

**BATAVIA PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING**

REGULAR MEETING – The regular meeting was held as a virtual meeting and called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President Callahan.

ROLL CALL – President Callahan called for the roll. Commissioners in attendance via video were Riley, Gray, and Callahan. Vice President Tilmon joined the meeting at 7:09 p.m. Absent: Connolly. Staff in attendance via video were Director of Community Recreation Brittany Meyer; Director of Parks Kim Hansen; Director of Facilities Josh Wyant; Executive Assistant Debbie Gentry; and Executive Director Allison Niemela. Legal counsel Joyce Jezeer was also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – In lieu of the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held to honor unity in our country.

ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED ON AGENDA – Item 11A under Old Business and items 12B, 12C and 12D under New Business were moved and added to the Consent Agenda.

President Callahan entertained a motion to amend the Consent Agenda as requested. Motion was made by Gray, seconded by Riley. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA – President Callahan entertained a motion to establish the Consent Agenda as presented which included approval of the following: minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on February 16, 2021; minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on March 16, 2021; Paid Expenditures; Expense Approval Report; Investment Summary; Approval of Purchases; Approval of Resolution #274 Open Meetings Act (OMA) Designations; Approval of the Batavia Park District Teleworking Policy; Approval of the Award of Contract for Harold Hall Quarry Beach Parking Improvements; Approval of the Award of Contract for Harold Hall Quarry Beach Fence Project; and Approval of the Award of Contract for South Mill Creek Community Park Sand Volleyball Courts. Motion was made by Riley, seconded by Gray to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Riley, Gray, Tilmon, and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Connolly. Motion carried.

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as established. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

GUESTS - MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC - Prior to the meeting, the public was invited to call into the meeting to address the Board or submit a public comment that would be read at the meeting by emailing: allisonn@bataviaparks.org.

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BATAVIA PARKS FOUNDATION – Mike Burke gave a progress report on Encore Batavia’s Men’s Shed and Intergenerational Playground projects.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS – President Callahan noted that this evening’s joint meeting with the Batavia City Council’s Committee of the Whole and Hitchcock Design Group was a great first discussion about the Fox River Corridor’s Master Plan. He looks forward to the next meeting in May. Commissioner Riley shared some concerns about what recreational activities will be able to be offered if the dam is removed, and how he hopes that the analyzation phase reviews all aspects. Director Niemela shared that Bill Inman of Hitchcock Design said that he is available to any Board members who would like to speak with him directly.

STAFF REPORTS –

Director of Recreation Meyer advised the Board that spring programming is going well, with over 202 kids signed up for all-star sports and over 160 girls signed up for recreational softball.

Director of Facilities Wyant advised the Board that his department is focusing on preparing Hall Quarry Beach for its opening next month.

Director of Parks Hansen advised the Board that her department also has concentrated on work near the quarry recently, preparing for its opening by cleaning debris, trimming trees and shrubs near fence lines, etc.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT - Executive Director Niemela presented her report to the Board: 1) Congratulations to all our elected officials, including Commissioners John Tilmon (6-year term) and Molly Connolly (2-year term), and Batavia Park District’s Director of the Depot Museum and new Batavia City Clerk, Kate Garrett. Tilmon and Connolly will be sworn in at the May Batavia Park District Board meeting. 2) To help offset expenses due to the pandemic, the Kane County Cares Committee reimbursed our District a total \$28,552.11 from the County’s Coronavirus Relief Fund. 3) Parks employees repaired and stabilized a section of the limestone wall surrounding the East side of the Depot Museum; 4) Significant safety measures will be taken at Hall Quarry Beach this year once it opens on May 29, including designating two-hour time slots for participants (reservations required) throughout the day. Thank you to the Park District Board for approving the Hall Quarry parking lot and fence construction projects. The Park District Staff and City of Batavia Staff have been working together on these projects. These projects will replace the North and South parking lots, access road and chain link fence that surrounds the Quarry. 5) The Park District has been able to pivot programming for school-age children quickly during the pandemic. The Batavia school district started hybrid learning at the beginning of the school year, and changed recently to every day learning. While Director Meyer and park staff created the Bulldog Crimson

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Gold Camp for remote learners this year, they were able to quickly repurpos staff and space to create the Kids' Club before and after school care for children. Every day, members of the Recreation staff now pick up children at their schools and drop them off at the Civic Center for Kids' Club. 6) Due to ever-changing circumstances of the pandemic, the Summer Fun brochure will be available online only. The park district mailed a postcard to all Batavia residents to inform them that the guide will be online. 7) Staff applied for and received a PDRMA matching grant that would benefit the health and wellness of employees, and together Director of Human Resources Amy Sarro and Fitness Director Kathy Freedlund created a Zen Den for employees. Director Niemela shared a video of the Zen Den.

OLD BUSINESS – None. Moved to Consent Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS –

- A. Discussion of Prairie Commons Land Swap and Consolidation of Parcels –**
City of Batavia's Scott Buening discussed the Prairie Commons land swap proposal and other parcels under consideration for consolidation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Riley, Gray, and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Connolly.



Secretary, Board of Commissioners
Batavia Park District

Line prepared by:
Debbie Gentry