

Minutes of a Regular Session of the  
Board of Commissioners of the Lemont Park District  
Held on February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.  
Canal Center, 55 Stephen Street, Lemont, IL 60439

**CALL TO ORDER** – President McAdam called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** – Commissioner Richmond, Commissioner Scarlati, Commissioner Wagner, Commissioner Mescher, President McAdam. Also in attendance were Executive Director Louise Egofske, and staff Anthony Morelli, Josephine Wimunc, Greg Hooper, Lauren Raspanti, Jerry Hernandez, Colleen Ganzer, Lisa Dian, Meaghan Bower, and Christine Aguirre as recording secretary. There are no public patrons in attendance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by President McAdam

**CHANGE TO AGENDA** – Action Item Number 8 is being changed from approval to discussion. Egofske requested that this item be discussed when invited guests arrive.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** – There were no visitors in attendance.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – In the packet:

- 2023 PDRMA PATH Incentive Information
- SEASPAR Believe & Achieve Event Sponsor Thank You.

**VALUES IN ACTION, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT AWARDS –**

Distinguished Service Award: Meaghan Bower Director of Facilities

At this time, I would like to congratulate Meaghan Bower on her 5 years of service as our Aquatics Manager.

During these five years, Meaghan has consistently held swim lessons, owned, and operated No Lifeguard on Duty, recruited numerous guards, and has shown qualities of a great leader. Meaghan continues to have a hunger for learning and has used every challenge she's faced as learning experience.

Meaghan prides herself in providing a safe space for our community to recreate while molding the youth to take pride in their work and our agency.

It has been an honor working with Meaghan over these last few years, and it is safe to say the Aquatics Department is very fortunate to have someone like her representing the Lemont Park District.

Meaghan's future is bright here in Lemont and we cannot wait to see what she does within the next five years!

Egofske presented the Values in Action Award to Christine Aguirre.

In 2023, the Lemont Park District was recognized with 2 significant awards. First in October, the District received the Lemont Fire Protection District's Fire Prevention Leadership Award and in December the District received the IPRA Exceptional Workplace Award.

Meeting the criteria and guidelines of these two awards is a team endeavor and many folks contributed to these successful recognitions. At this time, I would like to recognize Christine Aguirre, Risk and

Personnel Manager, for her dedication and leadership in playing a significant role in spearheading these two initiatives.

Christine's outreach and partnership with the Lemont Fire District continues to provide our District with collaborative assistance and support in keeping our patrons, staff, programs, and events safe and protected. Christine is regularly in contact with the Lemont Fire personnel to ensure that our two agencies are working together providing the best in services and support.

And, after an unsuccessful attempt in 2022, Christine remained vigilant and re-applied for the IPRA Exceptional Workplace award on the District's behalf in 2023. Christine diligently worked to coordinate and assist staff in meeting the criteria to succeed in joining a selective group of Illinois Park District Agencies in this 5-year certification.

**PRESENTATION** – None.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – The following items were presented to the board as consent:

- C.1 – Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
- C.2 – Approval of January 2024 Treasurer's Report
- C.3 – Approval of February 2024 Payables in the amount of \$418,273.63

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, with a second by Commissioner Mescher.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Wagner, Mescher, McAdam, Richmond, Scarlati

Nays – None

**BOARD BUSINESS** –

**President's Comments** – President McAdam stated positive comments regarding the changes to the Trackside Room at the CORE.

President McAdam commented on the current referendum campaign.

President McAdam gave an update on the Lemont Fire Protection District post card and survey. Questions relating to the park district were quickly removed.

**Commissioners Comments** – Did not have anything to comment on at this time.

**ACTION ITEMS** –

**E.1 – Approval of the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1A – Site Work Construction to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Hoppy's Landscaping, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$649,321.00.**

Commissioner Richmond made a motion to approve the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1A, with a second by Commissioner Scarlati.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Richmond, Scarlati, McAdam, Mescher, Wagner

Nays – None

**E.2 – Approval of the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1B – Fencing Construction to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Peerless Fence for an amount not to exceed \$168,169.00.**

Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to approve the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1B, with a second by Commissioner Wagner.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Scarlati, Wagner, McAdam, Mescher, Richmond  
Nays – None

**E.3 – Approval of the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1C – Landscape Construction to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Hoppy’s Landscaping, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$31,725.00.**

Commissioner Mescher made a motion to approve the 2024 Miracle Field OSLAD Re-Development Bid Package 1C, with a second by Commissioner Richmond.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Mescher, Richmond, McAdam, Scarlati, Wagner  
Nays – None

**E.4 – Approval the purchase and installation of the Miracle Field Synthetic Turf from FieldTurf USA for an amount not to exceed \$205,608.05.**

Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to approve the purchase and installation of the Miracle Field Synthetic Turf, with a second by Commissioner Richmond.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Scarlati, Richmond, McAdam, Mescher, Wagner  
Nays – None

Commissioner Richmond had questions regarding what was included in this bid package and if there are other parts included in the other packages.

