

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 10/16/18

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: John Hemingway, Valencia Pettigrew, Russ Hamm, & Philip Weiss
Attorney Joe O'Donnell
Staff Present: Rachel Lenz, Jessica Stephens, Sharon Larson, and Megan Macek
Media and others: 22

6:00 –President Hemingway declared the meeting open.

2. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Weiss moved for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Pettigrew seconded the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).

3. Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements – Commissioner Weiss moved for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Pettigrew second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays). Commissioner Weiss moved for approval of the special meeting minutes. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays). Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the each of the fund balances as to where they stand with the predictions. Treasurer Hamm did mention that personnel expenses were \$17,000 over were we predicted year to date. Hamm also informed the board that the District has received the fourth tax distribution. Commissioner Pettigrew moved to approve of the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Weiss second the motion. The September financial statements and October bills were approved on roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays).

4. Public Comment – None

5. Presentation of the Marjorie Conner Spirit Award – President Hemingway introduced former Commissioner Steve Horrell who provided the opening speech for the Marjorie Conner Spirit Award. Horrell began by giving a brief history of Marjorie and her involvement with Macomb Special Olympics prior to her passing. Horrell also thanked the board on behalf of himself and the family for continuing to fund this award and honor Marjorie in this way. Jessica Stephens then presented the award to Matthew Benson for his excellent team work, positive attitude, and continued hard work.

President Hemingway suggested a brief pause in the meeting to allow the family to leave before the meeting continued and allow for pictures.

6. President's report – President Hemingway told the board the program for the IAPD/IPRA state conference is out and we have requested we send a representative of the board to their annual business meeting. The Director is looking into means of sending a second commissioner through a state scholarship program but currently board members need to check their schedule to see if they are available to attend. Commissioner Pettigrew stated she would not be available and Commissioner Hamm stated he needed to check his availability.

Hemingway informed the board that the filing period for the board election opens on December 10th at 8:00 a.m. and closes on December 17th. Hemingway also began the discussion of succession of the Board Presidency. He informed the board that he believed it is unhealthy for one person to serve as the presiding officer for an extended period of time and he was coming to that point. Hemingway stated he will be resigning as President of the board

in January but will remain on the board through the completion of his term. He asked that the remaining board members would start to consider if Presidency would be a good fit for them.

7. Director's report – Director Lenz thanked the Commissioners for the willingness to come together for a special meeting in the previous week. Lenz informed the board she drove the completed OSLAD grant to Springfield and turned it in to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources on October 1. There is a three to six month waiting period but she will keep the board informed of any progress as she hears of it.

The RC Raceway had a ribbon cutting with the Chamber of Commerce. The track was featured in the IAPD Newsletter in October as well. The updates at Downing Park are going well and a picture with the Knowles Family was taken in front of the new sign honoring A.L. Knowles. Expression swings will be installed in both Glenwood and Veterans Park. A ribbon cutting will also be hosted in Patton Park for the new fitness equipment in the coming week. Lenz also announced the District and City should hear back about the Community Forest Grant and whether or not they will be a recipient of the grant. Lenz also told the board she had the opportunity to work with Jodi Pospechil and Commissioner Weiss for the Western Illinois University as a “featured alumni” in their Forever Home campaign. Lenz reminded the board that the annual VIBE auction will be happening November 17th and encouraged board members to attend as this year the District would be a recipient for the Lighting Project. Lenz ended with details of the upcoming Zombie Apocalypse Macomb (ZAM) event.

8. Distribution and consideration on Executive Director's Annual Review with possible session – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) – Director Lenz distributed her year in review to the commissioners. To allot time for them to review the document the review was tabled until the November meeting.

9. Closed session with action possible under authority of the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120 2(c)(3) and the Park District Code 70 ILCS 1205 2-25. – Hemingway stated we would be entering into closed session to discuss a violation of the commissioner attendance ordinance. Commissioner Hamm motioned to move to closed session. Commissioner Weiss second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays). The board entered into closed session at 6:39 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 6:47 p.m. with a motion from Commissioner Hamm and a second by Commissioner Weiss. The motion passed by a roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays). Commissioner Hemingway stated that Commissioner Bortell has missed his fourth consecutive meeting and has violated the Commissioner Attendance Ordinance. Hemingway moved that under Ordinance 314 Commissioner Bortell's seat be declared vacant. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed by a roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays).

10. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items – Commissioner Hamm asked that he be given a place on the agenda to discuss formats for the budgets.

6:55 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Hamm, second by Weiss. The motion passed (4 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary
Macomb Park District