

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Village Hall, New Lenox, Illinois.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

- Call to order** President Schulz called the July 19, 2023, meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance** President Schulz led the Board, Staff, and all others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call** President Schulz directed the Recording Secretary to take roll call. Upon taking roll call, the following were present, Commissioners: Kramer, Larson, Fischer, Ott, and President Schulz
- Also in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Recreation Lea Pipiras, Deputy Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Director of Business Services Kathy Lynch, Deputy Director of Business Services Karen Acklin, and Deputy Director of Executive Services Jacque Tuma.
- Treasurer's Report** Commissioner Kraemer quoted the totals from the monthly Treasurer's Report as presented for June 30, 2023. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the Treasurer's Report. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for June 30, 2023. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Payment of Bills** Commissioner Kraemer quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for June 30, 2023. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for June 30, 2023. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Special Guests** Kim Auchstetter – Government Finance Officers Association
Presented the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the New Lenox Community Park District for the 15th consecutive year.
- New Lenox Lions Club
Need a Motion to Amend Agenda to Approve Resolution #23-21 prior to presentation. President Schulz requested a motion to Amend Agenda. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Need a Motion to Approve Resolution #23-21 Honoring the Lions Club 75th Anniversary. President Schulz requested a motion to Approve Resolution. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Resolution #23-21
Resolution of the New Lenox Community Park District Honoring the New Lenox Lions Club 75th Anniversary.
- President Schulz thanked the Lions Club and stated they had a great partnership with them over the years. A lot of things couldn't have happened without you guys as an organization. You guys have done an exceptional amount of good for

the community over the years and for the park district. We are very thankful for the relationship that we have with you guys. Thank you to the Lions Club.

Approval of Minutes *Approval of the Special Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023*

President Schulz requested any questions or comments of the Special Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023, presented. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Kramer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023

President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Regular Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2023, presented. Motion made by Commissioner Kramer, seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Committee & Staff
Reports**

Business Services

Budget & Appropriations Ordinance #23-05-01 – Discussion

Tonight, we are going to adopt and approve the budget, it says it's open for discussion. I wanted to note that Karen and Kathy and their hard work and reangling all the different departments and all the different funds and they make sure that everything lines up. It doesn't appear to be very easy, so kudos to them again. They are short on the staff side coming into this but kiddos to you guys.

New introductions to the New Lenox Park District. Nicholas Bojan, he's new to the Grounds Department, Roseanne Muzinic who is a part-time office coordinator for the Rec Department.

Facilities / Planning

Finished up some HVAC work and some minor repairs around the grounds and building repairs.

Golf Course

Golf Operations

Commissioner Kraemer noted June was a great month. We had over 600 rounds more this June than we had last June. We are having a great month. The staff is doing a great job all year and a bunch of people are coming out.

Food and Beverage Operations

Our staff have really been on their game, the food and beverage department and the staff from the golf course have been busy. The menu has been satisfactory, and we had a couple issues with chain supply, but everyone is having a good time out there. The grounds department had some issues with the drought, but Doug and their staff kept up with that. They had some issues with the irrigations, just minor issues and they did a good job keeping it green. The course is in great shape, and we are busy.

Midwest Archaeological Research Services Proposal

We are approving the agreement with Midwest Archaeological Research. You guys already approved that agreement and as of today the TRIA Contract was

reviewed and changes have been made and we executed that about an hour ago. With the contractors, all systems are a go. All the permits are now in place, and we have got a green light to go. The last piece that is in your board packet is just bringing Midwest Archaeological Services on board which is part of the requirements with the state with that site. If we do need to excavate any areas, then they give us rates and have it all in place. We had the state out a couple weeks ago to give us the guidance to move forward with different drawings and change of plans. We moved the parking lot to a street side parking lot just to be cautious. It's not going to affect what we are doing and what the public will see. I might see it and some other people in the golf industry what we have done. We have done some stuff with the facility that makes it look better in my opinion. It gives us a little more room, believe it or not. There's a couple of areas where we have to be a little more cautious. I gave you a timeline out there and I talked to Jim today from Golf Creations and we are planning on Monday, and everything is a go. We are having a pre-construction meeting tomorrow at or around 10 a.m. The village approved the permit, so it is all steam ahead. It's exciting, a lot of people are very excited about this. It's the best we can do with that area. I'm very excited too. The staff is too. I think it's important that from the engineer to Todd Park to Midwest Archaeological that we brought back retire Roshell Lourie out to the site and working with the government officials. It was a great meeting, a great day. I knew at some point that the State of Illinois is always behind us, and the process has never changed in 20 something years which is unfortunate. We try to be proactive with the whole thing so in a short amount of time we got a lot done. Dr. Lourie was a great help, and she is very well respected, she was outstanding. I don't think it would have gone so well if she hadn't been at that meeting with the State. It was shocking. She probably knows our site better than anyone. That site is her baby, she will volunteer on that site until the day she passes away she said. She was very excited to come back out there. We are going to add some signage once the work is done. Describing what was here in the past and the State is excited about that too. An important part for the public and the board to understand too is for a public golf course, this property, this site in its integrity is in place forever. If this was a private course, and it wasn't performing they would build on it and the oversight is we have a lot more checks and balancing that we have to jump through which we should have to but at the end of the day they all agree with that. The site is more preserved for the future with our ownership.

