
NILES PARK DISTRICT
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Howard Leisure Center
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
6:00 pm

Board Members present: Chris Zalinski, President
Ray Czarnik, Vice President
Dennis O'Donovan, Treasurer
Julie Genualdi, Commissioner

Attorney present: Dan Shapiro, Attorney

Staff Members present: Tom Elenz, Executive Director
Scot Neukirch, Director of Finance
Heather Petrie, Executive Admin. Coordinator
Robin Brey, Recreation Program Supervisor
Laura Newton, Tam Tennis Manager
Jim Majewski, Facilities Superintendent
Matt Schiller, Park Grounds Supervisor
Marty Stankowicz, IceLand
Peter Dubs, Tam Golf Course
Paul Nielsen, Athletic Director
Julie Jentel, Marketing
Jim Stoneberg, Superintendent of Golf Maintenance
Lindsay Brubaker, Pioneer Park Manager
Alex Alessi, Assistant Hockey Director
Carla Nuzzo, Tam Tennis Assistant

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1. **Call to order**
President Zalinski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2019.
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
President Zalinski led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. **Roll Call**
Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. Commissioner Byrne was absent.
 4. **Changes to the agenda**
One change was made to the agenda. The Park District and Commissioners wanted to acknowledge and congratulate the Niles Rangers Hockey team on their achievements this season. Commissioner Czarnik addressed the team.

5. Consent Agenda Approval

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 19, 2019.
- B. Voucher List as Presented March 19, 2019 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$ 78,795.97
Recreation	\$ 126,941.49
Ice Rink	\$ 44,684.54
Swimming Pool	\$ 2,843.94
Golf Course	\$ 12,301.38
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	-
General Liability	\$ 12,274.98
Paving & Lighting	-
Police Protection	-
Handicapped	\$ 45,490.33
Capital	-
Audit	-
Grand Total	\$ 323,332.63

A motion was made by Commissioner Genualdi and seconded by Treasurer O’Donovan to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 19, 2019 and the Voucher List as presented. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President Zalinski	Yes
Vice President Czarnik	Yes
Treasurer O’Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Genualdi	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

6. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer O’Donovan reviewed the Treasurer’s Report.

A motion was made by President Zalinski and seconded by Vice President Czarnik to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President Zalinski	Yes
Vice President Czarnik	Yes
Treasurer O’Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Genualdi	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

7. Reports of Park Officials

A. President's Report

President Zalinski addressed the request made during public comments at the last meeting to change the name of Pioneer Park to Jozwiak Park. He added that the Niles Park District appreciates the long time contributions of Joseph Jozwiak to developing recreation in the Niles community. Going forward, President Zalinski is asking staff to investigate practices and policies with respect to naming rights to our parks and facilities by consulting the State Park Association and other area park districts.

Based on the investigation we will be able to determine a guideline that may be appropriate for the Niles Park District.

B. Attorney's Report

There was no attorney's report.

8. Board Reports

Robin Brey, Recreation Program Supervisor

- Preparing for our annual three upcoming Spring Special Events that will be held in April.
- Preschoolers have been busy this month. They toured the Niles Police Station and the Library. Solid waste agency of Northern Cook county presented their reduce reuse and recreate recycling program to the classes.
- Summer camp registration for early childhood, recreation, dance and sports camps has begun. We are anticipating a busy camp season!

Laura Newton, Tam Tennis Manager

- We are introducing a fitness, health and weight loss program.
- Take the Challenge... Why Not?
- This is a 12 week weight loss program for all ages who desire to lose weight in atmosphere designed with structure and fun in mind. The program is designed to have individuals earn points through nutritional and fitness challenges. This will provide motivation and direction for all to get on and stay on track to lose weight, gain health, release stress, enjoy comradery and create structure for you to continue on a better lifestyle path.
- Meet at Oak Park Tuesday and Thursday evening at 7pm
- Weigh in times will be Monday mornings between 6am and 7am
- Begins May 6th and ends July 26th
- Minimum of 4 maximum of 15 participants
- Cost \$150.00 non-resident of Niles \$130.00 Resident of Niles
- T-shirts for all participants with incentive prizes as the week's progress
- Overall weight loss winner will receive half of their cost back and 3 month fitness membership.
- Date for Harvest Hustle

Jim Majewski, Facilities Superintendent

- Bid specs are written for IceLand roof replacement and will go out the first week of April.
- Bid specs are being written up for tennis court crack repair and color coating.
- Pioneer concession bathroom floors are being epoxy coated.
- Pioneer batting cages are being looked at and repairs are being made for next month's opening.

