

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 6/27/17

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: John Hemingway, Valencia Pettigrew & Russ Hamm  
Attorney Joe O'Donnell  
Staff Present: Rachel Lenz,  
Media and others: 1

6:10 – President Hemingway declared the meeting open.

2. **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Hamm moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. Commissioner Hemingway removed agenda item number 8 and said he would give more clarity to that in his report. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).

3. **Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements** – Commissioner Hamm moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pettigrew. The motion passed (3 ayes - 0 nays). Treasurer Hamm reported that the funds are running equal to what was expected year to date. Commissioner Hamm recommended approval of the May financial statements as well as the June bills and transfers. The motion was approved on roll call vote (3 ayes - 0 nays).

4. **Public Comment** – None

5. **President's report** - Hemingway started with what was item number 8 on the original agenda. Hemingway stated that he and Director Lenz have had conversations with potential candidates for the board vacancy. One of the candidates was out of town for this meeting which was the reason for removing the item from the agenda. Hemingway stated that many public boards are seeing the same struggle with filling vacant seats.

Hemingway also wanted to extend a complement to the staff of the Park District and the hard work that they have all been putting towards District events and operations thus far this summer. Hemingway mention how awestruck he was at the immense size of the new movie screen for the Movies in the Park and stated that we had well over 1,000 residence in attendance. He also gave compliments on the new initiative of Randolph St. Rendezvous.

6. **Director's report** – Director Lenz told the board about the strong presence that Park District had at Heritage Days with a informational table, float in the parade, minute to win it games on Saturday, free mini-golf, and the cross promotion allowed on the Heritage Days stage. Lenz distributed July calendars to the commissioners so they could see the events the District still have going on. She also commented on the success of the events that have been going on out at Lakeview Nature Center under the leadership of Natalie Shelly. Lenz also talked about the summer day camp program and the generosity of Mindy Pheiffer from Horn Field Campus allowing the youth to utilize the facility and experience the high ropes course as well as the climbing wall.

Lenz said the community can expect to see some beautification happening in the parks as the District is partnering with the Macomb Beautiful Association and are developing a three year plan for adding more flower gardens through the parks, starting with park signage.

Lenz also complimented the work being done with staff through social media outlets. The Park District is joining in on a national campaign called “Get Your Play On” with the National Park and Recreation Association where the public is educated on what park district provide and why they are important. In conjunction with that the District is joining in the Illinois Association of Park District's “Unplug Illinois” campaign with their own “Unplug Macomb”

campaign. Lenz said this is a call to action where people take picture of themselves outdoor or unplugged in their favorite outlet and send it in to the district for a chance to win a prize weekly.

Finally, Lenz distributed a letter from McClure Engineering with an estimated cost for lighting of the boy's diamonds at Veteran's Park, coming in just under \$500,000. Lenz gave each commissioner an estimate of how many pies and cookies it would take to raise the money for the lights, provided by President Hemingway.

**7. Committee reports – N/A**

**8. Consideration of the appointment of a member to fill a board vacancy with possible closed session and possible action, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) - Removed at beginning of meeting.**

**9. Discussion of the Everly Park Foundation –** Board attorney, Joe O'Donnell reported that he has a draft of the document that the present trustees have created that would start the process, by standing in front of a judge, to formally assign each member of the Park District Board as a new trustee of the Foundation.

**10. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items –** Commissioner Hemingway suggested that it would be valuable to follow the events happening in Springfield.

Commissioner Hamm raised the pool and hoped to have some type of report on the pool. Director Lenz expressed the success of Dew Splash Dollar Day with District community partners Pepsi, HyVee, and Regional Media. After opening weekend the numbers dropped off quite a bit and they haven't seen the consistent numbers that we had hoped for.

6:44 Meeting adjourned on motion from Hamm, second by Pettigrew.

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary  
Macomb Park District