The timeline is based on a perfect scenario, drought, rain could put us back especially the growing back part. Will it affect the driving range? Yes, it will eventually I don't know the exact date, I don't want to put a date on it. But the driving range is currently open but eventually it will close once we are in the phase that we will have to start working on the current driving range itself. Hopefully that is sometime in September. But from what we are told we know earlier than the first week of September, but it could be later because we must close the driving range. The best case scenario would be, the goal would be next spring. Anything sooner would be great, but that's the goal we are having. With that being said the requirement with concrete or pouring concrete and asphalt. We have to play around with the weather and all the seasons because at some point they shut all of that down. So, we defiantly want to wrap that up as soon as possible. All systems go at this point and so the board is aware that next month I'm hoping to have the bid for that structure in front of you and accept it and approved. Jacque and I have been working on it and it was a little delayed with

getting the bid out, but I know exactly why because we want to make sure that we go the bid out and that we were good to go with this before we do that. Probably the least part I'm worried about, this was the one that once it got in the concrete done, we can move pretty fast with this. Once again, we can't say enough about, besides the State of Illinois, how fast they moved. The Village of New Lenox Kirk Carroll and Will Nash. They pivoted quite a bit to keep everything moving and they were right there with us. Nothing got pushed back. Our attorney had some issues with that contract and really what it was he wanted it cleaned up. Later today we put out a revised copy and he and I are in agreement that it's solid and lays out the initial report and the amount that will be paid and just gives up a good idea if X amount of features have to be excavated of this is what it is, if we go over that amount, we will be back to the board to get the approvals if we need to do that or do we always have the final say as far as if we want a pitied right or move something one way or another. That comes at a cost too because you have a little bit of engineering and depends on what it is. But I've never been scared of this from day one. I knew there were going to be extra hoops to jump through and we got through them pretty good. The only time I know for sure we need to be there is for the parking lot. There was a lot of stuff we were avoiding. We provided a map so that you could see the different areas and gave me a lot of over cite from the past areas outside their critical area did not get the critical excavation work they needed as they got away from that area, the artifacts decreased, or the artifacts got newer meaning artifacts were rarely being built. That wasn't as significant and the original site. I didn't know that there was a level of history. So, all systems are a go.

Parks/Development Development Projects Update

Hibernia Park Phase II

Hibernia Park will have an August start with excavation and pouring concrete of the foundation of the building. The contractor is getting some revisions in order based on the value engineering changes. George had a good meeting with Nicor and they're hoping to have complete their work in August.

Sky Harbor Park

We have a couple of trees down and trees that need to be replaced as well as 8 x 10 concrete. The Village failed our drinking fountain-the Buffalo Box due to the rubber coupler that held the two pieces of pipe together. That has been sent to Integral Construction & PRI for them to take care of.

Water Chase Park

We are working with planning resources on design work which will steer the bidding documents and Lockport has a "State of the Art" Pickle Ball Court which we would like to mirror. George has been going around checking some of them. They have a nice facility there. We would like to have something similar. That's near the Prairie Bluff Golf Course. We may be glad to hear PRI's first budget was under budget. So that was a good sign.

Bristol Park we are waiting on playground equipment, for the "Tot Lot" that will be installed in September.

