

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 5/17/2022

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: Phil Weiss, Stirling Edwards, Russ Hamm & Molly Selders

Attorney: Emily Sutton

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Media and others: 2

1. 6:06 p.m. – President Weiss declared the meeting open.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Hamm moved for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).
3. **Consideration of and action on the minutes and, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements** – Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the regularly scheduled April meeting minutes. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).  
Treasurer Hamm gave a brief overview of the consolidated fund and general fund accounts balances. Hamm informed the board the District received two PPRT distributions since the last meeting, one at \$40,276 and the other at \$53,923. Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The April financial statements and May bills were approved on roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays).
4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **President's report** – President Weiss briefly reminded the Park District would be celebrating it's 75th birthday this Saturday at 2:00.
6. **Director's report** – Director Lenz provided a quick update on the Strategic planning process. Campfire Concepts will be in Macomb tomorrow to lead a workshop for District staff from 8:30 through 1:00 followed by focus groups with community stakeholders until approximately 6:30p.m. They will also be doing a few additional focus groups Thursday morning. Next step would include a report of the park report card evaluations and focus groups as well as development and distribution of a community survey. Lenz also provided an update about the Patton development and the OSLAD grant. Representative Hammond did outreach on behalf of the District and IDNR shared we should expect notification of funding at the end of July. Should the District not receive funding that timeline would give Director Lenz ample time to resubmit the OSLAD application for the funding period that would also open at the end of July.

Director Lenz shared the McDonough County 4H did a tree planting in Patton Park, planting 25 native oak trees due to a successful grant application. Lighting has been installed at the Dudley St Skate Park. The District recycled lighting that use to illuminate the previous dog park so this development was able to be completed for a minimal expense. The current Push 4 Parks partnership has been going incredibly well with Deadhead Plant Nursery. Lenz anticipates this will be the largest campaign donation by far. Lenz informed the board about the upcoming programming for the summer as well as upcoming events for the next month.

**7. Consideration and action on Resolution 22-2: Smoke Free Parks -** President Weiss read the resolution into the minutes:

WHEREAS, The Macomb Park District (hereafter ‘District’) is committed to providing safe and healthy environments;

WHEREAS, the District has been informed of certain facts relating to secondhand smoke in public parks by the McDonough County Health Department;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General has determined there is no risk-free level of exposure to primary or secondhand smoke;

WHEREAS, Use and consequences of electronic delivery devices, more commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes closely resemble those of traditional tobacco products;

WHEREAS, Cigarettes and associated residue contribute to litter of recreational areas, requiring additional maintenance costs, can constitute fire and health risk, and contamination of water sources;

WHEREAS, the District believes that it has responsibility to have a leadership role in fostering healthy environments for park users and encourages users to do likewise; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believes that prohibiting the use of tobacco products and electronic delivery devices in all Macomb Park District recreational areas protects the public’s health, safety, and welfare;

NOW THEREFORE BE THE FOLLOWING RESOLVED by the Macomb Park District Board of Commissioners, meeting in monthly session this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_, that:

1. The use of any tobacco product or derivatives, including electronic products, is prohibited on all Macomb Park District property
2. Signage will be posted at strategic locations to inform the community and recreational area users about the policy.
3. The Director shall ensure that employees and volunteers are made aware of this priority and pursue their job duties accordingly.
4. Violators of this policy will first be made aware of the police and asked to comply. Failure to comply may result in violator being directed to leave. Particular emphasis will be given to playground areas, sports, fields, and areas where large numbers of unaffiliated people are gathered.
5. Use of tobacco as part of a Native American or indigenous peoples spiritual and cultural ceremony is not affected by this policy. However to avoid misunderstanding, the Park District request notification prior to the ceremony.

Weiss shared that the McDonough County Health Department had done a survey about smoke free parks and received very strong support for Macomb parks to go smoke free. They also applied for and received a grant to assist with paying for signage. Commissioner Hamm moved to approve Resolution 22-2. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote (4 ayes, 0 nays)

**8. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items – None**

6:42 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Edwards, second by Hamm. The motion passed (4 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary  
Macomb Park District