

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Tuesday, August 22, 2023; 7:00 p.m.  
Ice Arena, 9711 Waveland Avenue  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.**

Secretary O'Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Commissioners Susan E. O'Connell, Joseph E. Zinga and Mark K. White.

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas and Michael A. Vonesh.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Director of Parks and Recreation; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; and Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager.

Absent: Attorney Thomas Hoffman.

Also Present: Jennifer Costa, Parks Services Assistant; Nasser Rafidia, Justina Pikor and Eric Krueger from Thunder Soccer.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda**

Director LoCascio corrected the Manual Bill Listing amount on the Agenda.

**Marianne Birko, Annual WSSRA Presentation**

Director Birko presented the WSSRA Snapshot '22. The Board thanked Director Birko for coming to the meeting and for what WSSRA does.

**Recess for Public Comment at 7:26 p.m.**

Secretary O'Connell recessed for public comment at 7:26 p.m.

Nasser Rafidia, Justina Pikor and Eric Krueger from Thunder Soccer addressed the Board regarding limited field space for Thunder Soccer and help getting a home field in Franklin Park. A discussion was held. The Board thanked them for coming to the meeting.

**Reconvene at 7:51 p.m.**

Secretary O'Connell reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

**Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated July 25, 2023**

Motion #1 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes dated July 25, 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated July, 2023 in the amount of \$279,789.54**

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to approve the July, 2023 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$279,789.54.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Zinga, yes; White, yes and O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated August, 2023 in the amount of \$64,149.99**

Motion #3 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to approve the July, 2023 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$64,149.99.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner White, yes, O'Connell, yes and Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No Correspondence.

**Reports of Officers and Commissioners**

Commissioner Zinga commented that the Parks all look very nice and the new train at Junction Park is very nice.

Assistant Costa was at Junction Park and Love and Learn Day Care came, and all the kids were screaming "Oh My God, Look at the Train!" They were so excited and were thanking her.

Commissioner White echoed Commissioner Zinga's comments on Junction Park.

**Staff Reports:**

*Director*

Nothing to add to his report.

*Superintendent of Parks*

Superintendent Wick stated it was nice to install the new train at Junction Park. Assistant Costa is looking into adding some spring rockers.

Superintendent Wick updated the Board on the repairing of retaining walls at North Park and clean-up of entrances to the Park.

A discussion was held regarding staffing the department.

*Marketing & Communication Manager*

Manager Saponieri reported the following:

The Park Passport Adventure will close next week. Got 8 booklets back. Next year she will put it in the brochure and making it available for all ages. Winter / Spring Brochure is getting an internal and external redesign that we are looking forward to. This Friday we will be getting drone footage of some of our Parks to utilize for social media. Fall Brochure is out and registration is open.

The website has been acting up and going down. The website was done in 2016 and is not able to upgrade. She will be looking into quotes for a new website.

*Superintendent of Finance/Technology*

Superintendent Bersani reported TimePro upgrade was done last week and spent a lot of time on the phone with the representative.

*Superintendent of Recreation*

Superintendent Visteen stated her staff is very excited about the new timekeeping software.

Preschool, Playschool and Tot School started this week. Day Camp ended a week ago. Afterschool program started last week with 24 participants.

*Ice Arena Manager*

Manager Deak reported shutdown is almost done. The bigger items have been completed. The ice will begin to be installed this week. A discussion was held regarding a soft start failed.

Registration started this week. Looking forward to a new season.

*WSSRA*

Nothing to add.

**Unfinished Business**

*Ice Arena & North Park Window/Door Replacement Project*

Director LoCascio reported he has been in touch with the DCEO regarding the grant. The grant manager has been very easy to work with. Targeting October / November for start.

Patching bad areas and sewer and reseal coat the front of North Park.

*Efficiency Committee*

Director LoCascio has been in contact with the Committee and they are available to meet in October.

**New Business:**

*Musco Field Lights Control*

Motion #4 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to approve the purchase of Musco Field Light Control-Link Lighting Controls and Control Link Central Service at a cost not to exceed \$24,500 as presented by staff.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

*Ice Arena Tour*

The Board and Staff took a tour of the Ice Arena.

**Suggested Motions**

No Suggested Motions.

**Required Signatures**

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

**Closed Session to discuss Pending Litigation 2(c)11 and Personnel 2(c)1**

Motion #5 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to enter into Closed Session at 8:59 p.m. Pending Litigation 2(c)11, Land Acquisition 2(c)5 and Personnel 2(c)1.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Zinga, yes; White, yes and O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Rise Out of Closed Session**

Motion #6 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to rise out of Closed Session at 9:36 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner White, yes, O’Connell, yes and Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session**

A discussion was held on fields.

**Adjourn at 9:57 p.m.**

Motion #7 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to adjourn at 9:57 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner O’Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

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Susan E. O’Connell, Secretary