

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK
DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, AT 7:00PM

Call to order: 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Commissioner Franchetti

Roll call of Commissioners: Michael Powers, Vincent Franchetti, William Ochoa, and Michael Sinde

Commissioners Absent: Brandon Richardella

Staff / Others Present: Executive Director Theodore Ruthenberg, Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Pool Manager David Garcia, Director of Summer Camp and Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski

Public Comments: None

** Public comments are welcome. All comments should be kept to 2 minutes to assume time for all to speak.*

Additions or Revisions to the Agenda: None

AGENDA:

1. **DISCUSSION** – Tree Canopy Proposal. Director Ruthenberg is working with Great Lakes Urban Forestry Management regarding a long-term plan to replace the Park Districts tree canopy. Several trees have been lost over the past couple of years. This group works with Botanical Gardens and other organizations. They will suggest what trees would be best for replacements. Commissioner Sinde looking at long term survey, would cost about \$1,900. Commissioner Ochoa inquired on who would be doing the planting and who has final decision on tree placement. Commissioner Powers stated that at final decision would be the Park District.
2. **DISCUSSION** – Department Updates.
 - a. Ken Bereta Maintenance Supervisor could not attend tonights meeting. Director Ruthenberg fence on top of the list, design has been changed to a tiered fence. Field stripper is fixed for upcoming football events.
 - b. Director of Recreation, Joshua Edwards could not attend tonights meeting. Commissioners are free to call him with questions. Commissioner Ochoa asked regarding the completion of the Recreation Departments list. Commissioner Powers asked regarding the Recreation intern. Director Ruthenberg said an unpaid intern was hired for the Autumn. Director Ruthenberg stated he was just updated today regarding this addition. Questions were raised regarding this decision. Untouchables agreement is still not finalized.
3. **DISCUSSION** – Pool Update
David Garcia, Pool Manager updated the board regarding, income from daily entrée, pass sale, payroll. \$78,789 in income and \$11,9997 in expenses. Commissioner Sinde stated that the pool has been without a heater for two years now. Has the pool had a drop in attendance and if surrounding pools have heaters. Dave Garcia stated attendance has been average to past years, yes other pools do have heaters. Director Ruthenberg stated one quote came in at \$32,000. Solar panel option was half a million. Commissioner Sinde asked if pool could help identify items that need to be fixed or replace and to inform Maintenance Department early, so they have time act.
4. **DISCUSSION** - Summer Camp Update
Summer Camp Director Candice Cantelo reviewed the attendance for each session was. 125 campers fist session with 95 resident and 30 non-resident, 177 campers second session with 117 resident and 60 non-resident and 143 campers for third session with 95 resident and 48 non-residents. Did well on outstanding balances. Reviewed income at \$109,713.83, expenses at \$10,237.61. Payroll total at \$28,476.28. Until outstanding balance are settled.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS HELD SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, AT 7:00PM

5. **DIRECTORS REPORT:**

1. Harvest Soiree this Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 6:00pm in the lower pavilion and community garden. This event help raise funds to support the Community Garden expenses with tools and compost.
2. Rental rates comparison. Raised rental rates resident by \$50 and non-resident by \$100 for most venues. Compared to other towns, price is very fair. Commissioner Ochoa asked regarding the \$15 per hour for security. Complaints regarding lack so security, suggestions to remove \$15 per hour security fee. Commissioner Ochoa and Sinde have commented on the issue of the lower pavilion parking, cars are parking at the pavilion instead of street. Security needs to handle this better.
3. Five auditing firms have been contacted regarding 2021-2022 audits. If any Commissioners have a suggestion on a CPA firm, please let Director Ruthenberg know.
4. Christmas. Kringle Market. City and Light Parade Committee both will have a selfie stand located at York and Western. They are asking for the Park District to sponsor a selfie stand as well. Director Ruthenberg said there is a bridge for \$1,000. Decorations are old and need updating, Commissioner Powers asked to have oversized ornaments priced out.
5. Marketing has been a challenge, Joshua Edwards created newsletter to be sent by email. August was distributed to 1,000 people with 91 that opened the email. Newsletter sent monthly. City is looking to bring back channel 4 TV station for city marketing that the park would also be able to use. Commissioner Sinde asked how to reach people who do not have computers. Also, typos have been found on the web site, needs to be regimented more closely.
6. Scarecrow contest will be combination of Park District and City this year.
7. Chill program update. Received some phone calls, unsure of registration numbers.
8. Pickleball. Recreation Center may host games for the winter with Hart Park considered for the spring. Ken Bereta has created a diagram for a court.

Motion adjourn the Committee of the Whole was made by Commissioner Powers and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa. All aye, Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm

Approved



Vincent Franchetti, Secretary
Blue Island Park District

10-6-22

Date