

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 04/20/2021

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: Phil Weiss, Stirling Edwards, Russ Hamm, Emily Gamage, & John Hemingway

Attorney: N/A

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz & Neil Armstrong

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

Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of balances for the consolidated fund and each general fund account. Commissioner Hamm informed the board that District received Personal Property Replacement Tax allocation in the way of \$21,833 on April 9th. Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The March financial statements and April bills were approved on roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **President's report** – President Weiss congratulated Commissioner Gamage and Commissioner Hamm on their retaining their seat in the recent election. Weiss informed the board that Dale Adkins, also elected during the consolidated election, has declined to take his seat on the board. Weiss encouraged anyone interested in filling that seat to reach out to the Board Secretary for more information. The board is also still searching for a new board lawyer, those interested may also reach out to either President Weiss or the Board Secretary. Lastly, President Weiss informed the board that the presentation of the Annual Audit will happen at the May Board Meeting.
6. **Director's report** – Director Lenz updated the commissioners on the Push 4 Parks campaign ongoing this year. Forgottonia is still selling Barks & Rec until they run out (\$1 of every pour goes to the Patton Park Project). There is still a little over a week and a half left to go get your shoes with Brown's Shoe Fit campaign, \$5 from every pair of athletic shoes sold goes to Patton Park. Magnolia's is jumping on as the May Push 4 Parks partner with their Ball Park Burger, choice of side for \$14, of which \$3 goes to Patton Project.

Work has begun on the Parking area at Patton located in front of the new Dog Park location. Concrete to be poured the week of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fencing for the new dog park will start to go up shortly thereafter. Our playground installer is shooting for the week of May 24<sup>th</sup> to begin installation of pathway for play, four new play pockets, weather dependent.

Ball Fore is kicking off the 2021 season with a Par-Tee! on Saturday, May 1 from 1:00 – 10:00 p.m., \$1 mini golf, and Squeeze to please lemonade on site from 3:00 – 8:00. Seasonal Hours for 2021 are:

- Friday 5:00 – 10:00
- Saturday 1:00 – 10:00
- Sunday 1:00 – 6:00

Lakeview is hosting another Leave no trace workshop, Saturday May 1 from 1:00 – 2:30. The District is finalizing details for our first round of events (Movies in the Park – drive in style and Randolph St Rendezvous) starting in June. Finally, Director Lenz informed the Board that Kara Sahagian has been named the new Superintendent of Events.

**7. Consideration and Action on Resolution 21-5: Commendation & Appreciation of Commissioner John L Hemingway** – President Weiss read Resolution 21-5 into the minutes:

IN COMMENDATION & APPRECIATION OF  
COMMISSIONER JOHN L. HEMINGWAY FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2007 the Macomb Park District Board appointed John L. Hemingway to serve on the Macomb Park District Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway served as Park Board President from September 2011 through January 2019, as well as Vice President from January 2019 through June 2020; and

WHEREAS, during Commissioner Hemingway’s service the Macomb Park District underwent major expansion and development; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway’s Background and experience, together with his leadership, knowledge, and dedication to serving his community has made critical contributions to the District’s advancement; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway has consistently demonstrated his commitment to professional best practices in advising the Macomb Park District to have been of great benefit in representing the residents of Macomb, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway has diligently protected the Macomb Park District’s financial resources in the best interests of the District’s residents, constituents, and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway has given freely, generously, and selflessly of himself to promote the well-being of the Macomb Park District and the wider community of Macomb; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Hemingway will fulfill his final term with the Macomb Park District on the 18th day of May, 2021, the District being the better for his long service to it;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Macomb Park District, meeting in regular session this 20th day of April 2021, that said Board does express its deep appreciation for John L. Hemingway’s many years of faithful service to the Macomb Park District, its residents, and its constituents; that the Commissioners of said Board do hereby extend their heartfelt best wishes to him; and that the Commissioners of said Board wish to spread this Resolution upon the Minutes of this meeting in commemoration of the action taken thereby.

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve Resolution 21-5. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The Resolution was approved on roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays – 1 Abstain).

8. **Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items** – Commissioner Hamm took the opportunity to thank Commissioner Hemingway for his dedication to the community, for sharing his knowledge of parks, and his example/mentorship. Commissioner Weiss also acknowledge Commissioner Hemingway’s impact through his time on the board not only for the community but also the Commissioners who serve. Director Lenz thanked John for his mentorship through the many stages of her professional development and acknowledged his vital role he has played in the progress of the Park District. Commissioner Gamage also thanked Commissioner Hemingway for the help he has given to her as a new Commissioner. Commissioner Hemingway thanked everyone for their kind words as well as the people of Macomb for giving him the opportunity to serve. Hemingway stated the experience has been immensely rewarding and how incredibly important it is for people to get involved in their community either through serving on a board or whatever means a person can because change won’t happen without each persons service.

6:35 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Hemingway, second by Edwards. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary  
Macomb Park District