

Chicago Heights Park District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Park District Board of Commissioners
May 12, 2025
6:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order: The Regular Board meeting of the Chicago Heights Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order at 6:03p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call: Upon roll call, the following board members were recorded present: Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina. Commissioner Robinson was recorded absent. A quorum was established.

Swearing in of Elected Board Members: Honorable Luciano Panici Jr. swore in the elected Board Members, Ward 2 Emiliano Horta, Ward 5 Jessica Mangiaracina, Ward 6 Curtis Staczek. Outgoing Commissioner Elizabeth Perez was acknowledged for her years of service.

Nominations and Appointments of Park District Board Officers for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary:

Nomination of **Jessica Mangiaracina for President** by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Baikauskas. No Discussion and no other nominations. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Nomination of **Curtis Staczek for Vice President** by Commissioner Baikauskas, seconded by Commissioner Guzman. No Discussion and no other nominations. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Nomination of **Michele Baikauskas for Treasurer** by Commissioner Staczek, seconded by President Mangiaracina. No Discussion and no other nominations. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Nomination of **Margaret Guzman for Secretary** by Commissioner Staczek, seconded by President Mangiaracina. No Discussion and no other nominations. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes as amended from April 14, 2025, by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Foston. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Horta, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Reports from the President and other officers:

Treasure's Report: A Treasurers report for March 2025 was presented by Chicago Heights Park Board Treasurer, Commissioner Baikauskas. On a motion to accept the Financial Report by Commissioner Baikauskas, seconded by Commissioner Guzman. No discussion .The following ayes were recorded. The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Horta, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Commissioner Foston: Thanked the District for the flowers and thoughts and acknowledged the community representation at the meeting.

Commissioner Horta: Delighted to be part of the Park District Board.

Commissioner Robinson: Absent

Commissioner Baikauskas: Hoped everyone had a Happy Mother's Day and congratulated the elected officials. The joint 4th Ward Meeting is cancelled for the month of May.

Commissioner Straczek: Happy to see the wonderful attendance at the meeting.

Commissioner Guzman: With Alderman Merrick would like to thank everyone that participated in the Ward 7 Mother's Day Plant and Flower Giveaway. Approximately 100 seed packets were distributed for Monarch sanctuaries in addition the children learned how to plant flowers and plants to give to their mothers. The "Wings of Wonder" where also displayed which is the initiative to save the Monarchs.

President Mangiaracina: Complimented on everyone for being part of the Park District. It is wonderful to see so many people attending the meeting and a Thank You to the parents that have children participating in our programs, together we are making memories and working together on the same page which is wonderful.

Superintendent Report: Bid opening for Commissioners Park will be on May 27th. IPARKS inspected our facilities and had no recommendations for improvements, which is great news. We had our 1st Palooza in the Park, which was Cinco De Mayo Fest, which was wonderful.

Attorneys Report: Congratulated and welcomed the new and re-elected Commissioners.

Public Participation: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Award Presentation for Soccer Program: Dr. Shari Demitrowicz presented Melani Mendoza and Avah Bahena awards for being selected by the State of Illinois to participate in the Olympic development program, which is an outstanding accomplishment. Zenaida Esquivel was presented with an award for being a standout on the High School Soccer team. Youth soccer coordinators Teresa and Santiago Ayala where presented an award for their commitment and dedication to the Chicago Heights Park District soccer program.

Submission of Bills: On a motion to pay the bills for April, by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Guzman. Discussion None: The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Horta, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Adjournment: On a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27p.m. by Commissioner Straczek, seconded by Commissioner Guzman. Discussion None: The following ayes were recorded Commissioner Foston, Commissioner Horta, Commissioner Baikauskas, Commissioner Straczek, Commissioner Guzman, and President Mangiaracina Motion Passed.

Secretary

Date