

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
RIVER TRAILS PARK DISTRICT,
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD VIA VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING
IN SAID DISTRICT ON THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

I. The President called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and directed Carole Dohse, Accounting and Administrative Assistant to call the roll. Upon roll being called, the following Commissioners answered present: Edward W. Rechner, Nancy Parra, Jennifer Rezek, and Jack Cerniglia. Commissioner Gail Dieterich was absent. Also present were Director Bret Fahnstrom, Superintendent of Finance Steve Cummins, Superintendent of Parks Tom Pope, and Superintendent of Recreation Patti Mitchell.

II. Visitors Present: None

III. The Agenda for September 17, 2020 was submitted for approval. Commissioner Rezek moved to approve said agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parra and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE: Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Jennifer Rezek, and Jack Cerniglia
NAY: None
ABSENT: Gail Dieterich

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 3, 2020
- b. Approval of Voucher List of Bills for August 11 – September 14, 2020

Commissioner Parra moved to approve Consent Agenda items as presented. Commissioner Rezek seconded the motion, and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follows:

AYE: Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, and Jennifer Rezek
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Jack Cerniglia
ABSENT: Gail Dieterich

V. Communications

- a. Staff Report - Recreation. Superintendent Mitchell reported that Kid Squad Connect is running well with steady participants in the first and second sessions. Parkour programs are popular, trailblazers programming is beginning, and Adult Athletics including softball had a successful season. Room and gym rentals continue to be numerous each week. The Fitness club will be expanding hours of operation in the Fall. Upcoming events include the Foundation event of "Closet to the Pin", Movie in the Park with the Prospect Heights Park District, and OCR on October 3rd. Director Fahnstrom praised the Recreation team for all of their hard work.

- b. NRPA Engagement with Park Report. Director Fahnstrom circulated the report and highlighted that Parks and Recreation is considered essential for communities and has been a vital respite for members of the public during the pandemic. Parks and Recreation has impacted people's life in a positive way.
- c. Foundation Update. Director Fahnstrom presented the Bi-Annual Foundation report which highlighted the upcoming fundraising event of "Closest to the Pin" on October 16th. Freeze Fest collected over \$800 in donations in February. The pandemic affected registration donations, the Glow in the Hole event, coupon book sales, and the Trusty the Turtle event, which all contributed to decreased financials for 2020.
- d. Organizational Goal Update. Director Fahnstrom walked the Board through the current state of the Master Plan Goals and Objectives and the progress of each Goal to date. He discussed in detail the Goals of Financial Stability, Recreation Programming, Increased River Trails Community Presence, RTPD Foundation, Staff Development Investment, OSLAD Grants, and NRPA Awards.

VI. Old Business

- a. Audit Services 2020-2022. Superintendent Cummins affirmed the Park District's satisfaction with Sikich Audit services for the past 2 years. Contract modifications were made to add levels of protection and enhance the overall document. Administration recommends the Board approve a 3-Year extension with two option years (Option 1) with Sikich as auditors at the initial cost of \$13,310 for the 2020 audit year. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Rezek to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cerniglia and upon the roll being called, the Commissioners voted as follow:

AYE: Ed Rechner, Nancy Parra, Jennifer Rezek, Jack Cerniglia
 NAY: None
 ABSENT: Gail Dieterich

VII. New Business

- a. Call for a Special Meeting. A Special Board meeting will be held on September 30, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at 505 E. Camp McDonald Road for the Board to discuss the Park District's Strategic Planning.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

- a. Commissioner Rezek complimented the new signage at Burning Bush Park.
- b. Commissioner Cerniglia commented on Board Packet distribution.

IX. Executive Session. None

X. Action as a Result of Executive Session. None

XI. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

President

Secretary