

**Chicago Heights Park District
Regular Meeting
Park District Board of Commissioners
September 12, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting called to Order: The Regular Board meeting of the Chicago Heights Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Upon roll call, the following board members were recorded present: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina. Commissioner Nichols-Brown was recorded absent. A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes on August 8, 2022, by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Ridley. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina. President Mangiaracina informed the clerk that the date stated in her report for the Lions Club Golf Outing was incorrect. The correct date is Wednesday, September 14th. Motion passed.

President Mangiaracina: President Mangiaracina announced on Wednesday, September 14th the Lions Club will host its Annual Golf Fundraiser at Deer Creek in University Park with an 11 am Shot Gun Start. She stated that she would like to sponsor one golfer to represent the Chicago Heights Park District. She asked the board to inform her of anyone that would like to attend. She also announced that the Mexican Independence Day Parade will be held on Saturday, September 17th at 1 pm. The Chicago Heights Park District will participate in the parade with its float. She concluded her report by thanking the Program Director, Wanda Rodgers-Spruell, and the entire staff for doing an excellent job with the “Music in the Park” music series. She also wished Superintendent Demitrowicz a Happy Birthday!

Treasure’s Report: None was given.

Superintendents Report: Superintendent Demitrowicz informed the board that fourteen new members joined the park district for the month of August. The membership total is now 335. The fall booklet is now on the park district website. Flyers and brochures have been distributed to schools, churches, and some business sites. She announced that the park district has contracted DLA Architect and WT Land Surveying Firm to start the land surveillance of Commissioners Park. The preliminary plan for Commissioners Park is to build two full-size soccer fields with lighting. On the other side of the park, the plan is to have a band shell, concession stand, and splash pad. A presentation will be given to the board at the next board meeting. The Lilly pads will also be resurrected at all parks for next spring. She informed the board that she has been working with a grant writer on two grants. The first grant is \$600,000 along with a \$100,000 grant which is a total of \$700,000 for the park district. She stated that DLA is also putting together a one-to-five-year comprehensive master plan for the Chicago Heights Park District. She announced that the debris

from the bike path has been cleared. She also informed the board that she has been working with IPARK for repairs at Wacker Park. Bids have been worked on with Kompan for new park playground equipment. She announced the Summer Golf Bash will be on Sunday, September 18th, and Night Golf will be on Friday, September 30th. She informed the board that a special community donation celebration will be held by the Chicago Heights Park District at Sesto Park on Saturday, September 24th. Mr. Maurice Shelton is the donor for this celebration, and he will be performing and providing free food for the entire community. President Mangiaracina will be collaborating with her and the Program Direct to start “Friends of the Park.” She asked all board members to support the vision of “Friends of the Park.” She informed the board that she will be collaborating with School District 170 with the program “Restorative Practices” which will help students with behavioral problems. Incentives will be given to those students from the park district when they show improvement in their behavior. She informed the board that One Call Now is a platform that has been confirmed for the park district to use. This service will provide the park district with the opportunity to send out robocalls to all residents to promote classes, programming, and events. Also, a new HVAC unit and a new ice machine were installed at the West Golf Course. She concluded her report by informing the board that the bills will now be paid twice a month to avoid any late fees. She thanked President Mangiaracina and the Board of Commissioners for their support.

Attorneys Report: None was given.

Public Participation: Paul Rupright asked the board about the two-year plan for improvements at the golf course. Superintendent Demitrowicz informed Mr. Rupright that improvements have been made at both golf courses this year, but there is not a two-year plan. The goal is to continue to work with Iron Pearl and provide great service at both golf courses. President Mangiaracina stated that community feedback is always welcomed. She stated that a comprehensive plan is being put into place for great improvements.

Commissioners Report

Commissioner Ridley: None was given.

Commissioner Perez: Commissioner Perez announced her 2nd Ward Back to School event with Alderman Perez was held on Saturday, August 14th. She thanked everyone for coming out.

Commissioner Baikauskas: Commissioners Baikauskas announced that her joint ward meeting with Alderman Chris Baikauskas will be held on Monday, September 26th at 6 pm at Roosevelt School.

Commissioner Straczek: Commissioner Straczek announced that his joint 6th Ward meeting will now be held on the final Monday of every month at Commissioners Park starting Monday, September 26th.

Commissioner Zuniga: None was given.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Submission of Bills: On a motion to pay the bills for August 2022 by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Baikauskas. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

Motion: On a motion to approve Health Insurance by Commissioner Baikauskas, seconded by Commissioner Ridley. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina.

A brief presentation was provided by Mr. Clift Taylor from Insure Source. Motion passed

Adjournment: On a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Straczek. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina.

Secretary

Date