

**BATAVIA PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 16, 2024
CIVIC CENTER – BARTHOLOMEW ROOM**

REGULAR MEETING – The regular meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Vice President Tilmon.

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

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 Community Recreation Brittany Meyer; 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 – Vice President Tilmon 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 June 18, 2024; Approval of the Executive Session held on June 18, 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; Approval of the Annual Treasurer’s Report; and Approval of Resolution #306: Disavowing a Purported Transfer of Property and Authorizing the Execution of a Quit Claim Deed to the City of Batavia. Motion was made by Gray, seconded by Bell to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Gray, Bell, Larson and Tilmon. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Callahan. Motion carried.

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

GUESTS - MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – None.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS – 1) Commissioner Bell shared her positive experience volunteering at Windmill City Festival with her family; 2) Commissioner Gray enjoyed the festival and also thanked staff for the River Rhapsody Summer Concert Series; and 3) Vice President Tilmon noted the well-run Windmill City Festival operations and shared pride in the event. The Board applauded the District for the festival.

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PRESENTATIONS –

- A. Graphic Design Logo Collaboration with Batavia High School: Marisa Pepping, Kathleen TieriTon and Gail Gaboda**
Batavia High School teacher, Kathleen TieriTon and Batavia Park District Strategic Communications Specialist, Gail Gaboda shared the collaboration between Batavia Park District and Batavia High School and the work done by student, Marisa Pepping on the Touch a Truck logo design. Pepping was unable to attend the meeting.
- B. Auditor’s Presentation of the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report: Tom Siwicki, CPA, Director from Sikich CPA LLC**
Tom Siwicki, CPA, Director from Sikich CPA LLC reviewed the audit process and commended staff on a clean and efficient audit. Batavia Park District is expected to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Governors Finance Officers Association for FY 2023.
- C. Better Sustainable Outdoor Lighting Presentation: Adam Kreuzer, Delegate with Dark Sky International**
Delegate Adam Kreuzer presented “Saving Dark Skies” from the International Dark-Sky Association.

CORRESPONDENCE – Vice President Tilmon acknowledged an email from Trisha Tuntland, Partner at Waterman Winery and Vineyards, Inc. expressing appreciation for a successful Batavia Uncorked event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement shared the following announcements: 1) It is so hot outside but we are keeping things cool at the Hall Quarry Beach. Not only does it have great amenities like a sandy beach, jumping platforms and sprinkle mushrooms, it also has nice refreshing water sure to cool you down. So beat the heat at Batavia’s historical summer destination location. The Quarry is open daily beginning at noon. Please check bataviaparks.org for full details; 2) Do you know what else will help beat the heat? The next free River Rhapsody concert on July 17th features Classical Blast. Enjoy classic rock mashed with music from great composers such as Bach, Beethoven, Handel, Mozart and Chopin. The concert begins at 7 pm at the Peg Bond Center; 3) This month, if you follow us on social media, you have noticed the District has been celebrating National Park and Recreation month. As part of this celebration, we want to thank you – the community who enjoys and supports the District’s programming, events and natural areas. We appreciate you and want to celebrate you as being an important part of Park and Recreation. Beginning next week, July 22 – 26, look on social media for fun games, giveaways and activities. There will be a special 80s themed gift for everyone who attends the River Rhapsody concert on Wednesday, July 24th. All Batavia Park District customers are invited to Customer Appreciation Night at Hall Quarry Beach on July 26 with free entry to the Hall Quarry Beach from 5-7 pm that evening; 4) While dreaming of summer fun at the Quarry and your local park, don’t fall behind on securing your autumnal fun! In-district registration for fall programs begins Monday, July 22; and 5) Tickets

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are on sale now for the Pints by the Pond – the annual craft beer festival taking place September 21. This event sold out last year in August so purchase your passes online at bataviaparks.org before they are tapped out.