**E.5 – Approval staff to execute the purchase of two polygon shelters for Athens Park from Products4Parks for the amount of \$106,060.60.**

Commissioner Wagner made a motion to approve two polygon shelters for Athens Park with a second by Commissioner Mescher.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Wagner, Mescher, McAdam, Richmond, Scarlati  
Nays – None

**E.6 – Approval of the 2024 Connemara Park Playground Re-Development Bid to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Innovation Landscape, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$361.115.76.**

Commissioner Scarlati made a motion to approve the 2024 Connemara Park Playground Redevelopment with a second by Commissioner Richmond.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Scarlati, Richmond, McAdam, Mescher, Wagner  
Nays – None

**E.7 – Approval of Surplus Ordinance #2024-2 authorizing the disposal of certain surplus personal property.**

Commissioner Mescher made a motion to approve the Surplus Ordinance #2024-2 with a second by Commissioner Wagner.

**Roll Call** – Ayes – Commissioners Mescher, Wagner, McAdam, Richmond, Scarlati  
Nays – None

**E.8 – Approval of the Naming of Park Facility Formerly Known as Miracle Field**

A short discussion took place and it was determined to table this topic until the project is completed.

**STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Executive Director, Egofske relayed updates regarding the Cook County Commissioners Paid Leave Ordinance and its impact on the District. Egofske explained that the meetings that were scheduled to discuss the Ordinance have been changed.

Egofske is attending the SD 113A Board Meeting on February 28, 2024, to brief the school district board on the park district referendum. Egofske stated that she was contacted by the Daily Southtown regarding the campaign and was asked to do an interview.

Egofske has been in touch with the Fire District regarding their survey and discussed where their campaign timeline is. Commissioner Scarlati asked why they couldn’t wait a couple more weeks. President McAdam explained the timeline and conversations with the Fire District board president.

Commissioner Scarlati asked about a potential watch party for the night of the election.

Egofske informed the Board of Commissioners that we have a site visit with the Land Water Conservation Fund regarding our grant application for the 127<sup>th</sup> Street property on 2/29/2024. Commissioner Mescher asked Egofske what questions the visitor might ask about what we know about the property and property owner. Egofske reminded the Board of the plans for that property. President McAdam reminded the Board that if we do not take that property, it most likely will be developed out as commercial property.

President McAdam asked if we had any other potential grants we anticipate on, or are in progress of, applying for. Egofske stated that we may have opportunities with Senator Curran. Discussion was had regarding the other grant opportunities available – PARC, OSLAD, etc.

Egofske notified the Board of the many recent opportunities she has had to network with our legislators.

Commissioner Scarlati asked Egofske about progress on the potential stop light on 131<sup>st</sup> and Derby. Egofske gave an update on the continued movement. Discussion regarding options and opportunities if a traffic light is not possible was had.

**RISK MANAGEMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT** – Risk and Personnel Manager Christine Aguirre pointed out the excellent status of our Loss Information Report from PDRMA.

Commissioner Richmond asked about Power DMS. Discussion regarding the system was had.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL** – President McAdam explained how he and Egofske attended a village board meeting to speak on the referendum.

**MARKETING REPORT** – Superintendent of Marketing and Communications, Lauren Raspanti, had no additional comments to add to her report.

Commissioner Richmond asked if Raspanti will be sending out information regarding the St. Patrick's Day parade. Further discussion regarding the park district contingency at the parade and the referendum advocacy group.

**RECREATION REPORT** – Director of Recreation, Greg Hooper, pointed out one correction to his report. The Daughter Date Night reached the max capacity of 400 this year.

**FACILITIES, FITNESS, AND AQUATICS REPORT** – Director of Facilities, Anthony Morelli, reminded the Board of the Kinetics Gymnastics Meet that is taking place this weekend. He reviewed logistics of parking, etc. of the meet.

Morelli explained that he and Egofske attended the LBSC Meeting to discuss the referendum. Morelli stated that the field allocation meeting followed.

Morelli further explained some of the facility and equipment updates going on at the CORE. President McAdam asked about some of the weight equipment. Discussion was had regarding the upcoming equipment replacements.

Morelli gave kudos to Bower regarding the staff retention and recruitment efforts for 2024. Morelli further explained some of the new marketing efforts for summer pool passes.

Commissioner Richmond asked if we would be able to host a gymnastics meet, like the one we are hosting this weekend, in the potential renovated space. Morelli explained how the potential renovated space would positively impact services during large events, such as the gymnastics meet.

**MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Director of Parks and Planning, Jerry Hernandez, stated that he had no additional comments to add to his report.

**FINANCE REPORT** – Director of Finance and Technology, Josephin Wimunc, stated that she had no additional comments to add to her report.

**POLICY & PROCEDURE** – Egofske stated that we have been working with our attorney for existing policy reviews.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – No unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS** –

- Election night is on March 19, 2024. District staff will update the Board of Commissioners on what to expect for Election night.

**FINAL ADJOURNMENT** – Commissioner Mescher made a motion to adjourn with a second by Commissioner Wagner. All Ayes, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

*William M. Allen*

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President

*Louise Egafste*

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Secretary