

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT HELD ON MAY 1, 2018  
AT 7:00PM AT THE MEMORIAL PARK FIELD HOUSE

Call to order: 7:00pm

Page 1 of 2

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Commissioner Zylman

Roll Call Present: Theodore Ruthenberg, Raeann Zylman, William Ochoa

Absent: Bradley St. Leger, Vincent Franchetti

Staff: Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Director of Marketing, Kevin Brown of Browntown Communications and Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski

Public Comments: None

*\*Public comments are welcome. As a courtesy to other visitors with comments, each visitor shall be permitted up to two (2) minutes for his or her comment.*

Additions or Revisions to the agenda: None

AGENDA:

1. **Discussion** – Memorial Park Improvements updates. Soil and seed have been placed on the field. The project was done Tuesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25 and involved both maintenance and Sportsfields. Field will be blocked off for the next two weeks. Sprinkler system is working and on a timer.
2. **Discussion** – BBQ on the Hill update. Joshua Edwards, Director of Recreation was successful in bringing down the asking price on the headliner band for BBQ on the Hill. Board approved the pricing for the main band for Saturday night. Judges and contestant enrollment have started coming in. Food vender applications have gone out to Blue Island businesses as well as last year's vendors.
3. **Discussion** – Dragon Boat Festival update.
  - a. The contract is in the binder and is pretty much finalized. We are waiting for final insurance documents before moving forward. Promotional materials are done and being distributed as we hunt for sponsors and participants.
  - b. We have applied for liquor permission with the city and state. Blue Island Beer Company is going to serve beer and we will probably have a domestic beer on tap as well.
  - c. New logo, banners, posters and brochures have been printed. Park's website, FaceBook advertizing as well as Twitter, Facebook and Chamber of Commerce E-blast's have started going out.
  - d. Reviewing location set up, vender village to be at the south east corner of parking lot. Several prospective vendors, letter sent to the Mayor of Blue Island requesting liquor license, athlete village to be stationed as half moon at water fall. MWRD boat will provide transportation of equipment and docks to race site.
  - e. Meeting with City, police onsite, fire department, life guards, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District will issue permit to City of Blue Island, who in turn will issue a permit to the Park District.
  - f. Same amount of teams have signed up. 8 confirmed, 3 paid with one team being the Park District. Individual rowers coming in. Jotform waivers online, all forms updated.

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Page 2 of 2

4. **Discussion – Open House.** We had a very successful open house, several programs sold out the day of and we had multiple residents take advantage of the discounts for paying up front. We are also seeing an upswing with online registration which is catching on in the community. The comparison number between last years and this year's open house show a big jump this year. At least some of that is due to the fact that soccer opened and sold earlier last year. After program deadlines have past, an updated report will be available. A special mention to Karen, Karina and Alex of the front office and the whole staff on a job well done.
5. **Director's Report:**
  - a. The Director met with Commissioners Avalia of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District as well as MWRD attorney and Tom Shepard, a local environmental activist. The MWRD owns and maintains the same waterfall park where the Dragon Boat festival will be held. They would like to discuss the possibility of leasing that plot of l and that includes the waterfall park to the Park District in a deal where we would take on the maintenance and possibly put in some ADA compliant elements like a ramp or stairs. In return we would essentially be adding the property to our list of spaces we can rent for parties, etc. This idea is in the early stages.
  - b. Baseball is up and running on Sundays, when you have a chance, the staff highly recommends coming by for a couple games. The games are pretty quick as there are no commercial breaks. Commissioner Ochoa informed that dark fencing or banner needs to be placed across the fencing to block the white house across the street. It is interfering with line of site with the ball. Also asked for have the Championship banners removed, it is worn by weather. Commissioner Zylman stated that the benches at Hart Park need painting.
  - c. We have all the relevant information needed to craft the budget and Tom will likely be presenting a draft budget for public notice at the next meeting.
  - d. The updated maintenance check list is in the Commissioner's binder for review. All additions to the list are to be forward to Director Wogan.
  - e. May 12 will be the Chicago River Day Clean up for the SEPA waterfall station from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

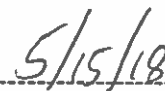
Commissioner Ochoa asked about the accident at the north gate. Did the drivers involved have insurance? Inquired about the Untouchables and if they have cleaned out the Stadium concessions and to have any man hours from park personnel be charged to the Untouchables Organization of cleaning. Board would also like an update regarding the soccer field behind Bethel Church.

Motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting was made by Commissioner Ochoa, seconded by Commissioner Zylman. All aye, meeting adjourned. 7:35pm

Approved



Theodore Ruthenberg. President  
Blue Island Park District



Date