Matt Schiller, Park Grounds Supervisor

- Pruning of the shrubs and trees in the parks has been underway for the last few weeks and will continue as the weather warms.
- Tree work at the Howard Leisure center has been scheduled to clean up the trees around the gazebo as well as remove a few undesirable.
- Playground mulch installation will be scheduled as soon as the mulch is available in the coming weeks.
- Clean up from winter damage to turf in the parks will begin as the weather warms the next week or so.
- Parks staff has been busy with Pesticide license testing. Half of the staff has completed their exams this past week, the other half will be testing tomorrow.
- Volunteer work at Pioneer is scheduled for next week, the kids will be helping to remove some dead plant materials, remove the small stone ground cover around the ponds as well as help clean up the debris from winter. We look forward to this being the first of many successes with volunteer projects.

Marty Stankowicz, Iceland Manager

- The outdoor rink is still open. All outdoor rental contracts have expired, and the ice is being used for public skates, open hockey and Ranger practices. It will remain open until the weather breaks and it gets too warm.
- We will finish up the winter hockey season this weekend with the playoff finals.
- Spring hockey starts on Monday immediately after the winter season with no break.
- Spring hockey classes and clinics start next week also.
- Spring skating classes start Monday March 25.
- Set design and painting has started for the Ice Show which is scheduled for May 3, 4 & 5.
- Spring ice rental contracts are being sent out this week. I am working on spring and summer rentals and programs for the outdoor rink.

Tom Elenz, Executive Director

Executive Director Elenz gave some highlights of our winter programming. All three special events (Santa Breakfast, Father/Daughter Dance, and Mother/Son Dance), all sold out. Our dance program added 40 more dancers from last year. Birthday parties have more than doubled from last year due to the new indoor playground.

There were 1,100 dodge ball participants, 1,970 youth basketball participants, both winter soccer sessions sold out, indoor t-ball and rookie ball had over 120 kids.

Figure skating participants were the ISI District 8 champions for the 9th consecutive year.

Scot Neukirch, Finance Director

Finance has continued compiling and collecting the necessary documents for the 2018 audit. When the audit report is completed, it will be submitted to the Governmental Finance Officers Association for their certificate of achievement program in financial reporting.

Otherwise, the finance department has completed all of its normal accounts payable, payroll and accounting duties.

Lindsay Brubaker, Pioneer Park Manager

- **Pioneer-** Pioneer is scheduled to open for the season Saturday, April 6th. We are excited to get back over there this week to begin setting up. I have already hired 7 new staff members to join our team this season. Volunteers from Notre Dame HS will be coming 3/26-3/27 9am-Noon to help with the spring start up landscaping.
- **Job Fair-** Niles Park District will be hosting a Job Fair Thursday, March 28th 4-7pm. All high schools and colleges in the area have been notified to help get the word out to students. We have received a lot of phone calls and emails about it, so we're hoping for a good turnout.
- Paul and I attended the Maine East Job Fair and Notre Dame. We will be attending Maine South's Job Fair on Thursday.
- **Softball-** Entries for this year's tournaments are slowly and steadily starting to come in. March Pitching and Hitting clinics have been a success. We have received a lot of positive comments on our new coach Katie Lankford who also coaches for Robert Morris University.
- April 26th-28th- 10U/12U Spring Fling- travel teams + **boys baseball**
- May 5th- MLB's Pitch, Hit, & Run and Jr. Homerun Derby
- July 8th-14th- 10U/12U House Classic- local house and all-star teams
- July 19th-21st- 14U/16U/18U Summer Classic- girls travel teams
- July 26th-28th- **8U/9U/10U Dog Days Classic- boys baseball**
- August 2nd-4th- **10U/12U/14U/16U Last Hurrah- girls travel teams**
- **Sponsorships-** The following businesses are already committed as 2019 sponsors:
- AAA Insurance- Pioneer Park & Tam Golf score cards, banner at Golf View
- BWW- Dodgeball League Sponsor
- DiFranco- Soccer League Sponsor
- MB Financial- Basketball League Sponsor
- Lina's Frozen Treats- dasherboard at IceLand
- Dear Franks- banner at LoVerde
- Har- Mil Currency Exchange- girls softball team sponsor
- Christine Pusateri- Girls softball team sponsor, HH, ice show ad
- Star Nissan- girls softball team sponsor
- Athletico- girls softball team sponsor, HH, dasherboard
- Meemic Insurance- girls softball team sponsor

Paul Nielsen, Athletics

- Youth Winter Basketball season is going very well with games being played at the park districts buildings along with Culver School, St John, North Ridge Prep, Notre Dame and LoVerde Center. There are times that games are being played on ten different courts at one time.
- Preparations for Spring Soccer, T-ball, Youth Coach Pitch, Girl's Softball, Youth Volleyball and Adult Softball, and Sports Camp are underway.
- Youth Dodgeball finished a successful and busy season for 1100 children at Golf View, LoVerde Center and Grennan Heights.
- The Men's basketball has started back up on Wednesday nights at Golf View and Grennan Heights.
- The athletic department's 2019 revenue for the first two months of the year is \$580,000 which is up 5.5% from last year at the same time which was our highest total on record.

Peter Dubs, Golf Course Manager

- Weather forecasts are being closely monitored as we begin to narrow in on an opening date for the season. We'll open the gates as soon as profitable conditions are present. An email blast will go out as soon as a date is determined.
- Our net at the learning center has been raised for the season, allowing us to once again utilize the outdoor space at the facility and increase the maximum amount of participants we can safely accommodate in our classes.
- Instructional program revenue is running ahead of last season's pace because we opened registration for our entire seasonal catalog after the first of the year.
- We expect to have approximately the same number of league players returning this season. Revenues will be increased from last year's totals because we are not offering the shorter 10 week season some groups opted for in 2018 due to our delayed opening.
- We've been in touch with representatives from Park Ridge Senior Center and Mather LifeWays which coordinates senior programming in Morton Grove and Skokie in an attempt to organize a few outings for their respective groups this season.

Jim Stoneberg, Superintendent of Golf Course Maintenance

- Most staff has been hired and work started yesterday. Materials and supplies have been ordered to get the course ready for play.
- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources pump station update: underground structures are all set, pumps are expected to show up early next week. We've been told to expect water by April 15th.

9. New Business

A. Discussion/Approval of Maria SS Laurentana Society Festival at Golf Mill Park, August 27-September 3.

This is for the annual Italian Fest held at Golf Mill Park and will be the same format as last year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Genualdi and seconded by Treasurer O' Donovan to approve the use of Golf Mill Park for the Maria SS Laurentana Society Festival. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President Zalinski	Yes
Vice President Czarnik	Yes
Treasurer O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Genualdi	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

B. Discussion of Park District weight loss program

The idea for this program was brought up as a way to get more exercise programs out in the parks. Laura Newton and Carla Nuzzo have come up with a program to hopefully incentivize people to exercise at the parks. This will include nutrition guidance and scheduled weigh ins. There was also discussion about prizes and incentives for participants.

C. Discussion/Approval of Zumiez Amateur Skateboard Competition on July 24th at Washington Skate Park.

The Zumiez Amateur Skateboard Group would like to use the Washington Skate Park on July 24th. They anticipate having 45 – 50 skaters participate. Waivers are mandatory for all registrants. They will also provide a certificate of insurance. Executive Director Elenz also suggested that contingent upon approval of the park would be use of Assi Plaza for parking.

A motion was made by Vice President Czarnik and seconded by Treasurer O' Donovan to approve the use of Washington Skate Park for the Zumiez Amateur Skateboard Competition on July 24th, contingent upon a certificate of insurance and parking approval from Assi Plaza. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President Zalinski	Yes
Vice President Czarnik	Yes
Treasurer O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Genualdi	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

10. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

11. Miscellaneous

Commissioner Genualdi asked about the status of the board games at Pioneer Park. Executive Director Elenz said that the order will be going in this week.

12. Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Niles resident and candidate for board commissioner, Scott O'Brien, wanted to continue to offer his support and thanks to the commissioners and park staff regardless of the outcome of the election.

Niles Mayor, Andrew Przybylo, was pleased to hear that the board will be researching the policies on naming rights. He also suggested that the board codify the results so there won't be any future misunderstandings about naming procedures. He also suggested that the board consider television future board meetings.

13. **Convene into Executive Session**

There was no need to convene into executive session.

14. **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Vice President Czarnik and seconded by Treasurer O'Donovan to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of March 19, 2019. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President Zalinski	Yes
Vice President Czarnik	Yes
Treasurer O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner Genualdi	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

APPROVED:


President Zalinski
Board of Commissioners


Board Secretary

Date: March 19, 2019