

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE

BERKELEY PARK DISTRICT

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Lind Park, Berkeley, Illinois

The regular meeting of the commissioners of the Berkeley Park District was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2023, at Berkeley Park District's Lind Park building. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call, Commissioners present: M. Sada, President T. Larem, R. Sudduth, P. Smith and M. Carpenter.

Other Park District Officials present: Attorney S. Posey, Treasurer Art Schenone, Director P. Graham, Consulting Director D. Schimmel

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Sada and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter to approve the December 6, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda. Voting "aye" were Commissioners Sada, Larem, Carpenter, Smith, and Sudduth. Motion carried.
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Carpenter and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 1, 2023 subject to minor spelling corrections noted by Commissioner Sada. Voting "aye" were Commissioners Carpenter, Sada, Larem, Smith and Sudduth. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer A. Schenone presented the monthly Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Sada to approve disbursements for the month. Voting "Aye" were Commissioners Sada, Larem, Smith, Sudduth and Carpenter. Motion carried.
4. Correspondence was discussed later in the meeting.
5. There was no attorney report.
6. Committee Reports were presented as follows:
 - A. Budget & Finance. Commissioner Carpenter had no Budget & Finance Committee report.
 - B. Programs. Commissioner Larem reported that the Holiday Market will be held on December 9th.
 - C. Playgrounds. Commissioner Smith reported that he is meeting with Ted Hang from Legat Architecture to complete the ADA walkthrough and will report back next month.
 - D. Grants & Hiring. No report.
7. Fundraising. Commissioner Sada continues to work on a sponsorship package and is looking to collaborate with other Board members. There was a brief discussion on bundling sponsorship with Park District activities and programs.
8. Park Director Graham reported that the tennis courts are locked up for the season. He is preparing for the December 9th Holiday Market. There will be food, crafts, music, Santa and cookies. He continues to work on the winter events.
9. Interim Director Schimmel thanked Peter Graham for his work cleaning and organizing the interior of the Lind Park Building. Schimmel reported that the 3rd strategic planning meeting was held with

the goal of having a written report to the Board at the January meeting. The Decennial Committee meeting was rescheduled to January 3, 2024 at 6:00 pm. Barb Cremin continues to work on disposing of records and seeking approval from the State. Schimmel met with Ted Harig from Legat Architects to assess the Lind Park Building. He expect a proposal to be submitted to the Board at the January meeting. Drywall and roof repairs are likely.

10. Treasurer Art Schenone presented the 2023 Tax Levy Ordinance No 23-04 for approval. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Sada moved to approve and Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voting “aye” were Commissioners Sada, Larem, Smith, Sudduth and Carpenter. Motion carried.
11. Village of Berkeley Mayor Robert Lee presented a proposal to erect a temporary ice rink at Berkeley Park. Also representing the Village was Trustee Roger Thomas. Lee noted that the ice rink project is part of the Village Centennial Committee projects for 2024. They are building the rink with volunteers and are hoping to have it constructed and operational by January 13. The project consists of building two rinks just west of the parking lot. Park District and Village staff have been working together since late October on going over risk concerns, rules and enforcement, scheduling etc. Commissioner Sada expressed concerns that the project is being heavily publicized by the Village before it’s been approved by the Park District. There was discussion about other events on Park District property that are being advertised as part of the Centennial plans. The Village was advised that applications should be submitted as soon as possible for consideration. Mayor Lee apologized and will work to get the other permits submitted. Attorney Posey mentioned that a Hold Harmless Agreement should also be submitted before the ice rink is opened. A motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Larem to approve the Ice Rink Permit. Voting “aye” were Commissioners Smith, Larem, Sudduth and Carpenter. Voting “no” was Commissioner Sada. Motion carried.
12. Village of Berkeley Mayor Robert Lee proposed a gift of 500 tulip bulbs to be planted by Village staff at Berkeley Park as part of the centennial celebration. Commissioner Sada expressed concern that there was no notice of the gift to the Park District prior to the meeting. In response, Mayor Lee said he would personally guarantee that there would be no cost or damage to Park District property during the planting and that the Village would handle any maintenance of the plants. Commissioner Smith moved to accept the gift on the condition that the Village handle all labor and maintenance in connection with the plants. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voting “aye” were Commissioners Smith, Carpenter, Larem, and Sudduth. Voting “no” was Commissioner Sada. Motion carried.
13. Commissioner Sudduth reported that the search to replace Attorney Posey as legal counsel has been completed after a number of law firms were interviewed. She recommended Ancel Glink as Board attorney. Commissioner Sada moved and Commissioner Larem seconded the motion. Voting “aye” were Commissioners Sada, Larem, Smith, Sudduth and Carpenter. Motion carried.
14. Interim Director Schimmel recommended tabling Board discussion of the Bikeway Grant agreement and approval of the topographical contract regarding the ballfield until the January board meeting.
15. Interim Director Schimmel reported on the Strategic Plan. The pre-meetings were productive. There have been three meetings with stakeholders from the Village, Library and schools. A draft report is expected for the January Board meeting.

16. Berkeley resident Laura Graham commented on the strategic plan and urged the Board to align the budget with the plan. She cautioned against putting the cart before the horse and encouraged more transparency with respect to the budget limitations.
17. Commissioner Sada moved and Commissioner Carpenter seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Posey, Attorney

Dated: December 27, 2023