

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
804 PALMYRA STREET DIXON, ILLINOIS
JULY 21, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. President Ron Pritchard called the meeting to order at 6:00PM
Roll Call: President Ron Pritchard – present
Commissioner Jerry Pauser – present
Commissioner Rodney Frey – present
Commissioner Anthony Venier – present
Commissioner/Board Secretary, Keith Aurand – present
Staff Present: Duane Long, Executive Director
Nichole Goy, Office Manager
Cindy Jankiewicz, Nature Center Director

- II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – Petunia Fest discussion. Location was changed slightly. Tyler had no bad reports. Rob Bates/Petunia Fest discussed how things went well and introduced Nick Escobar, incoming Petunia Board President. Had good help from Tyler; some miscommunication re setup. Landscaper came in after to repair ground disturbance to Park property. Haymarket, Page Park, the cabin area and Lowell Park are sites used by Petunia Fest. Long reported not much help was needed from Maintenance staff.

- III. VISITORS** – Sign in sheet is on file

- IV. CORRESPONDENCE** – Thank You card from Bob Sawyer read aloud by Pritchard.

V. BOARD MINUTES

- A. Motion by Commissioner Frey, seconded by Commissioner Aurand to approve the June 9, 2021 regular session minutes of the Board.
Vote by roll call: Pritchard – yes; Pauser – yes; Frey – yes; Venier – yes; and Aurand – yes.
Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Commissioner Frey, seconded by Aurand, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 9, 2021.

- VI. FINANCIAL REPORTS - Review/Amend/Accept** – Long reports that property replacement is an estimate. Changes in staffing may create a deficit. Fund balance is good. Pickleball tournament is scheduled, will raise additional funds. Venier asked about \$15,000 for Pickleball that we need to pay back. Long explained it will come out of Rec budget if funds are not recouped in other ways. We avoid taking from the fund balance. Tyler’s budget is \$6,000 ahead of where Maintenance is normally.

- A. Motion by Commissioner Aurand, seconded by Commissioner Venier to accept all financial documents.
Vote by roll call: Pritchard – yes; Pauser – yes; Frey – yes; Venier – yes; and Aurand – yes.
Motion carried.

VII. REPORTS

- A. Commissioners
1. President Pritchard – Commended Seth for Spark Camp turnout. Would like to see a Board Park Tour for new Board members to see new changes and see how things are

running, to include Tyler, Seth and Duane. Long suggested 9AM-noon for this tour, to be followed by lunch at Woodcote. Tour date scheduled for August 5 at 9AM. Nichole to send confirmation email to all.

2. Commissioner Pauser – Complimented Long on how nice the parade float looks.
3. Commissioner Frey – Condolences to Novak family. The community has lost a very valuable member. Parade went well. Frey and Aurand enjoyed participating in disc golf competition.
4. Commissioner Venier – Softball leagues running great. Lights are corrected, but still need some work. Sarina doing a good job. Spark Camp going very well, 120 kids attended. Bike trails are well maintained. Lowell Park looks good.
5. Commissioner Aurand – Mentioned that restrooms might be good at Pickleball. Long feels the City may be able to help with that. Tyler went above and beyond to take care of a Dog Park problem on the weekend. Discussion about calcium chloride on the gravel parking lots due to dust. Paving it would be ideal if the budget ever allows.

B. Executive Director

The Board reviewed Long's report as printed.

Long reported that a taxpayer would like to purchase some Park District property adjacent to his home at 514 Bradshaw, as well as another neighbor. Still would leave 25 feet for the clearance for the trail and for potential future bike trail to be built. Homeowners will absorb all costs of the sale, including attorney fees, transfer tax, etc. Most in favor, but Aurand has some concerns that it may cause a problem with future development (parking, etc.). This area will be added to the Park Tour. Long will further explore this opportunity, fair market value, etc.

Long is in talks with Habitat for Humanity to see if we can donate any land for the project. Habitat needs a project for next year.

Long is looking into curbing and parking for tennis courts since work is currently being done on Palmyra in front of the office and tennis courts. The cost for 485 feet of curb, temp stone and topsoil \$37,342.00 and \$15,600 for paving. Could be done for less if Maintenance can assist. There are funds that could be taken from next year's budget for this project. It is cheaper to do now while it is currently being worked on. Martin has locked in this price for next year. This would not be negatively impacted if the City gets the grant for Page Park paving. Pritchard feels if we can find the funds, then it is best to have it hired out so our Maintenance staff is not overburdened and the job will be completed more quickly. Venier prefers to revisit this at a later date. Projected start time if we move forward has not yet been discussed. Frey, Pauser, and Prichard are for it. Aurand is a maybe on this project. Long assured everyone it is feasible within the budget. A special Board Meeting to vote on whether to go forward and not bid out, since we get a cost savings with Martin, will be needed. Road improvement in Page Park is still a goal, and Pritchard would like to ask Al Morrison for some help with that since they use the space.

Basketball courts at Vaile will be repainted in the next couple of weeks.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Petunia Festival

B. New facility – Long reported that we will get final bids on August 13 with guaranteed pricing. Groundbreaking would be October 11, if we are able to move forward. Funding from 3 areas: 1) Bond – amount unknown yet; 2) City donation \$700,000; 3) Naming rights income – contracts signed for this (void if we do not move forward). Special meetings may be required if we are able to move forward to make funding decisions. The current office building will be sold if the new facility is built.

C. Resolution #304 Authorizing Participation in ComEd Green Region Program for Observation Deck Project. We won a grant from ComEd to build the Observation Deck. Contractor (Koster Bros.) is lined up to start in the fall.

Motion to pass Resolution by Aurand, seconded by Pauser.

Vote by Roll Call: Prichard – yes; Pauser – yes; Frey – yes; Venier – yes; Aurand – yes. Resolution and letter of acceptance signed.

Motion by Aurand to go to Exec Session, seconded by Venier.

Canoes have been purchased for rental at Lowell Park. Can be advertised for use with Woodcote. Long has begun the process of registering the equipment. No extra liability. Rentals will begin next year. Details not worked out yet.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – commenced at 7:22PM. Motion by Aurand to adjourn from Executive session, seconded by Venier, to discuss YMCA lease. The board returned to Open session at 7:42PM.

XI. ADJOURN

At 7:46PM, Commissioner Frey moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Aurand.

Vote by Roll call: Pritchard – yes; Pauser – yes; Frey – yes; Venier – yes; Aurand – yes. Meeting adjourned.

Signatures: Ron Pritchard Date: 8-18-21
Ron Pritchard

Rodney Frey Date: 8/18/2021
Rodney Frey

Anthony Venier Date: 8-18-21
Anthony Venier

Jerry Pauser Date: 8-18-2021
Jerry Pauser

Keith Aurand Date: _____