Tri-Annual July 10th

Commissioner Larson noted the Tri-Annual Meeting was held July 10h at 630. Baseball had their registration, and the numbers were high. We were looking into replacing some netting and started using their new storage shed. Girls Softball had over 500 players and 45 teams. They have the LED lights hooked up to their phones now and are working with Mustang Football because of the shared parking at Martino so they are scheduling games not at the same time. Mustang Football is finishing up their camp and they have 300 players and cheerleaders. Their games are going to start an hour earlier this year at 9 o'clock and their practices are starting this month. Soccer has over 400 players, which is the largest they have had since Covid hit and they are shifting fields around to eliminate the wear and tear on the turf. They are looking to climate control their precast storage buildings. New Lenox School District 122 is getting their baseball and softball schedules into us and have completed all their summer work and are working on blackout dates.

Contracted Services

Both shelters at Nelson Campus have been painted and the goal basketball shoot arounds at Walker and Freedom Parks have been color coated and lined. Very pretty blue. Contracted mowing was called off in June which saved us about \$7,500. The Algae seems to be still giving us a problem in some of the ponds because of heat and draught. Thanks to Ken, Corey and Rob we got UV light system at Walker and were able to open the Splash Pad last week.

Fleet & Equipment

Our director was able to find our new pickup truck with a plow and that has finally been delivered. Terrys of Peotone covered the costs for a sprayed-on bed liner we appreciated that. The 6-month safety inspections completed on all our pickup trucks and van. The van with the bucket lift had rear brakes and calipers replaced.

Out in the Parks

Staff built a GAGA pit at Haines Park that is a popular game with the camp kids. The push buttons were replaced on drinking fountains at Palmer Valley & Freedom Parks and a special thanks to Lincoln-Way Christian Church with approximately 70 volunteers and staff on Sunday to spread 120 cubic yards of mulch at Jacob Lowell Park and the two playgrounds at Nelson Prairie. New Lenox is blessed with volunteers and people who care, and we appreciate them and our staff for working on Sunday.

Hibernia Park

Over at Hibernia, we got some news that the expanding of the current boat dock and the ADA Launch is targeted to be installed in the next month.

Water Chase

We met with the village the other day and went through the concept plan making sure we don't have to provide any extra detention out there. Everything is set up. As far as the communication back and forth, I would like to just thank the staff. I have a great group and they show up every day looking for work. We've been able to tackle a lot of projects that would normally take us all summer. A lot of the parks have been mulched, edged, and weeded. Things are looking good. I want to thank them for their effort. A great group of guys. I think it is important

to know that George was able to move on that dock because of our corporative agreements with those co-ops. So, we were able to purchase that outside of the bid and our hope was to get it in early so we could get it in sooner than later with that project going on. The supply chain was slow, but it worked. You'll see more of that in the future. We are already seeing that quite a bit.

Resolution Tria Architecture and Wavier of Competition

Before we get into the Resolution Tria Architecture and Wavier of Competition discussion, this whole thing has changed a little bit. In the State of Illinois, you have to interview as projects go with architects now. It is not that you have to take the lowest bidder, but you have to have a process in which anyone can submit. However, Section 8 gives a waiver for that in the event which it is necessary for planning that you're trying to basically playout and get some kind of idea as far as concept planning and what will fit on the property. Ballpark numbers as far as estimates on what it will cost to build and look at what utilities are already in place need to be in place and it that going to be a cost. Detention or retention requirements and then parking. So that all comes into play. Part of this too and the sites that we are looking and targeting the property in front of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the new one on Laraway, which I know now they have the permits and are falling into place there and we have some idea of the size of the property. Will County is now asking for a piece of it for retention or detention for the widening of Laraway Road. So of course, my feeling is without know what will fit right there, is I need to slow that down because if they take any of the high and dry its going to impact us because the Village was providing the retention or detention for the high and dry with the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Naturally, it's their call to make. If we need to work with the County, then, we will work with the County. We need to know that answer sooner than later because that is a newer development. With that, we are trying to go back to our master plan with everything we are doing with the Village with their project up next to Silver Cross we are looking at the fact that theirs not going to be a dog park. We need a dog park provided and as far weather a swimming facility of some sort, a Rec Center Rental Space, or at this point it looks like additional Pickle Ball Courts are necessary to the point we need a lot of them to run a tournament. What we do now know is there are plenty of ball fields that are going to be provided up by Silver Cross that not something we will look to put up at the site. If we go to do something different with the Lion Den because its proximity off the Old Plank Trail in the Community makes it very positive from the Will County Forrest Preserves standpoint and even our standpoint for a potential dog park. Not to say that we won't look for a wastewater treatment plant too from the Village off of Laraway or one down the road too. So, it's just the matter of what fits where and that's beyond my IQ as far as that goes. I have to have someone tell me what we can possibly do with these. George has already brought HR Green on because a lot of our stuff is antiquated in its paper form and now it's all electronic, so we basically got the base maps done for whoever we bring on and take on electronically. So that we are already ahead of the game. I expect this to take several months or maybe into next year to even get some things going. A lot of back and forth. So that's my push with this. With their quote, they're comfortable with a lot of the engineering work and do a lot with the Village. I'm trying not to reinvent the wheel and lesson what I want to say the impact to all of us to the fact they have access to the maps and stuff that we need. That has helped cut down on costs that we got under that \$40,000 number by doing this too with this group. So, at the end of the day, it could be a different

