

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
September 17, 2024

Board President Goshorn called the regular meeting to order at 7:02pm. The President led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Chrissie Popper, Vicki Paddock, Aaron Dalzot, Gerry Crews and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director, Melissa R. Marsh, Director of Recreation; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services, Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations, and Christina Richmond, Accounting Manager.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 20, 2024. The motion was seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Crews to approve the minutes of the Executive session meeting of August 20, 2024. The motion was seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$1,211,977.33 presented on August 20, 2024, was made by Popper and was seconded by Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

The Vice President opened the floor to visitors; there were no visitors present.

Department Directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks and Planning, Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report. Owens mentioned the current state of drought, making concerted efforts to ensure the newly planted trees, and trees to be dedicated are being watered. Some concrete-work is being updated to become compliant with ADA standards. Goshorn complimented the pickleball court improvements.

Director of Recreation, Melissa R. Marsh reviewed the recreation report. Hunt Club Aquatic Center had a great outdoor pool season with over 53,000 total visitors. FitNation is continuing to see unusually high visitation with over 1,000 visits/day in August. Gearing up for fall/winter peak season. Popper requested that the Aquatics Survey Responses to be shared at the next scheduled meeting. Cricket Field use and maintenance was briefly discussed.

Director of Business Services, Mike Szpylman offered to answer any questions regarding the Business Services report, and noted that there was nothing additional to report.

Director Jennifer Gilbert reviewed the Marketing and Community Relations report. Jennifer highlighted a new section which includes a media/social media aspect with hyperlinks. There is a push for more video content for both social media as well as other projects. In addition, a virtual tour of FitNation is in progress, and it's anticipated to be ready to be view within a month or two.

Executive Director's report. Kuruvilla reminded the Board of several upcoming dates like the Intergovernmental Picnic, Legal Symposium, Christine Thompson Park Block Party, Bonfire and Brews, and Park Tours. A Park Tour time of 5:00pm was chosen and agreed to by the group for September 30th.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Popper to approve the use of the GPD Soccer Fields by FC Lake County Soccer and seconded by Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Dalzot, Goshorn, Popper and Crews. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paddock and seconded by Popper. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Aaron Dalzot, Secretary