

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 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 March 20, 2024, 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: Larson, Fischer and President Schulz.
- Also in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Business Services Kathy Lynch, Deputy Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Director of Recreation Lea Pipiras, and Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath.
- Treasurer's Report** President Schulz quoted the totals from the monthly Treasurer's Report as presented for February 29, 2024. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the monthly Treasurer's Report for February 29, 2024. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for February 29, 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Payment of Bills** President Schulz quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for February 29, 2024. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for February 29, 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Communications** President Schulz stated that there is a copy of the congratulatory letter that he sent to Peter Murphy of the IAPD regarding his Induction into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame. President Schulz noted that he was invited to attend the induction and wanted to share the video that they played. The board members and staff present watched the acceptance speech given by Peter Murphy.
- Approval of Minutes** Approval for the Regular Minutes of February 21, 2024
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Regular Minutes of February 21, 2024. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Committee & Staff Reports**
- Business Services** Commissioner Fischer highlighted that the CDs are maturing over the next two months. He reported that at this time we do not have any plans to roll the CDs over due to needing the cash for our upcoming capital projects. Commissioner Fischer noted that maybe in late summer or early fall we may revisit those options.
- Facilities / Planning** President Schulz reported that there is just general maintenance being done and staff is working on getting facilities ready for the warmer months.

Golf Course

Golf Operations

Commissioner Larson reported the Top Tracer has been a great success and in the nine weeks that it has been open the sales for range balls is equivalent to six months of our best year of selling range balls. The new furniture is in and looks great. Commissioner Larson reported that the weather for February was warmer than normal, and our rounds were up by 1100 compared to last year. We have added two new outings for the 2024 season. The Top Tracer is still in its soft opening and the main range is scheduled to open in July depending on turf growth. Commissioner Larson noted that we are looking to have a grand opening in October.

Food and Beverage Operations

Commissioner Larson reported with the Top Tracer the food and beverage has increased as well and the gaming is good with a \$2500 winner in February. He did note that we attended the GFS food show at the end of February, and we will be making some changes to our offerings.

Grounds Operations

Commissioner Larson reported that we came out of winter in great shape, with no real issues on the course to report. There are some equipment issues that keep popping up, even though they are minor issues the cost of parts has gone through the roof so even minor issues cost twice as much. Commissioner Larson noted that the covers will be taken off the two new greens and we will be turning on the irrigation system earlier than expected to get some moisture in the ground to help with growth.

Director of Golf Schulz stated that the opening will be late summer early fall for the grass area.

Parks/Development

Developed Park Sites Update

Hibernia Park Phase II

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that we are still on target for the park to open on May 25, 2024, or sooner. He stated that there were still some items to be completed including doors to be installed, drywall is being hung, concrete floors need to be epoxied, will need four to five days of concrete/flat work. Once those items are completed, the fencing and gates will be installed around the splash pad, the interior fixture will be installed, splash pad toys will be installed, and the backfill/turf restoration will be completed. Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek noted that we have until September 30, 2024, to have the project done but we are certainly pushing it and if the weather cooperates, we could possibly be completed by the end of April.

Sharon's Bay Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that there was a kick-off meeting with staff and Planning Resources. We walked the site and talked about various topics. We are anticipating by the middle of April to have a concept plan in place and a budget. Once that is in place, we will start with public meetings in which we will need to have two of those and there will be some refinement. Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek stated that we will have a final plan and budget for the board hopefully by May 15, 2024. He noted that we are trying to get the grant application ready. We were first told that it was going to be due on July 1st and in the last week or so, it has been pushed back to September 13, 2024.

Water Chase Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek reported that we are still on target to begin on May 1, 2024. He noted that playground equipment and shelter has been ordered. Director Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek noted that he also spoke with the contractor regarding getting Hibernia completed before moving over to start Water Chase.

Association Update

Commissioner Larson noted that Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek and Assistant Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens met with the school district regarding their upcoming softball and baseball seasons as well as the black out dates for the rest of the associations. The baseball association reported that they have strong numbers with their opening day scheduled for April 20, 2024. For the first time they are giving away three \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors. Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek and Assistant Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens then met with the soccer association and reported that they have about 400 players and are looking for a place to play under the lights, possibly Martino Jr. High. Next, they met with the softball association and reported that the opening day for softball is scheduled for April 27, 2024 with 38 teams and 470 girls. Softball is repairing some fencing at Palmer Valley, installing bullpens at Walona and doing some renovations at RS Corcoran. Commissioner Larson noted that Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek and Assistant Director of Parks-Maintenance Stephens will try and meet with the football associations early so that they can get their paperwork in. He also noted that all the associations seem to be happy with the new system of meeting individually.

