

**Chicago Heights Park District**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Park District Board of Commissioners**  
**June 12, 2023**  
**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 Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. A quorum was established.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes on May 8, 2023, by Commissioner Foston, seconded by Commissioner Robinson. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

**President Report:** President Mangiaracina stated how wonderful it is to have a full board present for the monthly meeting. She thanked the Chicago Heights Park District family and everyone who participated in the Memorial Day Parade on Memorial Day. She stated that remembrance and respect are very important to celebrate our freedom. She also announced our 2<sup>nd</sup> Music in the Park Music series will be held on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at Smith Park. She concluded her report by announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Music in the Park event will be held in Landeen Park on July 1<sup>st</sup> from 4 pm to 7 pm.

**Treasure's Report:** No report.

**Superintendents Report:** Superintendent Demitrowicz gave the board an update on the grant from 2021 from State Representative Anthony Deluca awarded the park district a \$100,000.00 grant from DCEO Grant. This award amount was assigned for Phase 1 of the renovation to take place at the Chicago Heights Park District. Phase 1 is already funded. In January of this year, the DLR Architect Firm gave a presentation of the new designs and demolition plan to the board of commissioners. She met with President Mangiaracina to discuss Phase 2 through Phase 4 for the new grant to be completed. This grant will be submitted before June 15<sup>th</sup>. This grant only had a window of 30 days to complete the grant application. The money earmarked for this grant is 2.8 million dollars. However, you do not know the grant amount before it opens. Some of the additions provided with grant money will be a complete gym, a new roof, a new HVAC system, a new glass entryway, new audio, and more if the grant monies are secured in the amount of 90 % of the awarded grant amount. She stated that she met with Mayor Gonzalez about the vision of Chicago Heights and the park district is a part of the revitalization of the City of Chicago Heights. She reported that she has been working with the park district Senior Staff members and different parties to get the project and grant monies. She informed the board that at the next

board meeting, DLR Architect Firm will come out again to show the board all of the phases of the proposed renovations. She also announced that the Open Space Land Acquisition Development (OSLAD) grant will open on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The amount of this grant is not known. This grant will be earmarked for the phase 2 renovation project at Commissioners Park. An archaeological survey is now being done at Commissioners Park to satisfy the grant requirement. She also announced the partnership with School District 170 middle school for their Summer Camp to utilize our swimming pool to take swimming lessons. She announced that the Senior Director, Rachel Trevino, has retired after 17 years of service. Grateful for the years she served in the Chicago Heights Park District. The position she held has been secured. The new playground equipment will be installed in August of this year. The new web design process has started with Rec Centric with the assistance of SBE Media. She concluded her report by thanking Mayor Gonzalez and all the elected officials for their support and assistance in obtaining the grants to service the residents of Chicago Heights.

**Attorneys Report:** No report.

**Public Participation:** None.

### **Commissioners Report**

**Commissioner Foston:** Commissioner Foston wished everyone a very safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. He also announced that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is also his mother's birthday.

**Commissioner Perez:** Commissioner Perez wished everyone a Happy Juneteenth and a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She informed everyone to be safe and aware of the fireworks during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She shared with every one of her lost her dog during a previous 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

**Commissioner Robinson:** Commissioner Robinson also wished everyone a safe and Happy Juneteenth and 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**Commissioner Baikauskas:** Commissioner Baikauskas announced that she would be hosting her 4th Ward Meeting with Alderman Baikauskas on Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at Roosevelt School. She also invited everyone to the Music in the Park Music Series on Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm at Landeen Park.

**Commissioner Straczek:** No report.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Submission of Bills:** On a motion to pay the bills for May 2023, by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Foston. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

**Motion:** On a motion to authorize the scheduling of a Public Hearing on the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for Monday, July 10, 2023, at 6:45 pm and publish a legal notice of said hearing by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Baikauskas. The following ayes were recorded: Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

**Adjournment:** On a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Straczek. Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. Motion passed.

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**Secretary**

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**Date**