

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT HELD ON FEBRUARY 16, 2021 AT 7:00PM  
Via Zoom

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Call to order: 7:04pm

Roll call of Commissioners: Theodore Ruthenberg, Vince Franchetti, Brandon Richardella

Commissioners Absent: William Ochoa

Staff / Others Present: Executive Director Thomas Wogan, Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski, Park District Attorney Michael Hayes, Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Director of Recreation Joshua Edwards, Recreation Coordinator Emanuel Esparza, Office Assistant Karina Mejia

Public Comments: None

*\* Public comments are welcome. Public Comments should be sent to [Kzielinski@blueislandparks.org](mailto:Kzielinski@blueislandparks.org) no later than 5pm on February 16, 2021.*

Additions or Revisions to the Agenda: None

AGENDA:

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:** It is recommended that the board approves the Consent Agenda A-C. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Richardella and seconded by Commissioner Franchetti. Roll Call: Commissioner Franchetti, Ruthenberg and Richardella. All aye, motion passes.
  - a. **CONSENT** – Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 19, 2021.
  - b. **CONSENT** – Approval of Payroll ending January 16, 2021, in the amount of \$22,688.08 and Payroll ending January 30, 2021, in the amount of \$24,409.29.
  - c. **CONSENT** – Approval of Accounts Payables from January 13, 2021, through February 12, 2021, in the amount of \$43,435.36.

**DISCUSSION** – 2021 Spring/Summer Programming. Getting a little more into focus on what Spring and Summer guides will look like in terms of programming. Our Summer Camp, staff and structure will be intact, there was some questions last year in regard to this year. We have start times for day camp based around District 130 and St. Benedict school schedule. Pool operations will resume with no real changes. Summer camp is going to have similar safety regulation as last year and hopefully not as restricted as of group size and adjustments will be made. Park District intention is to have a hybrid of where the program was in 2019. Joshua Edwards addressed the board regarding soccer and basketball programs played at the John D. Recreation Center and keep the classes to a minimal of 10 to 15 children with mask being enforced. Hoping to add soccer, pickleball and dodgeball night and then hopefully when we get close to finalize the dates for the summer brochure and be able to add more athletic programs. One of the things we are going to try to do in earnest this year is Youth Baseball. Have talked about this in the past with Blue Island Little League, since then it has been set aside. With the renovation of Hart Park and with our relationship with the White Sox youth baseball program who is willing to help with support and uniforms. Space has been an issue with District 130, will be going thru a process with their board, we have been asking for a Governmental Agreement since 2020 in relation to Covid, hoping to roll that over. End of March will be our test run rental with a max of 30. As long as the rules are followed, we will be ok. Start to get revenue in and due a soft reopen. Congratulation to Joshua Edwards for his Nomination from the NRPA for 30 under 30.


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2. **DISCUSSION** - 2021 Financial Outlook. Met with First Midwest, which is where all our accounts are, First Midwest being a Commercial Bank and the Tax Anticipation loan. Would like to acquire a financial institution that has a more experience with this. Still in the position as to if we have or want to do that moving forward. The Park District has about three months in reserves and anticipating a season property tax March. Finished the first of the three stages of State Reimbursement Grant, and that is for the large of the two amounts, may take about two months.
3. **DIRECTORS REPORT:**
- 1) Major expenditure and the Park District did skip two years, but would like to mail program book, jump start programs. Joshua Edwards and Tom Wogan have been communicating with the Whites Sox organization and hoping to make Hart Park the Aces their permanent home and looking to working with the Little League program.
  - 2). Maintenance Department worked hard keeping parks cleared of snow. Normally have a good relationship with the Apartments at 127<sup>th</sup> and Highland, and only ask to move the cars that park on our parkway for big events or weather, ran into resistance from the tenants. Had to contact a towing company to have cars removed. Will have to contact property manager and have stricter enforcement.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Richardella and seconded by Commissioner Ruthenberg.  
All aye, meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Approved



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Theodore Ruthenberg. President  
Blue Island Park District



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Date