
NILES PARK DISTRICT
Minutes of Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
6:00 pm

Board Members present: Dennis O’Donovan, Vice President
Jim Hynes, Treasurer
Scott O’Brien, Commissioner
Ronnie Strzelecki, Commissioner

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

Dan Shapiro, Attorney
Todd Krzyskowski, Mesirow Financial

1. **Call to order**
Vice President O’Donovan called the regular board meeting to order on Tuesday, October 17, at 6:00 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Vice President O’Donovan led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Roll Call**
Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. President Genualdi was absent.
4. **Changes to the Agenda**
No changes were made to the agenda.
5. **Consent Agenda Approval**
Minutes of the Efficiency Committee Meeting of Tuesday, August 15,2023; minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 15, 2023; minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of September 19, 2023; and the Voucher List as presented, September 30, 2023 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$132,615.64
Recreation	\$128,537.39
Ice Rink	\$50,267.51
Swimming Pool	\$31,845.33
Golf Course	\$42,483.39
IMRF	-

Debt Service Fund	\$950.00
General Liability	\$14,533.00
Paving & Lighting	\$9,191.08
Police Protection	\$108.00
Handicapped	\$2,563.00
Capital	\$196,325.00
Audit	-
Grand Total	\$609,419.84

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Brien and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to accept the minutes of the Efficiency Committee Meeting of Tuesday, August 15, 2023; minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 15, 2023; minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of September 19, 2023; and the Voucher List as presented, September 30, 2023. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0

6. Treasurer's Report

Financial Direct Neukirch read the treasurer's report for the month ending September, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Brien and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to accept the treasurer's report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0

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.

9. New Business

A. Public Hearing for the issuance of \$4,900,000 General Obligation Limited Park Bonds for park purposes, to pay outstanding obligations of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto.

A motion was made by Vice President O'Donovan and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to open the public hearing. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll.

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0

Todd Krzyskowski from Mesirow Financial came to discuss the general obligation limited park bonds. The Park District has certain long-term bonds outstanding Each year, in order to pay some of those bonds, the Park District is allowed to issue an annual bond, in this case approximately \$1,200,000. That money is used to pay some of the debt service on the long-term bonds.

A motion was made by Vice President O'Donovan and seconded by Commissioner Strzelecki to close the public hearing. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Donovan	Yes
Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 3-0

8. **Board Reports**

Robin Brey, Programs Supervisor

- The fall programs for dance, music lessons, art classes and early childhood classes are all up and running.
- Preschool began their school year. Enrollment is 110 children which is 4 less students from last year. Registration stays open and generally we pick a few more students along the way. The afterschool program at both Howard and Oakton Manor has been well received.
- Planning for the upcoming Halloween special events.....Monster Bash, Trunk & Treat, Halloween Parade and Party all taking place in October.

Jim Majewski, Park Services

- New exterior doors were installed at the golf course clubhouse.
- The pool is drained and fall maintenance has begun.
- Getting prices for new exterior doors at the ice rink
- The south zone of the Thor Guard system has been upgraded.
- Walls at Howard Leisure have been repainted in the common areas.
- Howard Leisure parking lot has been seal coated and stripped.

Marty Stankowicz, IceLand

- Fresh ice was put in and painted on the indoor rink, and we opened Tuesday after Labor Day.
- We are in the 3rd week of our fall session hockey classes. Skating classes start next week.
- We currently have 139 players registered for Rangers hockey, which is the same as last year. Registration is still open and we hope add players at a the younger levels.
- The outdoor rink is being used for hockey dry land practices and is rented for lacrosse three days a week.
- We are planning our annual Thanksgiving hockey tournament. Teams have already shown an interest and applications are being taken.
- Maintenance work continues in preparing for the winter season. Hockey nets have been stripped, painted and new netting installed. The outdoor rink floor has been cleaned and rink boards both indoor and out have been cleaned. Shielding gaskets will be inspected and replaced in the next week.

Chris Czajka, Superintendent of Grounds

- Edging, weeding, and mulching all beds.
- Ballfield and soccer field maintenance for games
- Added / Planted a new butterfly garden at Jonquil terrace park.
- Playground inspections and repairs as needed.
- Mowing and trimming turf – Parkwide.
- Bush trimming and tree pruning.