group should we move forward with anything that get more into the nuts and bolts. This is just to get us a concept plan. If you remember, we do not have a person in-house. Any questions about that? There are a lot of pieces that are going to move and shake so I expect you guys to have a lot of questions as we go along the way and help me with the questions for the public. Hopefully, we don't miss anything. It's all positive. It could be broken apart and used in different ways or hopefully it's something in all one piece at the end of the day. We won't know that until I know what we can do where and make sure that it fits the needs of the community because that's the key. I'm really trying to complement what the mayor is trying to do up at the Silver Cross site because that's designed to bring in sales tax and revenue to the community and our job is a little different. We get to be the fun police and we get to provide services that at a reasonable cost to our constituents. Yeah, we can't sit back and sit on our hands when we have the opportunity to work with the Village and get this property and move forward with this town that is expanding. Once all the land is gone, we want to make sure that, for the community, have open space. This will be the start with talking to the legislators and what grants could possibly be a factor in everything too and everything must align with the timing too. There are a lot of moving parts. I'm not going to have all the answers for you right now, but I will try to get them as we go. There is nothing else to report on Park and Development.

Recreation

Special Recreation

Keith and their group are doing a fine job. We got paid a huge compliment at the last board meeting. Starting with Olga and Bethany with our camps and everything and the training of our staff and the inclusion that we do. There was nothing but complements, that we are winning the race with the highest inclusion costs, the most aides and therefore have the best programs in the area because they are using our programs and we need them so that's what I said to our groups. So, there we go, we are out in front.

Golf Outings

The golf outings are coming up. Hard to believe it, but the Sanctuary is booked solid. The Green Garden one is half or three quarters full. Definitely a bang for their buck. At the Sanctuary, the kind donations continue to roll in and they are doing a great job with that, and they did receive a \$10,000 grant for inclusions for services for the Ellen S. Andrew Foundation which over the years was very supportive in Proud American Days. They help the Lions Club with Picnics in the Park. So that's a great group. Things continue to go up there, and in their reports too.

I find this interesting that I always hammer the director with this because we are leading the pack with out of district or with inclusions. I don't want to see our costs go up until the costs for a non-resident go up. Right now, out of district residents pay 30% more than a resident and I believe that can go up to at least 50%. If you really want the services, which I think are top notch for them, then they need to move into one of the agencies that are our members. I'm glad they can provide the services because the more the merrier, but I look back over a ten-year period and in the last five years, the number of individuals with disabilities are no longer sitting at home with nothing to do because of Keith and their staff is astronomical. You see those numbers all the time with new intakes coming through the door. Can't say enough about them, Kathy has been doing a lot of work helping. Tom and Keith are working on their budget and are getting close.

We still have a negative number because the whole idea that with the rules let's just say. So, they thought they were still balanced, and they moved the money last month, then of course all the money that was last year because of programs that was collected last year got taken back out. So, we are so close, maybe next year they will have it down to a science and they are going to move their audit up, so they get better information.

Camp Wewannago

This is a very popular summer program. We have 452 campers for the summer and last year we had 359. It's an increase of 93 campers.

Athletics

In our athletics programs, we had a total of 20 athletic programs this month. Everything from flag football, basketball, to track and field, with 233 people in those classes. We are still taking registrations for our youth flag football league. We currently have 274 participants in that league.

Kiddie Kampus

The Kiddie Kampus currently has 193 kids enrolled. Our three-year-old classes are completely full, and we have 15 spots open for the four-year-old classes. I have a Thank You Letter from the Gagan Family. They wanted to give a big thank you to the Kiddie Kampus. "Our family has been in the Kiddie Kampus for the past 6 years and I just wanted to thank you for all the love, care and support you have shown my children. Enjoy your summer". Thank you very much. So, Kiddie Kampus is a big hit with young kids.