STAFF REPORTS – Batavia Park District summer interns Hailey Kotowski, Annie Molenhouse and Trey Urwiler each shared a reflection on their internship experiences and thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Director of Finance Strumpf reported the full audit report is now available on bataviaparks.org. The District submitted a land cash request in the approximate amount of \$27,000 to the City of Batavia. Strumpf thanked the volunteer groups that helped in the beer garden for Windmill City Festival and noted the success of adding craft beer to the menu from Sturdy Shelter Brewery.

Director of Facilities and Trades Wyant communicated updates on the progress of the West Main Community Park pickleball courts. Demolition for Clark Island begins July 17th. Wyant also noted the District received the third and final truck approved by the Board.

Director of Parks Hansen shared more information on the Peace Garden work day with the Batavia Parks Foundation at the end of June and shared the next steps for the Peace Garden project. Hansen also shared the recent storms over the past thirty days has kept crews busy with cleanup efforts.

Director of Talent and Culture Boerman shared more information on recruitment for open positions. The employee engagement survey is closed with a 75% response rate, this is over 10% more responses than last year. Boerman also shared she is working with the Parks Department on applying for a risk grant.

Director of Community Recreation Meyer thanked everyone, with a special thank you to Assistant Director of Community Recreation Lori McDonald, for their support while she was on FMLA leave.

Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess shared the Marketing Department and summer interns visited and toured the printer for the Fun Guide and shared examples of guides that did not meet stringent quality control. In-District program registration begins July 22nd.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Executive Director Niemela shared the following updates: 1) Windmill City Festival was successful despite three evacuations due to weather. Niemela applauded staff for their efforts and noted the new texting program to send out updates to patrons. She thanked volunteer groups including: Batavia Chamber of Commerce, Batavia Rotary Club, Batavia Lions Club, and Batavia Parks Foundation. Niemela also shared a staff shout out to Director Burgess for her assistance ensuring two families were able to participate

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in the Fun Run; 2) The Batavia Park District will receive a Kane County Fab Fox! Grant for the Clark Island canoe launch area. This will add boat launch accessibility south of the dam; 3) Niemela shared a progress photo of the West Main Community Park Pickleball Court construction; 4) Clark Island Recreation Area demolition begins this week and Niemela reviewed the amenities such as an outdoor fitness court, fitness programming, a fishing outcrop station and a new concrete bowl skate and bike area. Several groups have expressed interested in partnering on a pollinator garden. Niemela thanked Vice President Tilmon for serving on the committee for this project; 5) The new mini bus will receive a branded wrap this week; 6) Customer Appreciation Week is July 22-26. On July 26th at 5:00 PM there is free twilight admission to the Hall Quarry Beach. Patrons will be able to scan a QR code and participate in a survey to shape the future of the Hall Quarry Beach; and 7) Niemela thanked the three summer interns for their impressive work ethic, attitudes, spunk and resilience this summer.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Award of Contract for Batavia Park District Paving Projects 2024

Vice President Tilmon entertained a motion to award the contract for the Batavia Park District Paving Projects 2024 to Everlast Blacktop of South Elgin, Illinois for the base bid amount of \$150,000. Motion was made by Gray, seconded by Bell. The roll was called. Ayes: Gray, Bell, Larson and Tilmon. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Callahan. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Ordinance #418: Granting Disconnection of 41W145 Fabyan Parkway

Vice President Tilmon approve Ordinance #418: Granting Disconnection of 41W145 Fabyan Parkway as presented. Motion was made by Gray, seconded by Bell. The roll was called. Ayes: Gray, Bell, Larson and Tilmon. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Callahan. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Resolution #307: Declaring the Month of July as Parks and Recreation Month

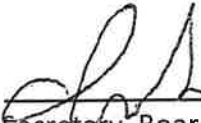
Vice President Tilmon approve Resolution #307: Declaring the Month of July as Parks and Recreation Month. Motion was made by Gray, seconded by Bell. The roll was called. Ayes: Gray, Bell, Larson and Tilmon. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Callahan. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD – None.

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ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM. Motion was made by Gray, 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