Scot Neukirch, Finance Director

The 2024 budget preparation is underway. Staff from each department has met with administration to discuss each department's requests. This information will be used to develop the staff's proposed budgets. Budgets will be given to the Board for review and discussed at the Budget workshop scheduled for October 19th.

Laura Newton, Tam Tennis

Permanent court time has begun, tennis classes will begin first week of October and run for 11 weeks, and Harvest Hustle registration continues (email blasts are on going).

Budget

- Revenue increase to date, compared to 2022 is up \$20,021, with the total Profit to date of \$710425 (up \$13,349)
- We are \$129,544 away from making budget.
- Revenue Increase from 2022
 - Junior Tennis Programs: \$8,699
 - Adult Tennis Programs: \$14,862
 - Senior Tennis: -\$2,888
 - Private Lessons: \$3,967
 - Fitness: \$10,490
 - Non-Resident Memberships -\$9,462
 - Court Fees -\$5,907 (did not have a rainy summer)
- **Junior Programs**
Registration for classes open on September 16
- **Adults Programs**
Registration for classes open on September 16
- **Memberships**
Memberships will start to come in these next few months.

Julie Jentel, Marketing

- I have notified all the cars that participated in last year's Trunk or Treat event, as well as emailing some new vendors.
- I have begun to work on the Winter Spring Guide. Staff has been given their sections to update for this new season.
- I mentioned a couple meetings ago about the butterfly garden. On our website is a page that includes a chart with the flowers and grasses that are there. Soon a sign with a QR code will be at the garden, which will lead to this web page.

Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director

- **This past month we've started many fall programs and leagues.**

-Soccer started with two grade levels (Pre-K and Kindergarten) playing at Iceland and two others ranging from 1st-3rd grades playing at Washington and our oldest grades (5th-8th) playing at Golf Mill Park. For the first time ever, we were able to split our biggest

league into separate boys and girls divisions for the 1st/3rd grade level and we hope to continue to offer more leagues this way. Our adult soccer league is also taking place Wednesday nights at LoVerde Center.

-Fall baseball and softball began with weekend games at all our ball fields. Weather has been great, and we've gotten through 4 weekends without any rainouts.

-Our 4 specialized camps (Vince Thomas Basketball, Spike City Volleyball, Soccer Academy and Small Shots Basketball) have begun weeknight classes at both Golf View and LoVerde.

- **Here is what's coming up these next few weeks**

-Fall Basketball registration closed, and we once again saw an increase in enrollment. Practices start this week and games begin on weekends at the end of the month through mid-November. Our three adult leagues will once again play Wednesday nights as well.

-Indoor Soccer and Flag Football registration deadline was set for Friday, September 22 but seven of the nine leagues already hit max enrollment last week.

-Open pickleball started but so far, we've only had a few rainy days when guests came to play. As weather turns, we expect to have huge crowds during the day just like last season.

-We're going to offer our first ever Battle of Paddles Pickleball Tourney on Monday, October 9th. We have 4 divisions planned: Men's 50+, Women's 50+, Mixed Doubles 50+ and Mixed Doubles Open. Depending on the turnout, we will look to add more tourneys and divisions throughout the winter.

Peter Dubs, Golf Course Manager

- To date we have surpassed 31,000 rounds at the golf course and are still running approximately 2500 ahead of last season's pace.
- We have over 20 outings remaining on our schedule for various groups between now and mid-october.
- We have another busy month or so of outings and course play, then once the weather begins cooling off later in the fall we'll begin scaling back a little on staffing to save on expenses.
- Barring an unbelievably catastrophic stretch of bad weather, we should easily pass 1 million in total revenues for the season, with over 100,000 of that coming from our instructional programming, which continues through the end of November.

Jim Stoneberg, Golf Course Superintendent

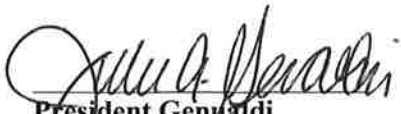
- As league play slowing down greens, tees and fairways will be aerated, top dressed and over seeded as weather and time permits.
- Weed control on berms and native grass areas around the course as time allows.
- All native grass will be mowed down in late fall.
- Rough area being overseeded.
- Tree trimming and removals are being scheduled for the fall as play slows.
- Work continues with 2024 budget.

9

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 4-0

APPROVED:


President Genaldi
Board of Commissioners
Date: September 19, 2023


Board Secretary