Special Events

Chasing the Sun 5K Race/Walk was held on Thursday, June 1st, with this being the 10th year. There were 128 pre-registered racers and 14 walk-ups. The Park District used the net proceeds to fund our scholarship program, which is a program for anyone who seeks assistance to get involved in our programs. If you have any issues, you can contact The Park District and ask to speak to Olga Viano regarding the scholarship program or you can go to newlenoxparks.org and click on district information and click on scholarship.

The Kids Fishing Derby was held on Saturday, June 3rd at Freedom Park with a great turnout of over 100 kids.

The Dynamic Dancers Summer Camps debuted a new instructor Jill Rector leading the Dynamic Dancers. They held two programs at the Lions Community Center where participants could refresh and sharpen skills while still in a fun mini-camp environment. So good luck to Jill.

Walker Splash Pad is Open! We talked earlier, we had issues with it and had a delayed opening of it this year. But now, Walker Splash Pad is open. Of course, it's nice to have it open because Hibernia is closed due to of construction.

We have a Bake Me Crazy Picnic Event on Thursday, August 10th from 6-7:30 p.m. at Firefighter's Park. We will have a variety of desserts and refreshments as long as supplies last. Along with music and games. Please bring your family for a yummy, good time and be aware we are not able to accommodate food allergies.

Our Fall Registration begins August 7th for residents and August 14th for non-residents. Fall programs can be viewed on our website starting July 31st at newlenoxparks.org. We have a variety of programs for all ages and with fall programs come the opportunity for jobs, so if anyone is looking for a job this coming fall it is a good time to inquire at the New Lenox Community Park District for a job that is close to home.

Friendly reminder, Sky Harbor grand opening will be this coming Thursday, July 27th from 11-1.

Lea Pipiras introduced the summer intern, Aurora Abbott, who joined the New Lenox Community Park District this past May. Following her internship, she will be graduating from Illinois State University with a Bachelor degree of Science in Recreation and Park Administration. Aurora volunteered with the Lincoln-Way Special Recreation Association and interned at Smith Crossing Senior Living Community. Aurora grew up in Frankfort and frequently volunteered at special events hosted by the Frankfort Park District. Aurora's focus during her internship is Special Events but she is gaining knowledge in all departments within our district. A part of her internship was to come meet the board members, so thank you for behaving. Thank you, Aurora, she is doing a great job.

Lea and her staff did an amazing job at the fireworks on the 4th of July. The Village holds an event where we handle the concessions. They allowed me to cook 60 burgers and 80 hot dogs, so I had a great time out there. Staff did an excellent job, and it ran very smoothly.

New Business

Resolution #23-22 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement with Tria Architecture and Wavier of Competition

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #23-22 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement with Tria Architecture and Wavier of Competition proposal for services and predesigned services. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #23-23 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement with Midwest Archaeological Research Services

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #23-23 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement with Midwest Archaeological Research Services proposal for Conduct Archaeological Monitoring and Feature Excavation. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance #23-05-01 Budget & Appropriation

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Ordinance #23-05-01 Budget & Appropriation. Motion made by Commissioner Kramer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business Amended Ordinance #8 General Use Regulation Ordinance
President Schulz noted that Amended Ordinance #8 General Use Regulation Ordinance was to be tabled because it needed to be reviewed with staff and Attorney Angelo Vitiritti.

Questions and Comments
President Schulz reported that the Executive Session Minutes released December 22, 2022, through May of 2023 were looked over and we have no action on them. President Schulz noted that by policy we must review them every 6 months.

Community Events Join the Village of New Lenox for:

The Silent Roller Disco for all ages. Saturday, August 5th from 6 pm to 10 pm at the Village Commons. Bring out your roller skates and get ready to boogie...at a silent event. Upon arrival, guests will receive a pair of wireless headphones that allow them to listen to different channels of music run by two dueling DJs. You can bring your own roller skates from home or rent a pair from us. The fee is \$5 per person, includes headphones and skate rentals. Children under 5 are free. Please note a photo ID will be required for headphone rentals.

Ladies Night Out on Friday, August 18 from 4 pm to 8 pm at the Village Commons. Ladies Night Out features an evening of shopping and entertainment. Grab your girlfriends and join us for this night out with a performance from Meritage. Admission is free.

For more information visit our website at newlenox.net/events.

Adjournment
President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the July 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacque Tuma
Recording Secretary