

**MINUTES OF THE DECENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE  
RIVER TRAILS PARK DISTRICT,  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD  
AT 401 E. CAMP MCDONALD ROAD IN SAID DISTRICT  
ON THE FIFTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.**

- I. Committee Chairperson Leah Lussem called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and directed Crista Altergott, Administrative Assistant/Risk Management to call the roll.
- II. Upon the roll being called, the following Decennial Committee Members answered present: Commissioners Leah Lussem, Melissa Ackerman and Nancy Parra. Commissioner Robert Hoban III arrived at 7:04p.m. and Commissioner Jennifer Rezek arrived at 7:05p.m. Also present were Community Committee members Eric Raz and Lauren LoPresti as well as Executive Director Bret Fahnstrom, Superintendent of Finance and HR Dave Oswald, Superintendent of Communications and Marketing Christine Powels and Superintendent of Parks Mike Hanley. No other community visitors were present.
- III. The Agenda for September 5, 2024, was submitted for approval. Commissioner Parra moved to approve said agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackerman and approved by common consent.
- IV. The Minutes for April 18, 2024, was submitted for approval. Community Committee Member LoPresti moved to approve said minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Community Committee Member Raz and approved by common consent.
- V. Brief Review of the Committee Requirements - Executive Director Bret Fahnstrom
  - a. Establish a Committee on Local Government to study efficiencies and report recommendations regarding those efficiencies and increased accountability pursuant to 50 ILCS 70/1, et seq (the "Committee"): This requirement has been met passing Resolution NO 23-05-04 and Establishing the Decennial Committee effective May 4, 2023.
  - b. Meet a minimum of three (3) times: The committee may choose to meet as often as desired but the three-meeting minimum must be in person with a majority of the Committee. The committee has met the requirement by meeting on May 18, 2023, April 18, 2024 and September 5, 2024.
  - c. Prepare a written report to submit to the county within 18 months: The River Trails Park District Decennial Committee was officially formed on May 4, 2023 and therefore a written report must be submitted on or before November 4, 2024.
- VI. Review of the Progress to Date - Executive Director Bret Fahnstrom
  - Director Fahnstrom led the group through the latest draft of the Decennial Efficiency Report for the River Trails Park District. He complimented IAPD for providing a good template which helped the documentation creation.
  - Commissioner Lussem called the report comprehensive.
  - Commissioner Parra thinks the report is easy to read and void of typos and spelling errors. She inquired if the report will be available on the District's website. Director Fahnstrom replied that it would be a Committee decision.
  - Community Committee Member LoPresti believes that the report reflects the Committee's discussions.
  - Community Committee Member Raz called the report incredible and applauds the staff for going above and beyond in the amount of work that was put into the creation of this report.

**VII.** Post-Meeting Community Input      None

**VIII.** Next Meeting

- a. Commissioner Hoban requested additional time to review the contents of the report. After group discussion, it was determined to extend the final approval until the next meeting. Committee members were advised to review the report and send questions to Bret by Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- b. The next meeting will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> with the intent to review the final draft of the report, vote on the document and submit it to the county.

**IX.** Adjournment. There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Lussem adjourned the meeting at 7:20p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary