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**NILES PARK DISTRICT**  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
5:00 pm

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Board Members present: Scott O'Brien, President  
Julie Genualdi, Vice President  
George Van Geem, Treasurer  
Jim Hynes, Commissioner  
Dennis O'Donovan, Commissioner

Staff Members present: Tom Elenz, Executive Director  
Scot Neukirch, Finance Director  
Heather Petrie, Executive Admin. Coordinator  
Robin Brey, Recreation Programs  
Jim Majewski, Facilities Superintendent  
Chris Czajka, Grounds Superintendent  
Marty Stankowicz, IceLand Manager  
Ethan Bontly, Tam Tennis  
Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director  
Julie Jentel, Marketing  
Jim Stoneberg, Golf Course Superintendent

Dan Shapiro, Attorney  
Tim O'Brien, guest speaker from the Village of Niles

1. **Call to order**  
President O'Brien called the regular board meeting to order on Tuesday, April 18 at 5:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call**  
Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. All Commissioners were present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
President O'Brien led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.
4. **Changes to the Agenda**  
Item 9. A. was moved to item 5. on the agenda.
5. **Discussion/Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Niles for Jonquil Park parking lot**

Tim O'Brien from the Village of Niles was present to address any final questions or concerns regarding the intergovernmental agreement between the Park District and the Village. No questions were raised.

A motion was made by President O'Brien and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Niles for the Jonquil Park parking lot, 23-R-100. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien

Yes

Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

**6. Treasurer's Reports**

Treasurer Van Geem read the treasurer report for the month ending March 31, 2023.

A motion was made by Treasurer Van Geem and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to accept the treasurer's reports. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

**Consent Agenda Approval**

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Voucher List as presented March 31, 2023 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$127,077.72
Recreation	\$205,988.58
Ice Rink	\$51,901.55
Swimming Pool	\$7,791.43
Golf Course	\$97,392.34
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	-
General Liability	\$168,839.00
Paving & Lighting	\$1,797.67
Police Protection	\$108.00
Handicapped	\$98.92
Capital	-
Audit	\$475.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$675,110.21</b>

A motion was made by Vice President Genualdi and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting of Tuesday, March 21, 2023, and the Voucher lists as presented, March 31, 2023. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

**7. Reports of Park Officials**  
**A. President's Report**

There was no President's report.

#### **B. Attorney's Report**

There was no Attorney's report.

### **8. Board Reports**

#### **Robin Brey, Programs Supervisor**

- Spring special events were a success. Despite the weather we were still able to run the events! Huge thank you to all that helped, and it is a team effort that puts together these events to make the kids and adults happy!
- Summer registration for camps, programs and pool passes is in full swing. We have seen influx in registrations with the weather and as summer approaches.

#### **Jim Majewski, Park Services**

- Getting pricing to renovate Washington and Jonquil shelters
- Getting pricing for pouring concrete at dugouts and fencing at Oak Park and Grennan ballfields along with dugout covers like Oakton Manor
- Grennan tennis courts have been color coated last week and are open
- We are out for bid on greenwood basketball and Oak park tennis court resurfacing and color coating
- We received a grant from Com ed for \$11,952.00 to convert Grennan interior lights to LED. Total cost to the park district is \$44.00
- We received another grant from Com Ed to convert the light at Pioneer ballfields to LED. Total of this grant was \$148,925.00 total cost to the district is \$ 0

#### **Marty Stankowicz, IceLand**

- We are in our third week of the spring sessions and are planning for summer. Camp registration is open for both skating and hockey. Iceland will run 3 camps this summer.
- Ice show practice and set design continues. There are 3 shows scheduled for May 5, 6, 7.
- The outdoor rink floor has been thawing and will be cleaned this week. I am in discussion with Tom about using it for pickleball in the spring and summer.
- I have a hockey family interested in renting the concession at Iceland. Tom will present this to the board for discussion.
- The 2007 Zamboni, used for the outdoor rink is undergoing needed repairs and preventive maintenance during down time.

#### **Chris Czajka, Superintendent of Grounds**

- Spring cleaning / mulching of Pioneer mini golf and batting cages
- Planting and mulching sign beds and planters
- Top dressing and overseeding of Golf Mill soccer field
- Dragging and screening Ball fields for practices
- Edging beds and mulching - Parkwide
- All playgrounds are being mulched and leveled
- Lining soccer fields for play
- Irrigation systems will be all inspected / repaired if needed and turned on

#### **Scot Neukirch, Finance Director**

The Park District has received \$3000 of the \$5000 in grants so far that have been applied for.

These are pool and safety grants from IPRF and IAPD. Staff continues to collect and compile documents for the 2022 for the audit currently underway. Once the audit is completed, the park district will submit the results for the certificate of achievement in financial reporting for the program. The Park District has officially transferred funds to IPDLAF which was previously approved by the Board. The Park has now expanded its investment options to take advantage of changes more efficiently in the investment market. These transfers will be reflected on the Board's cash and investment report.

### **Tom Elenz, Executive Director**

Tom congratulated Scot Neukirch and the Finance Department on receiving the Government Finance Office Association's award for Certificate of Achievement in financial reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by government and its management.

### **Julie Jentel, Marketing**

- The Summer Guide is complete and is online.
- Preparing to promote the Summer programs and events.
- With the spring programs ending, class surveys are in the process of being sent to participants in the athletic leagues and hockey classes.

### **Ethan Bontly, Tam Tennis**

We have started our spring season consisting of 8 weeks, lasting until June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Class registrations are up compared to last year with revenue steady.

- **Budget**
- For the month of March, we had a Programming Operating Budget Profit of \$108,268.
- Revenue increase to date, compared to 2022 is -\$1395, with the total Profit to date of \$516,563.
- Profit Increase from 2022
  - Junior Tennis Programs: -\$1,033
  - Adult Tennis Programs: \$9,142
  - Senior Tennis: -\$1141
  - Private Lessons: -\$3,878
  - Fitness: \$5,693
  - Non-Resident Memberships -\$10,529
- **Junior Programs**
- Winter Session: We have 224 Juniors tennis players enrolled in our 33 classes at 13 different age /level groups. Several of the class have been expanded to allow more students to play, with total slots being 295. Currently we 75% full/capacity.
- The Spring 2022 session had only 214 total slots, and we completely full.
- Summer Session: will reconfigure classes and a possible camp.
- **Adults Programs**
- Spring Session: We have 80 adults registered in 11 classes, various days at 85% capacity.
- **Private Lessons**
- Several of the pro's have taken advantage of the good weather and taken there groups outside, unlike in spring 2022 where continuous cold weather meant they were inside.
- **Memberships**
- Nothing to report.

### **Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director**

- All our youth winter indoor sports have officially come to an end. Although very stressful at times, many coaches & parents had many nice things to say about the leagues and facilities.

- All our spring sport registration has ended with very solid enrollment. A few things to make note of are:
  - \*We ended up with an all-time high for spring soccer with 650 kids which is roughly 100 more than last year. Due to this increase along with Culver School beginning renovations in June, we're now going to have 5 different fields for soccer games on Saturdays. (1 @ Iceland, 2 @ Grennan, 1 @ Jonquil, 1 split @ Golf Mill/Culver)
  - \*Our spring Rookie Ball league increased from 4 teams last spring to 8 teams this spring.
  - \*We picked up an additional 4 teams for our Girls Softball league.
- Even though winter basketball just ended, we're already getting set for our summer basketball league which begins in late June. Many of you may know Al Weel as a past village trustee and coach here in Niles, but he was also our main referee assignor dating back to the 90's. He informed us that he is officially retiring from referee assigning. With the nationwide referee shortage this was not news we wanted to hear. I'm going to work on easing one of his main referees into an assigning role as well as look to bring in some companies to make sure we don't lose a beat on providing high quality officials for our basketball leagues.
- Interviewing and hiring parttime summer program staff and camp counselors is an ongoing project. We have not seen nearly as many graduating seniors or current college student inquiries as in years past so were hoping with the school year coming to an end, we pick up a few more applicants.

#### **Jim Stoneberg, Tam Golf Superintendent**

- Turf fertilization and broadleaf weed control applications scheduled to completed by the end of the month.
- Deep tine aerification to greens with sand topdressing scheduled for the end of the month. Tees will follow weather permitting.
- Floods along with winter clean up continues with turf restoration as needed in low areas.
- Irrigation system to be started up along with pump station servicing and repairs as needed.
- State certification completed for required Tam Golf course Pesticide Applicator license.

#### **Bob Kreiling, Park Patrol**

- Pioneer Park is now open and being patrolled.
- Park Patrol was present at all of the Easter Events.
- Continuing 3pm park patrol starts on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Incidents to report: LoVerde Center April 2nd Spectator ejected from a game for repeated yelling at referees for bad calls, also coach rejected but refused to leave. Spectator wanted to file complaint with the Park District, was given Park District management information. Refused wanting a police report.

#### **Peter Dubs, Golf Course Manager**

- After a few unsuccessful attempts due to flooding, the golf course was finally able to open for the season on April 8<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed a super busy first week before cooler temperatures returned. Operations ran smoothly and golfers were happy to be back on the course.
- Permanent tee time and league revenue is nearly all submitted for the season. Permanent tee times should exceed revenue projections as we were able to add a few

new groups this year. If the weather cooperates this season, League revenue should hit projections.

- Chris will be hosting an open house at the Learning Center / Museum for the Niles Senior Center this Friday, to chat with visitors about the rich history of Tam O'Shanter, and promote our current operations & class offerings.

9. **New Business**

**B. Discussion/Approval of a contract with Hacienda Landscaping for Pioneer Park**

The Park District went out to bid for landscaping at Pioneer Park. Staff recommends Hacienda Landscaping which came in at the lowest bid for installation of the picnic shelter for \$10,300; the entry monument for \$130,215, and the dugout wall for \$110,400, making the total cost \$1,231,527.

A motion was made by President O'Brien and seconded by Vice President Genualdi to approve a contract with Hacienda Landscaping for a total of \$1,231,527. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**C. Discussion/Approval of a contract with Play Illinois for Pioneer Park playground**

This is the playground approved by the Board from Burke. The price is \$99,245 after negotiating two discounts of approximately \$30,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Donovan to approve a contract with Play Illinois for the playground at Pioneer Park. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**D. Discussion/Approval of a no bid contract with Vans Enterprises for Pioneer Park turf**

Staff recommends accepting the bid from Vans Enterprises for replacing the sod at Pioneer Park for a total of \$91,580.

A motion was made by Vice President Genualdi and seconded by Commissioner O'Donovan to approve a contract with Vans Enterprises for turf installation and replacement at Pioneer Park in the amount of \$91,580. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes

Commissioner O'Donovan Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**E. Discussion/Approval of a contract with Poligon for Pioneer dugout roofs**

The price for the new dugout roofs is \$30,782.

A motion was made by President O'Brien and seconded by Vice President Genualdi to approve a contract with Poligon for the dugout roofs at Pioneer Park in the amount of \$30,782.

Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**F. Discussion/Approval of a contract with Poligon for Pioneer Park shelter**

This new shelter will replace the current shelter at Pioneer Park in the amount of \$56,786.40.

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Donovan and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to approve a contract with Poligon for the Pioneer Park shelter in the amount of \$56,786.40.

Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**G. Discussion/Approval of contact with Nutoys for Pioneer Park fitness equipment**

This is for fitness equipment that will be added to Pioneer Park for a total of \$35,196.

A motion was made by Vice President Genualdi and seconded by Commissioner O'Donovan to approve a contact with Nutoys for fitness equipment in the amount of \$35,196. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**H. Discussion on concession lease at Iceland**

A community member is inquiring about leasing out the concession stand at Iceland. They are asking for rent to be set at \$750 per month. It would be operated as previously intended,

offering soft drinks, coffee, popcorn, pretzels, pizza, French fries, hot dogs, cookies, donuts, bagels, nachos, ice cream. Staff recommends putting a lease together for one year with an option to extend the lease. The Board discussed going out for a RFP to see if anyone else is interested. During the discussion, the Board expressed some concern in doing so because the amount of time it may take to accept other offers may prevent the space from being leased this year. Ultimately it was determined that staff will put a lease together for the Board to review at the next meeting.

**10. Old Business**

The Board asked for an update on the status of the quick claim deed for Oak Park. Both staff and the Park District attorney have reached out to the Village's attorney but have not heard back yet. Staff has emailed the Village to ask if there will be an ordinance on the agenda for their upcoming meeting.

**11. Public Comments**

Niles resident, Shawn Phillips, wanted to address the Board about basketball at Niles. He mentioned surrounding areas that offer free open gym times on certain days and would like the Board to consider doing the same thing in Niles. He also told the Board about the state of Chesterfield Park, stating that he believes it needs to be paved, and new basketball hoops installed. He suggested lowering the price for open gym and also have some time slots where open gym is free.

**12. Miscellaneous**

The Staff thanked Commissioner Van Geem for serving the Niles community for the past 2 years as a Park District Commissioner. His dedication to making the Park District a better place can be seen in his passion for expanding pickleball, which is the fastest growing sport in the United States. Commissioner Van Geem was gifted a new pickleball paddle as thanks for his service.

The Board also wanted to revisit the idea of using the small gated area by Oasis for a dog park.

**13. Executive Session**

There was no need for executive session.


**14. Adjournment**

A Motion was made by President O'Brien and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to adjourn the regular board meeting. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

President O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Genualdi	Yes
Treasurer Van Geem	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner O'Donovan	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

**APPROVED:**

  
**President O'Brien**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Date: April 18, 2023**

  
**Board Secretary**