

**BATAVIA PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 17, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING**

REGULAR MEETING – The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Callahan.

ROLL CALL – President Callahan called for the roll. Commissioners in attendance were Riley, Connolly, Tilmon and Callahan. Commissioner Gray was absent. Staff in attendance were Director of Finance Shane Johnson; Director of Community Recreation Brittany Meyer; Director of Parks Kim Hansen; Director of Facilities & Trades Josh Wyant; Executive Director Allison Niemela and Director of Marketing and Public Relations Debbie Gentry. Legal counsel Derke Price 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: Minutes from the Special Joint Board meeting with Batavia City Council held on July 13, 2021; Minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on July 20, 2021; Minutes from the Executive Session held on July 20, 2021; Approval of Paid Expenditures; Approval of the Expense Approval Report; Approval of the Investment Summary; Approval of the Income Statement; and Approval of Purchases. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Connolly to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Connolly, Riley and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Gray. Motion carried.

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

GUESTS - MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – None

BATAVIA PARKS FOUNDATION – The Foundation is now financially reinstated by the State of Illinois.

FOX VALLEY SPECIAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION (FVSRA) – Director Meyer shared that the Park District is working on an agreement with the FVSRA for use of the Park District's facility space. They are hoping to start using the space at the end of September or beginning of October.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS – Commissioners discussed that they would like to hold a special meeting where the Park Board can further review all current concepts of the Depot Pond / Dam removal, discuss the history of these concepts, share community feedback they have received, and discuss the Board's primary focus and consensus

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going forward. Director Niemela also shared that Hitchcock Design Group will hold community engagement meetings in September. Director Niemela will send a Doodle poll to determine a date and time for this special meeting.

STAFF REPORTS –

Director of Finance Johnson advised the Board that he is in the full swing of the budget process and final preparation for Windmill City Festival. The Board CDP Retreat is tentatively set for Saturday, September 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at Shannon Hall. Staff will check the rental schedule to make sure that Shannon Hall is available. The Special Board meeting for the Budget Presentation is tentatively scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, October 26, 2021.

Director of Community Recreation Meyer advised the Board that the Quarry closed as of August 15. Now that school is starting up, there are 163 kids enrolled in six schools for Kids' Club, which is very exciting; New Horizons Preschool will start on September 7, with more than 100 kids signed up; there are 155 girls are signed up for fall softball and our travel tryouts are also finishing up; fall events coming up include two Thursdays in September for Mom & Son Wagon Rides and our rescheduled September 17 Touch-a-Truck event.

Director of Marketing & Public Relations Gentry advised the Board that the Windmill City Festival's final signage order is in production, with signs to be placed soon around town and the Riverwalk; we've added the use of a QR code on our signage and event-day materials, so that people can view the full festival schedule with ease from their cell phones; our RFP for printing and RFQ for design of our Fun Guide are due soon, and the award requests are expected to be presented at the next Board meeting; the online Fun Guide people can flip through on our website will change soon, as our current vendor will not be operating after August 31.

Director of Parks Hansen advised the Board that her team has been focusing on the Riverwalk brick repair program. This is annual summer preparation for Windmill City Festival, where the team marks out safety hazards and sinkholes, and Hector Perez, our expert paver, repairs everything. Hector has been training Eduardo Espinoza on this repair work as well. She also shared that though the department only had four seasonal workers this summer, they all were really hardworking and reliable, and will be missed.

Director of Facilities & Trades Wyant advised the Board that South Mill volleyball courts and Hamlet Park are finally open to the public. Quarry parking lot construction will begin tomorrow; the Quarry had to be drained first. We received approval from the Batavia Historical Society for the shingle replacement project; we will be going to bid for that project in two weeks.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Executive Director Niemela began her report with a thank you to the Board for all the support while she was away on medical leave. She is so relieved that Interim Director Eric Lacher was in place during her absence, and know things ran more smoothly as a result. She thanked Board members for their foresight to hire Lacher for the Interim Executive Director role. President Callahan also extended the Board's appreciation to Staff for working so closely with Lacher during Niemela's absence--great teamwork. 1) Director Niemela shared the news (from City Administrator Laura Newman) that on June 27, 2021 the Batavia City Council approved a resolution to pay the Batavia Park District up to \$120,000 toward the construction of the Hall Quarry Beach parking lot; 2) Windmill City Festival is a week and a half away and staff has done a tremendous job of planning and preparing for this year's event. Join us at the festival August 27-29!

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Callahan entertained a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:50 to discuss Leasing Property/Land Acquisition 2(c)(5). Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Riley. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Riley, Connolly and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Gray. Motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD – Regular Session was reconvened at 8:08 p.m. President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the real estate purchase contract and ratify all prior acts of the Board President, attorney and Park District Staff in connection with the said contract. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Riley. Ayes: Tilmon, Riley, Connolly and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Gray. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.



Secretary, Board of Commissioners
Batavia Park District

Line prepared by:
Debbie Gentry

