

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 02/22/2023

MINUTES:

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

Attorney: Emily Sutton

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Media and others: 2

1. 6:00 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 (5 ayes – 0 nays).
3. **Consideration of and action on the minutes and, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements** – Commissioner Hamm moved to approve the regularly scheduled January meeting minutes. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays).

Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the balances for the consolidated fund and each of the general fund accounts. Hamm informed the board the District received a PPRT distribution in the way of \$7,776 on January 9. Commissioner Selders moved to approve. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The January financial statements and February bills were approved on roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **President's report** – President Weiss stated he and Director Lenz will be attending 2023 Legislative Breakfast in Springfield on March 14th. They will give a report at the next board meeting.
6. **Director's report** – Director Lenz gave a brief overview of the seasonal job openings that the District is hiring for in light of the Spring season right around the corner. Lenz also encouraged the community to attend the first annual Jobapalooza (McDonough County Job Fair) happening on Thursday, March 30 from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Spoon River College Outreach Center.

Lenz also informed the board and general public that although we have seen several days of incredibly good weather that the bathrooms will not open in the parks until April 1. Lenz also announced the District would be closed on March 2 & 3 for a District wide staff training.

7. **Presentation of draft Budget and Appropriations Ordinance #345** – President Weiss informed the board this is an annual document the board is required to pass for the District's finances and is available for the public to review at the District's main office; as fulfillment to the 30 day requirement. The document will be voted on at the Board's March meeting. Director Lenz added she has completely reformatted the ordinance from previous year's format at the recommendation of their auditing firm Sikich. Lenz utilized a template provided by the Illinois Association of Park Districts, stating their provided format is much easier to read and understand when it comes to seeing what the District is spending where. Lenz also shared this also includes a certificate of estimated revenue to provide more clarity and transparency as to where the District anticipates it will receive it's revenue for the year.

8. **Discussion and possible action on purchase of shade structures for Patton Park Development; purchase associated with OSLAD grant** - Director Lenz reminded the board that this purchase was part of the OSLAD grant application and includes a sail shade structure for the spider pocket and tree pocket at Patton Park as well as an isosceles sail shade for the Jackie and Dave Thompson Dog Park. The total cost for these structures would be \$75,791.12. President Weiss reminded everyone that as this is part of the OSLAD grant that a large portion of this purchased would be reimbursed through the grant. Commissioner Gamage moved to approve the purchase of shade structures for the Patton Park Development for \$75,791.12. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote (5 ayes, 0 nays)

9. **Consideration and possible action to authorize Director Lenz to proceed with the creation of specifications, advertisement, and collection of bids for the multiuse trail in Patton Park** – Director Lenz shared a brief overview of the multiuse trail and the product the environmentally friendly product the District has found to use for this development. This bid would be structured as a vendor bid, not a construction bid as the current Superintendent of Maintenance and his team would be taking care of the installation. Commissioner Selders moved to approve. Commissioner Gamage second. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays)

10. **Presentation of Executive Director’s goals with possible action** – Director Lenz shared Pursuant to Article 11.B of her contract she is submitting the following goals for the 2023 year:
 1. Begin development of Phase II of Patton Park renovation
 2. Explore additional funding opportunities for Patton Park Development
 3. Assist in completing the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Act requirements
 4. Collaborate with District staff to implement initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan
 5. Continue park modification, renovation, and beautification through remaining facilities
 6. Cultivate relationship with local legislators
 7. Cultivate community relationships beneficial to the Park District

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the Director’s goals as presented. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

11. **Report from attendees of IAPD/IPRA State Conference** – President Weiss shared he participated in a number of sessions such as the Legislative Session where they covered the Efficiency Committee which all board members will have to take part in; and a session was on DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion). Weiss shared he had all of the presentations in pdf form if anyone would be interested in seeing the material. Superintendent of Events, Kara Sahagian, expressed her gratitude to being able to attend another year at the Soaring to New Heights Conference; stating every year she attends her energy is rejuvenated by being around so many like-minded people who are in the field of Parks and Rec for the same reason as her “A passion for community and passion for people.” Sahagian went on to share she was able to network with several other park districts’ employees and gain new ideas for park district and community. Director Lenz shared she has had the pleasure of attending this conference every year since to 2009 and every year continues to be beneficial. Lenz attended a session on composting that was surprisingly impactful, a session on trails and greenways, as well as many other. Lenz said she also had the opportunity to spend some quality time with the Director of IPRA and some of the Directors of other Central Illinois Park Districts, Lenz felt it was a great opportunity to network and bring Macomb to the front of mind for many of these people.

12. **Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items** – Lenz informed the board that at this time there is no concession vendor for Veterans Park this year. Through both a public bid process and individual outreach to potential vendors no one has voiced an interest in taking part in this.

6:43 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Edwards, second by Gamage. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary
Macomb Park District