



**OFFICIAL MINUTES
OSWEGOLAND PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 21, 2022**

The Oswegoland Park District Board of Park Commissioners met on the above date at South Point, 810 Preston Lane, Oswego, Illinois.

CONVENING THE MEETING

President Wise called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The Secretary then called the roll. Commissioners Behrens, Wilson, and Wise were physically present. Commissioners Ijams and Tartol were absent.

Staff in attendance included: Rich Zielke, Cindy Benson, Tina Ward, Bob Kohlstedt, Keith Zalewski, Tom Betsinger, Chad Feldotto, Colleen McCarty, Mike Seffrood, and Kristie Vest.

Guests in attendance included: Jayson Greenslade and his son Cooper Greenslade.

Legal Counsel was not in attendance.

Announcements and Changes to the Agenda

- None

COMMUNICATIONS

Staff member, Ben Nachtwey arrived at 5:31 pm.

Recognition of Visitors

- Resident Jayson Greenslade inquired about the future of Chesterfield Skate Park. With the deterioration of this skate park, Greenslade asked the Board to consider re-building this park in this same location, or at least finding another location to build a new skate park to replace this one. Greenslade encouraged the Park Board to seek out grant money, and other funding sources, to assist with the cost of such a project.

Written Correspondence

- None

CONSENT AGENDA

President Wise listed items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes of the regular Board meeting on March 17, 2022
- Acceptance of the Treasurer's report as of March 31, 2022
- Approval of Payables for the period of March 18, 2022 – April 21, 2022 in the amount of \$612,318.24

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to remove item 3.1, Approval of minutes of the regular Board meeting on March 17, 2022, from the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Behrens.

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| Roll Call: | Ayes | Commissioners Wilson, Behrens, and Wise |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Abstain | 0 |
| | Absent | Commissioners Ijams and Tartol |

Commissioner Behrens made a motion to accept and approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with item 3.1 removed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

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| Roll Call: | Ayes | Commissioners Behrens, Wilson, and Wise |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Abstain | 0 |
| | Absent | Commissioners Ijams and Tartol |

Commissioner Behrens made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the regular Board meeting on March 17, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

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| Roll Call: | Ayes | Commissioners Behrens, Wilson, and Wise |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Abstain | 0 |
| | Absent | Commissioners Ijams and Tartol |

BOARD BUSINESS

Commissioner Comments

- None

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director Report (shared by Rich Zielke)

- Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 5 at 5:30 pm at Prairie Point to review the audit.
- Official Ribbon Cutting for Boulder Point will take place on Thursday, May 19 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Notice will be posted to move the location of the May 19, 2022 Park Board Meeting to Boulder Point so Commissioners can attend this event. As a reminder, the May Park Board Meeting serves as the annual meeting for the Park Board of Commissioners.
- The District unfortunately experienced rain damage in one of the new areas of Boulder Point as a result of an area of flashing not being sealed correctly. This is under warranty and is in the works to get repaired.
- Activity is taking place at the cell tower at Fox Bend as the cell tower is being updated with new equipment. No addition antennas are being added.
- Congratulations to staff member Levi Kempiaik, the District's Parks Supervisor, for becoming an ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) Certified Arborist. As an ISA Certified Arborist, Levi is recognized as a tree care professional with knowledge in tree biology, diagnosis, maintenance practices, and safety. In order to qualify for an arborist certification, you must have a minimum of three years of work experience in tree care or a two or four year degree in a related area plus two years of experience in the field. Once a candidate meets the work experience requirement, they must attend 20+ hours of additional classes, and last, but not least pass the 3.5 hour arborist exam.
- WT Engineering is aiming towards completing a draft of the District's ADA Transition Plan, for Board review, by early May.
- The District's As We Grow Preschool program has been receiving a lot of good comments and feedback on social media.
- Last weekend, two of our dance instructors, Emma Johnson & Isabella Mahoney, competed at Nationals in Orlando, Florida with the North Central College Dance Team. They brought home the National Championship in DIII Pom, which is the first time in the college history the team has held this honor. Congratulations to them both!
- The District received restitution from the Briarcliff Playground Arson, as well as a letter of apology from the guilty party.

