

MINUTES  
REGULAR PARK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING  
COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT of La GRANGE PARK  
1501 BARNSDALE ROAD, La GRANGE PARK, ILLINOIS  
November 11, 2024 - 6:30 PM

1. Call to Order & Roll Call:

President Corte called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Commissioners Ogden, Sauer and Stastny. Also present were Executive Director Jessica Cannaday, Superintendent of Parks Sara Earhart, Lauterbach & Amen Financial Assistant Samantha Crane and Executive Assistant Laura Raimondi as recorder.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. President Corte asked for a motion and a second to approve Commissioner Zuck's remote attendance utilizing Zoom video conferencing under Section 7 of the OMA which authorizes a member of a public body to attend a meeting electronically if the public body has adopted a policy to authorize electronic attendance and the member's reason for attending electronically is due to (1) personal illness or disability; (2) employment purposes or the business of the public body; (3) a family or other emergency, or (4) unexpected childcare obligation.

Commissioner Stastny made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Ogden. Motion was passed by voice vote.

4. Park District Mission: The Community Park District of La Grange Park supports a healthy and inclusive community by positively impacting physical, social, emotional, and environmental well-being.

5. Open Forum

La Grange Park resident Nicholas Michaels stated he was present representing La Grange Park Little League should the board have any questions regarding the request for a temporary construction license.

6. Approval of the November 11, 2024 Agenda

President Corte asked for a motion and a second to move item 13d to the first order of business. The motion was made by Commissioner Stastny and seconded by Commissioner Sauer. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve the amended November 11, 2024 Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Stastny. Motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

a. October 14, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve the October 14, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes seconded by Commissioner Sauer.

8. Communications/Proclamations/Presentations

a. IAPD Board Member Recognition – Commissioner Stastny was presented with a plaque recognizing 15 years of service on the Community Park District Board of Commissioners.

b. Eagle Scout Project

Eagle Scout Connor Stahl presented his finished project, a wooden box to hold used flags until they are properly retired by his Scout troop. The receptacle will stay in the breezeway at the Recreation Center.

9. Staff Recognition

Executive Director Cannaday recognized the parks department for planting 50 trees in the park in 2024. She stated that the initial estimates in the Urban Forestry Management Plan indicated that the district would likely only be able to plant 7 trees per year, but due to Superintendent Earhart's expertise and the diligence of her staff, the district has far exceeded its tree planting goals.

10. Resolution Granting Temporary Construction License to La Grange Park Little League to install artificial turf at Hanesworth South

La Grange Park Little League President Nicholas Michaels stated that the premise for the request was to alleviate the wear on the field due to the pending construction at Yena Park. He stated that it was likely the work could be temporary. Commissioner Corte asked questions regarding mound distances. Commissioner Zuck brought up environmental and health concerns related to the products used for artificial turf. She thanked President Michaels for continuing to provide information so that the board could make an informed decision. Commissioner Stastny made a motion to table the approval of a Resolution Granting a Temporary Construction License to La Grange Park Little League, seconded by Commissioner Sauer. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

11. Staff Reports

a. Executive Report

Executive Director Jessica Cannaday presented her written report. She officially announced that the park district has been awarded Federal Funding to acquire the Meadowcrest Property. She stated that the purchase would be supported by grant funding and surplus funds generated by the Corporate and Recreation Funds. She stated that the Recreation Center Expansion could be completed by September 2026. The board directed her to continue to explore the acquisition of a 15-passenger van to offer additional teen and senior programs. Commissioner Zuck asked if staff could get more Park Hotline signs up in the parks. Questions were asked and answered.

b. Recreation Report

i. Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent of Recreation Zachary Kerby's report was presented.

ii. Marketing and Events Manager

Marketing and Events Manager Susan Zander's report was presented. Questions were asked and answered regarding the email subscribers. Commissioner Zuck asked us to track our acquisition numbers.

iii. Recreation Manager

Recreation Manager Michele Ritacco's report was presented. Executive Director Cannaday added that the Footlight Player's Karaoke Fundraiser brought in nearly \$1000 for the theater program.

c. Parks Report

Superintendent of Parks Sara Earhart presented her report. Questions were asked and answered. Commissioner Stastny stated that the Nazareth Academy Parks volunteer day was very well run.

d. Financial Reports

Lauterbach & Amen Financial advisor Sam Crane presented the financial report.

12. Approve Monthly Disbursements

President Corte called for a motion and a second to approve the monthly disbursements in the amount of \$238,261.60. Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Stastny. Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

13. Committee Reports

a. Sustainability

i. Arbor Advocates

Commissioner Zuck gave an update on the group. Next meeting will be held Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm where they will be planning for next year's Arbor Day event.

14. Unfinished Business

a. Tax Levy Ordinance #005-24

Commissioner Stastny made a motion to approve Ordinance #005-24 an ordinance levying taxes for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2025 and ending April 30, 2026 for the Community Park District of La Grange Park, seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

b. P-Tell Ordinance #006-24

Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve Ordinance #006-24 an ordinance providing for specific reductions of the 2024 property tax extension limitation law, seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

15. New Business

a. Yena Park Project Contract Award

Commissioner Stastny made a motion to approve a contract with Landworks Limited in the amount of \$1,297,608.38, seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

b. Reimbursement Resolution

Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve Resolution 002-24 expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to be reimbursed from proceeds of an obligation to be issued by the Community Park District of La Grange Park. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stastny. Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

c. Fund Transfer Resolution

Commissioner Stastny made a motion to approve Resolution 003-24 to transfer \$275,000 from the Corporate Fund to the Capital Fund and \$150,000 from the Recreation Fund to the Capital Fund. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

d. Temporary Construction License for LGPLL -  
Tabled for next meeting.

e. Appointing a Delegate to the IAPD Annual Business Meeting

Commissioner Ogden made a motion to approve Executive Director Cannaday to serve as the delegate of the Community Park District of La Grange Park at the annual business meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts to be held on Saturday January 25, 2025. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stastny and was passed unanimously by voice vote.

f. 2025 Board Meeting Dates

Commissioner Stastny made a motion to approve the 2025 Board Meeting Dates seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

g. Park District Holidays

Commissioner Stastny made a motion to approve the addition of an 11<sup>th</sup> floating holiday for full time staff seconded by Commissioner Ogden. Motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

h. Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Training

Executive Director Cannaday provided training. Board Members signed a certificate showing they received their training.

i. Cyber Security Training

Executive Director Cannaday stated that the training will be administered electronically, and that the link is in the commissioners' inboxes.

16. Executive Session

At 7:45pm, Commissioner Stastny made a motion to adjourn to executive session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act under Section 2(c)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauer and approved unanimously by voice vote.

17. Reconvene Open Session

At 8:12pm, President Corte reconvened open session. Physically present were

Commissioners Corte, Stastny, Ogden, Sauer, and Executive Director Cannaday. Commissioner Zuck was present via video conference.

18. Potential Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

None.

19. Next Regular Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2024 at 6:00pm

The board discussed the December 6, 2024 Village Tree Lighting Ceremony, including whether there should be an agreement considering the staff time required to prepare for the event. Executive Director Cannaday stated it was important to remember that at one point, the district did not have the capacity to provide larger community events, and that collaboration with the Village, Library, and Chamber allowed for a greater catalog of community events.

20. Adjournment

President Corte called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:16pm. Commissioner Stastny made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sauer. Motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

  
Secretary

Approved December 9, 2024