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicsek reported that they received confirmation today that they will be sitting down with youth football on April 3, 2024, and we scheduled a meeting during the week of April 22nd with Mustangs football. He reported that for the first time the Rebels Baseball Association will be giving out three \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors from Lincoln-Way Central, Lincoln-Way West and Providence. The requirements for the scholarship are continuing their education in either college or the trades and have played for the Rebels program for six spring seasons.

Commissioner Larson reported that the Porta Johns will be set in place by the end of this month. He noted that the Turf Mowing went out for re-bid and will be talked about under New Business.

Commissioner Larson reported staff has been going over equipment, especially the mowers and tractors getting them ready for spring. He noted that some trailers have been re-wired, installing of salt spreaders and other equipment has had adjustments. Commissioner Larson reported that in the upcoming budget we are looking to replace Truck #12 and add a new trip mower.

Commissioner Larson stated that out in the parks benches have been installed within the east playground at Stonebridge Park, staff has repaired a culvert drainpipe section at the middle pond linked with Palmer Valley Park, eight older park name signs have been repainted and reinstalled, staff repaired several GFI's and outlet plates at numerous shelters and the department has reviewed/updated our "Best Practices out in the Parks" and spent time training two new workers.

Recreation

Special Recreation Update

Executive Director Lewis asked if there were any questions regarding the information in the packet. He noted that their donations continue to do very well. He reported that they are going back to the three-year contract with the auditor who has done a great job working with LWSRA. He reported that they are fully up to staff, which is the first in a long time. Executive Director Lewis noted that the River Valley SRA came in and met with Keith Wallace and wanted to watch his process at the last meeting.

Committee and Staff Report Update

Commissioner Fischer reported the ACES Before and After School program has 506 participants which is an increase from last year at this time. Our Children's Basketball league ended on February 18, 2024, with another successful season and we had 40 out of 52 teams take advantage of our end of season pizza party. Commissioner Fischer congratulated Recreation Supervisor Amy Maher for being named to the 2024 Executive Council for the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and will serve as the Vice President/Treasurer.

Commissioner Fischer noted that the park district is hiring part-time summer positions and to go our website to apply. Coming up on Saturday, May 4, 2024, we will host our Touch-A-Truck event at Walker Country Estates from 10am to 12pm.

New Business

Hibernia Park Phase 2 Development – Change Order #2

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Hibernia Park Phase 2 Development – Change Order #2. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Hibernia Park Phase 2 Development – Change Order #3

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Hibernia Park Phase 2 – Change Order #3. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

New Lenox Baseball Association (Rebels) Lighting Letter of Request for specific tournament dates- Exception to Policies Governing Lighted Athletic Sites for Sunday Usage

President Schulz requested a motion to approve the New Lenox Baseball Association (Rebels) Lighting Letter of Request for specific tournament dates - Exception to Policies Governing Lighted Athletic Sites for Sunday Usage. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Re-Bid Results – Turf Mowing Services

President Schulz reported that the staff recommendation is to award the Turf Mowing Services to Beary Landscaping Management as the lowest qualified bidder. President Schulz requested a motion to approve Beary Landscaping Management as our Turf Mowing Services. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Events

President Schulz read the community events:

New Lenox Lion's Club - Garden Party Fashion Show

Sunday, April 7, 2024, from 1:30-3:30pm

New Lenox VFW Post 954 323 Old Hickory Rd, New Lenox, IL 60451

All proceeds benefit the New Lenox Lion's Club

\$25 per person with a soup and salad buffet and complimentary wine.

Tickets available to purchase at:

Mainstream Boutique, 1844 E Lincoln Hwy, New Lenox, IL 60451

Moody Blues Jean Boutique, 1844 E Lincoln Hwy, New Lenox, IL 60451

New Lion's Club

Senior Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, April 14, 2024, from 11AM-2PM at the
Lions Community Center this event is free.

Severe Weather Spotter Training, Health, and Safety Expo & Touch-a-Truck

Free for All Ages

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

5:00pm to 8:30pm

Lincoln-Way West High School

For more information visit newlenox.net

Running with Friends 5k Run/Walk

Located at Sanctuary Golf Course

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Start time: 8am

Registration Fee: \$35/ \$45 after Monday, March 20

All net proceeds will benefit the New Lenox Friends of the Park

Sign up: go to runsignup.com

In person: at New Lenox Community Park District, 701 W. Haven

Adjournment

At approximately 6:36p.m., President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the March 20, 2024, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Recording Secretary – Melissa McGrath