

Alsip Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of Meeting
April 22, 2024

- Par. 1 **CALL TO ORDER**
President Schmitt called to order the Meeting of the Alsip Park District Board of Commissioners at 6:30 pm.
- Par. 2 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Those in attendance gave the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Par. 3 **ROLL CALL**
The Secretary called the Roll, and there were present Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta, and President Schmitt. A quorum was present.
- Par. 4 **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**
Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the Minutes for the March 25, 2024 Meeting as presented. Motion carried by voice vote 5 – 0.
- Par. 5 **CALENDAR**
Director Huber called attention to the conflicted meeting date of May 27th, which is the Memorial Day holiday. She asked for a consensus on meeting either May 20th or May 23rd instead. The consensus of the Board was to meet on the third Monday of the month, May 20th.
- Par. 6 **SECRETARY’S REPORT**
Secretary Poremba presented a proposal for the Fiscal Year Calendar 2024/2025. She noted there was an inconvenient date in December. She suggested the Board consider meeting on Thursday, December 19th instead of Monday, December 23rd. After a brief discussion there was a consensus to conduct the meeting on Thursday, December 23rd. It was noted there was no date conflict with the January IAPD/IPRA Conference in January 2025.
- Par. 6 **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**
There were no public in attendance.
- Par. 7 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
FINANCE
Business Manager
Sue Bruesch’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 8 Manager Bruesch reported the department would soon begin to gather the documents necessary towards the end of the month for the pending annual audit.
- Par. 9 Manager Bruesch reported she has been working on signing up new full-time employees for benefits and completing their new-hire packets. She added the IMRF is a bit of a challenge with an updated website but she is confident compatibility will come more use.

- Par. 10 Manager Bruesch reported the annual budget will be ready for committee discussion soon followed by board approval at the May Meeting.
- Par. 11 Motion made by Commissioner Becker, seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez, to approve payment of Bills for the month of April 2024 in the amount of \$371,294.09. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta and President Schmitt voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 12 **RECREATION**
Recreation Supervisor
Denise Merlo’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 13 Director Huber announced the district had received a \$2,500.00 sponsorship from Old National Bank and reported the Summer Brochure would be delivered May 6th. Resident registration begins a week later. She added plans were going well for Fun Fest on June 15th to kick off a busy summer filled with numerous enjoyable activities and special events.
- Par. 14 Preschool/Recreation Supervisor
Rebecca Perkaus’ Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 15 Supervisor Perkaus reported the preschool year graduation was on May 9th and the year’s dance recital was scheduled for May 22nd at Andrew High School. She added youth programs were going great. In addition, the Summer Day Camp registrations are already doing well.
- Par. 16 Director Huber reported that Supervisor Perkaus was departing May 10th for another position. She thanked Ms. Perkaus for doing a quality job and to tell her she will be missed.
- Par. 17 **ATHLETICS**
Athletics Supervisor
Chuck Somerville’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 18 Director Huber reported the regular gymnastics competition season was complete and all gymnasts had qualified for the State Meet on April 27th. Girls Softball will host four teams from 12U to 18U. Opening Day was scheduled for April 25 at Commissioners Park.
- Par. 19 Director Huber reported there had been some interest expressed on the possible frequent rental of
** Commissioners Park, potentially as a home team need.
- Par. 20 Fitness/Aquatics Manager.
Leslie Guerrero’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 21 Manager Guerrero reported she had 15 new lifeguards pending passage of the lifeguard test and
** 13 staff from 2023 returning for the 2024 season. She added that interviews for the remaining positions begin shortly.
- Par. 22 Manager Guerrero reported the diving board needed replacement. Before a new board can be
** purchased the diving well must be accurately measured and comply with board standards of the FINA (International Swimming Federation), USA Diving, or NCAA Diving. A rep from Halogen will do an inspection and measurements to ensure the Certification.

- Par. 23 Manager Guerrero reported she had updated the Sprayfari Aquatic Park Manual for 2024 and requested approval.
- Par. 24 Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the Sprayfari Aquatic Park Manual for 2024. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta and President Schmitt voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 25 **PARKS/MAINTENANCE**
Superintendent of Parks
Chris Grubb’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 26 Superintendent Grubb reported general cleanup, painting and repairs had been attended to at the
** Aquatic Park. Daren McLaughlin was brought in as consultant to assist staff training in proper startup and operation. Pump room replacement parts were installed and tested. He noted that a series of instructional videos will be filmed during the official startup procedures and archived for future use.
- Par. 27 Superintendent Grubb reported site completion at the Mary J Lynch Skate Park was progressing
** as he and Director Huber ensure grant-related design criteria are met. Requests for contractual quotes have gone out and soil borings have been ordered for the shade pavilion site. Remaining amenities will be installed by staff as soon as the concrete work is completed.
- Par. 28 Superintendent Grubb reported the security system is being evaluated and upgraded at key
** locations in the district. He added the modifications, additional cameras, and PA speakers in the Apollo Recreation Center are part of the ongoing effort in expanding district security.
- Par. 29 Superintendent Grubb reported options for replacing the Kalwal atrium and gym window
** systems are being researched and considered.
- Par. 30 **GOLF COURSE**
Operations Manager
Rich Gottardo’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 31 Manager Gottardo reported the number of March golf rounds was up substantially over previous years; however, the wet April weather discouraged golfing.
- Par. 32 Manager Gottardo reported the Easter dinner numbers were solid for the two services. He added the staff service and presentation of the room were exceptional.
- Par. 33 Manager Gottardo reported two of the golf leagues had started with the rest of the leagues beginning in May.
- Par.34 **MAIN OFFICE**
Manager
Donna Smith’s Board Report was placed on file.
- Par. 35 Manager Smith reported the office was taking registrations for Summer Camp, Swim Lessons, and for the pool. She added there were now 50 members in the Silver Sneakers program.

