

**Chicago Heights Park District  
Regular Meeting  
Park District Board of Commissioners  
October 11, 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 7:00 p.m.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes on September 12, 2022, by Commissioner Ridley, seconded by Commissioner Zuniga. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

**President Mangiaracina:** President Mangiaracina announced that she along with members of the Park Board will be participating in the Annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at the East Golf Course. They have created their theme “The Park District Secret Lab”. They are planning to pass out candy to over #300 kids. She also announced that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Halloween Give-A-Way will be hosted at Smith Park by Alderman Kelli Merrick on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Over 100 costumes will be given and there will also be a Pumpkin Carving station for the kids. She also announced that on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> the City of Chicago Heights will host its Annual Veterans Day Ceremony “Morning of Remembrance” which will be held at the Veterans mound. Lunch will be served in the social room after the ceremony. She asked that everyone please take a monument of silence on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. She concluded her report by announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Wonderland will be held on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and she will be hosting a scene if any commissioners would like to participate, please let her know.

**Treasure’s Report:** None was given.

**Superintendents Report:** Superintendent Dr. Shari Demitrowicz announced that the park district had 20 new members join the Rec Center in the month of September. She stated that the park district has had numerous participants and residents sign up for programs and events. She thanked the Program Director, Wanda Rodgers-Spruell, and the entire team for adding new creative programming to meet the needs of the residents. She announced that the \$600,000 grant has been submitted and the \$100,000 grant will be submitted by the end of next week. She informed the board that Kompan will make a special presentation on the park equipment at the November meeting along with DLT Architect. She announced that President Mangiaracina and the Program Director, Wanda Rodgers-Spruell will be spearheading the “Friends of the Park” committee and she will be working along with them. She asked for the commissioners to be a part of this special committee. She stated that “Friends of the Park” will host fundraisers and design their mission

statement. She also informed the board that cameras are being worked on at the golf courses. The golf course water issues are being addressed. She concluded her report by announcing that the Night Golf event held on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> was a success with #40 golfers in attendance.

**Attorneys Report:** None was given.

**Public Participation:** No participants.

**Commissioners Report**

**Commissioner Ridley:** Commissioner Ridley made remarks thanking President Mangiaracina, Dr. Shari Demitrowicz, Wanda Rodgers-Spruell, and Mike DeButch for all that they did to make the Sesto Dedication event a great success! He stated that he truly enjoyed the event. He also thanked Mr. Maurice Shelton for his generous donation. He announced that he attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward meeting hosted by Alderman Renee Smith, Mayor David Gonzalez, State Representative Anthony Deluca, and Acting Chief Elmien along with residents of Ward 1.

**Commissioner Straczek:** None was given.

**Commissioner Zuniga:** None was given.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

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

**Adjournment:** On a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Zuniga. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Ridley, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Zuniga, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

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**Secretary**

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**Date**