- The District received notice from IMRF, the District's pension plan, its current rate of 10.27%, will be going down to 8.07% for the calendar year.
- Exciting news for our SRA (Fox Valley Special Recreation Association). They were awarded the Kane County Community Support grant. The original grant submission was for 25,000. Upon full review of the grant the committee felt compelled to give more, and ultimately awarded \$35,807 towards FVSRA's SootheSpace project.
- Originally elected to the Channahon Park District board in 1972, Ron Lehman's 50-Year Golden Anniversary will be recognized at the April 25 Channahon Park District Board Meeting. Commissioner Lehman has been the epitome of a true public servant, volunteering his time both locally and statewide to improve thousands of lives through parks, recreation, and conservation. Ron was recognized with the IAPD Commissioner of the Year Award in 1993. In celebration of Lehman's 50-Year anniversary, a Card Shower is being planned for him. Our District has sent a card, on behalf of its Commissioners and Staff, to be presented to Lehman at Channahon Park District's April 25 meeting.

Written Staff Reports

- Commissioner Wilson shared that it is refreshing to see participant numbers continuing to increase.
- Commissioner Wilson gave a special shout out to Allison Janis, the District's PR & Graphic Design Coordinator, for her assistance to the Park Foundation.

ACTION ITEMS

- None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

OSLAD Grant Funding Project Discussion

At the end of the Spring session, the Illinois Legislature approved a state budget with a record \$56 Million in funding for the OSLAD (Open Space Land Acquisition and Development) Grant. The deadlines for the 2023 OSLAD program have not been released yet, but typically OSLAD grant applications are received between July and September.

Prior to the pandemic shutdown, a few park projects, along with a recreational facility project, were targeted to discuss with our community task force. One particular project, developing the lake at Farmington Lakes Park, would increase the variety of amenities and provide special features in our District that we currently do not have. With the exception of the Fox River, this lake is our largest body of water at 31 acres of open water.

The lone amenity of this park is a 1.5 mile bike trail around the perimeter of the lake, but the trail does not provide any access to the water's edge. Working with our task force consultant, Hitchcock Design Group, the Master Plan of the park includes four access points to the water including a dedicated fishing pier/overlook and a floating dock with ADA accessible kayak and canoe launch, a 24 space parking lot a small shelter with game tables, baggo games, and a bike repair station at the trailhead. One of the biggest barriers to the public access of the lake is Waubonsie Creek. This plan eliminates that barrier by installing a pedestrian bridge over the creek that will connect the kayak/canoe launch to the parking lot. Finally, we also want to help improve water quality by providing native aquatic plantings along the shoreline in areas with higher erosion potential.

Two years ago, Hitchcock estimated the development of the entire master plan to cost between \$927,000 to \$1,100,000. The District has not yet engaged Hitchcock to revise that estimate with today's fluctuating construction costs, but it is safe to assume the 2023 costs will certainly not be less than that. OSLAD funding assistance will cover 50% of the cost of the project to a maximum assistance of \$400,000. If this project is selected for our grant application, we will have to determine how much the District is willing to contribute to this

project. The District can do it all and cover the additional cost or focus on a portion of the plan to retain a 50/50 split and phase in the rest of the plan in future years.

A lot of interest in the development of this lakefront is anticipated and the District would want to hold an open house with the neighborhood to get a sense of the community support for a project like this and gauge if the public feels this is a project to pursue.

Holding an open house in May or June would give the District time to revise the plan based off of the comments received.

Seffrood left the meeting at 6:07 pm.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session, for the following purpose(s): Personnel – The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act at 6:08 pm following a motion made by Commissioner Behrens and seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

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| Roll Call: | Ayes | Commissioners Behrens, Wilson, and Wise |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Abstain | 0 |
| | Absent | Commissioners Ijams and Tartol |

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting was reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m. following a motion made by Commissioner Behrens and seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

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| Roll Call: | Ayes | Commissioners Behrens, Wilson, and Wise |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Abstain | 0 |
| | Absent | Commissioners Ijams and Tartol |



Cindy Benson, Board Secretary
May 31, 2022