Lynn Boerman; Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Katie Burgess; Executive Director Allison Niemela and Executive Assistant Lindsey Williams.

Legal Counsel Erin Monforti was also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED ON AGENDA – None.

CONSENT AGENDA – President Callahan entertained a motion to establish the Consent Agenda as presented which included approval of the following: Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on August 20, 2024; Approval of the Paid Expenditures; Approval of the Expense Approval Report; Approval of the Investment Summary; Approval of the Income Statement; Approval of Purchases; and Approval of Ordinance #419: Surplus Property. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Larson, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as established. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Larson, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

GUESTS - MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – None.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS – Vice President Tilmon gave kudos to staff on the park dedications of Peter Frieders Park and Coventry Park. President Callahan is happy to be back and appreciates the support he received from the Board and District.

CORRESPONDENCE – President Callahan acknowledged a thank you note from Lorayne Hrejsa, Chairperson with the Batavia Plain Dirt Gardeners for helping make the 2024 Garden Walk a success.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess shared the following announcements: 1) Pints by the Pond craft beer festival is this Saturday,

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September 21st! For the low price of \$50 you get twenty, three ounce pours of the best local area beers. VIP ticket holders receive special access to brews from Obscurity Brewing, Penrose Brewing, and Skeleton Key Brewery. VIP tickets are \$60 per person and include an additional hour of tasting. The event begins at 1 p.m. for VIP holders and 2 p.m. for general entry.

Purchase

your tickets online at bataviaparks.org. We look forward to seeing everyone raise their tiny tasting glasses in support of local brews: 2) As we talk about celebrations – the Park District is excited to open the new pickleball court complex at West Main Community Park on October 5th at 8:00 a.m. The ribbon cutting will be followed by an opening day tournament for beginner and intermediate players. After the tournament, the courts will be open for public play. Be the first to play on the courts- enroll in the tournament today. The cost is \$60 per team and the winners receive a cash prize; 3) What better way to create fall memories than to attend S'mores & More! The Batavia favorite is getting an upgrade this year to include a scarecrow decorating activity, pumpkin decorating, wagon rides, bouncies, lunch and s'mores! This is a perfect event for family members of all ages! Tickets are \$17 per person; 4) Registration is now open for winter basketball leagues! If you are looking for a program for your Kindergartener - 8th grader look no further, this league is a slam dunk when it comes to fun, exercise and skill building. Don't worry adults, you aren't benched from the basketball fun! We also offer an adult basketball league! This 18+ league is a great way to keep hooping through the winter months. Follow the district on social media to and be among the first to learn about all of the fun fall park district programs and activities.

STAFF REPORTS – Director of Finance Strumpf is wrapping up meetings to finalize budget projections and budget requests for the upcoming Budget Retreat with the Board. The 2025 Tax Levy Resolution will be on the October 15th, 2024 Board meeting agenda. The request will capture the CPI growth and the new construction around the City of Batavia. Strumpf also shared the District will receive approximately \$572,000 in land-cash funds for the Ashton Ridge development. This money will go into Capital Development Funds. Strumpf thanked the Board and staff for all they do for the District and the community. Tomorrow is his last day with Batavia Park District.

Director of Facilities and Trades Wyant shared Capital Development updates: 1) The West Main Community Park pickleball court color coding is going to be finished over the next few weeks in preparation for the October 5th ribbon cutting and tournament; 2) The concrete work is done at the Clark Island Recreation Area and the fitness court will be installed during the week of September 24th. The fishing outcrop work is complete and the skate park is coming along; and 3) Interior and exterior work at the Callahan Community Center is progressing on schedule.

Director of Parks Hansen shared an update on the asphalt repair projects, work will begin on September 26th, weather permitting. Hansen also shared Parks Superintendent Alex Macias received his first deployment with the arborist strike team starting on September 25th.

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Director of Talent and Culture Boerman shared the following highlights: 1) Talent recruitment is underway for a new Director of Finance and a Parks Technician; 2) Employees are completing mandated reporter and sexual harassment training; and 3) A grant application has been submitted with the Parks Department for an eye wash station in all trailers.

Director Boerman introduced Zach Mueller, Recreation Supervisor. Zach started employment with the District last March. Zach gave a brief introduction to the Board and the Board welcomed him to the District.

Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess and the Marketing Department have been working on supporting the Recreation Department on new fall programs such as the new pickleball court opening. The Winter Fun Guide work is underway. The Marketing Department has been working with staff and customer feedback on the newly redesigned guide. The Batavian publication is coming out soon. The Park District has approximately ¼ of the publication to share news and updates. Director Burgess also shared an update on the collaboration with the Batavia High School Art Department, art students will be at S'mores & More doing face painting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Executive Director Niemela shared the following updates: 1) On August 24th Peter Frieders Park and Coventry Hills Park were dedicated; 2) The new pickleball courts at West Main Community Park will be dedicated on Saturday, October 5th at 8:00 AM followed by a tournament and open play; 3) The architects are wrapping up the capital cost estimate and proforma for the conceptual design for the Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan. This will be presented at the November Park Board meeting; 4) The Facilities and Trades Department completed an exterior paint refresh on the Peg Bond Center; 5) The beginning construction stages at the Callahan Community Center are complete. Construction updates have been shared and will continue to be shared on our website and on social media; 6) Niemela shared a photo of the new fishing outcrop station at the Clark Island Recreation Area with limestone steps; and 7) Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess has received her Certified Park and Recreation Professional Certification.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Confirmation of Park Obligations for M/I Homes Autumn Ridge Development

President Callahan entertained a motion to Confirm the Park Obligations for the Autumn Ridge Development as presented in the letter from M/I Homes. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Larson, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

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B. Approval of Executive Director’s Contract

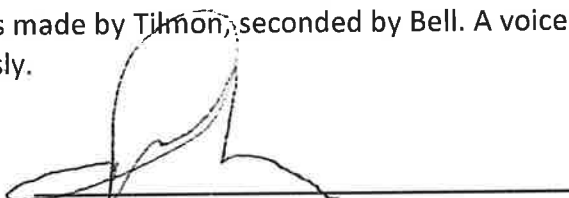
President Callahan entertained a motion to Approve the Executive Director’s Contract as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Larson, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Callahan entertained a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Leasing and Land Acquisition 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) and Personnel 2(c)(1) at 7:40 PM. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Larson, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The meeting resumed at 7:59 PM

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD – None.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Bell. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.



Secretary, Board of Commissioners
Batavia Park District

Line prepared by:
Lindsey Williams, Executive Assistant