

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Meeting  
Community Center  
9560 Franklin Avenue  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.**

Chairman LoCascio called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Joe Zinga, Sue O'Connell, AnneMarie Casas, Mike Vonesh, Mark White, Dan LoCascio, Patricia Tragarz, and Joe Reyes.

Also Present: Nick Polyak, Leyden High School Superintendent.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

No additions, corrections, or deletions to the Agenda.

**Recess for Public Comment at 6:02 p.m.**

Leyden High School Superintendent Nick Polyak spoke to the Committee about the Leyden celebrating its 100 year anniversary this year and highlighted the events they scheduled.

Superintendent Polyak left the meeting.

**Reconvene at 6:12 p.m.**

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion 1 made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the committee minutes dated October 3, 2023.

Roll Call: Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; LoCascio, yes; Tragarz, yes; and Reyes, yes.

**Old Business**

No old business was presented.

**New Business**

*Efficient Operations*

LoCascio explained how the Park District is efficient by using volunteers, hiring local youth, participating in cooperative purchasing programs to obtain competitively bid products/services, has a Parks Foundation that reduces the burden of a reliance on tax dollars, it collaborates rather than competes with other park districts and has limited federal grant opportunities compared to villages and schools.

*Community Transparency*

Director LoCascio shared with the Committee the district's commitment to community transparency through documents available on the website, at the Administrative offices, Public Comment at meetings,

public hearings on the Budget and tax levy. It also has an email for anyone to contact us through the website, conducts program and membership surveys and park planning meetings.

*Awards and Recognition*

Director LoCascio reviewed the awards and recognition the District has earned in the last 10 years.

*Benefits and Services*

Director LoCascio highlighted amenities at District's facilities, parks, programs offered in 2023 and additional services.

*Recommendations for Increased Accountability and Efficiency*

Director LoCascio discussed opportunities to eliminate intergovernmental fees and charges paid by the Park District, unfunded state mandates such as FOIA requests and Criminal background checks that cost the district.

**Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**Survey of Residents in Attendance**

No residents were in attendance.

**Motion to Adjournment**

Motion by White, second by Vonesh to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Roll Call: Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; LoCascio, yes; Tragarz, yes; and Reyes, yes.