Par. 36 Manager Smith invited the Board to the Senior Club luncheon scheduled for Monday, June 10th. She reminded the Board they usually donate \$400.00 towards the luncheon.

Par. 37 Motion made by Commissioner Gutierrez, seconded by Commissioner Perretta, to approve a \$400.00 contribution to the Senior Citizen Club for their 2024 Spring luncheon. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta and President Schmitt voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Par. 38 President Schmitt dismissed the staff at 7:14 pm.

Par. 39 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
Jeannette Huber’s Board Report was placed on file.

Par. 40 Board Reorganization/Committees
Director Huber invited the Board to discuss selection of committees and chairs for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. The Board agreed that Commissioner Becker serve as president and Commissioner Perretta serve as vice president. It was the consensus of the Board that they organize according to the following committees with the chairperson indicated *:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Finance | *Schmitt and Gutierrez |
| Recreation | *Perretta and Kleina |
| Preschool | *Kleina and Perretta |
| Athletics/Fitness | *Kleina and Schmitt |
| Parks & Maintenance | *Schmitt and Kleina |
| Golf Course | *Perretta and Gutierrez |
| Main Office | *Gutierrez and Perretta |

The Ad Hoc Project Committees were as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Apollo Recreation Center | *Kleina and Perretta |
| Skate Park | *Perretta and Schmitt |
| Freedom Park | *Kleina and Becker |

Par. 41 OSLAD Grant Approval/Freedom Park
** Director Huber reported the executed OSLAD Grant Agreement and CERP (Comprehensive Environmental Review Process) need followed by an environmental study for possible wetlands. Director Huber has connected with landscape specialist Joe Brusseau from the Hitchcock Design Group for the next steps to ensure the project complies with relevant statutes.

Par. 42 Mary J Lynch Skate Park
** Director Huber reported she and Superintendent Grubb are coordinating on the skate park project to get site amenities installed and for closeout. She added a problem was noted in soil borings for the sun shade’s concrete foundation. Solutions are under consideration.

Par. 43 Cal Sag Trail Update
** Director Huber reported no change to the Bike Trail progress as a result of the attorney’s suggestions to Arkema for adjustments for the trail. Work continues on the ICC process.

Par. 44 Apollo Recreation Center Expansion/PARC Grant
Director Huber reported an enjoyable Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the ARC expansion went very well with inspections and tours. It was one year from its groundbreaking.

- Par. 45
** Director Huber reported investigation of a sewer problem discovered the Apollo Park south boundary was not the fence line but further south and outside the fencing. There have been a number of drainage issues with it and the storm sewer was not easily accessible. In addition, the adjacent property had its sump pump emptying into the storm sewer line, which resulted in a badly clogged line. The problems have been addressed. Lastly, she reported the property owner on the south side was notified the sump pump line into the sewer must be removed.
- Par. 46
** IAPD Parks Day/Legislative Conference
Director Huber reported the annual combined parks day and legislator event was set for May 7 and May 8 in Springfield. She plans to visit legislators' offices on Parks Day. A legislator reception is the evening of May 7th and the Legislative Conference the next day.
- Par. 47 **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**
No report.
- Par. 48 **NEW BUSINESS**
Director Huber rose and presented outgoing President Schmitt with a beautifully engraved instrument case of essential hand tools as a Thank You for his year of service and being a great bridge builder.
- Par. 49 **OLD BUSINESS**
There was no Old Business to come before the Board.
- Par. 50 **CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**
Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to open an Executive Session. Roll was called with Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta and President Schmitt voting yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.
- Par. 51 The Meeting opened into Executive Session at 7:38.
- Par. 52 President Schmitt recalled the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:48 pm. There were present Commissioners Becker, Gutierrez, Kleina, and Perretta, and President Schmitt. A quorum was present.
- Par. 53 **ADJOURNMENT**
Motion made by Commissioner Kleina, seconded by Commissioner Becker, to adjourn the Meeting. Motion carried by voice vote 5 – 0.
- Par. 54 The Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Poremba, Board Secretary

** Denotes follow-up action required