

**CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

September 8, 2021

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held the Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, and online due to President Miller's determination that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted pursuant to the Open Meetings Act was not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 disaster. The Regular Board Meeting occurred pursuant to published notice duly given. President Miller presided over the meeting. The thirteen individuals identified below were physically present at the meeting. Citizens were given the opportunity to participate in the teleconference at the web address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89438812005?pwd=bIVFTkVyKzVOcHk4bkhOS3hFK3N3dz09> or by calling 312-626-6799. Citizens were also offered the opportunity to submit comments or questions by email prior to the meeting. Those comments were to be announced by President Miller during the public comment portion of the meeting. Email submissions were solicited from the public through a notice of intent to speak or comment to be submitted by noon on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 to be sent to the Executive Director of the Park District at: joe.deluce@champaignparks.org. There were no email comments or questions submitted by citizens for consideration by the Board.

Present in person: President Kevin J. Miller, Vice President Craig W. Hays, Commissioners Barbara J. Kuhl, Jane L. Solon, Timothy P. McMahon, Treasurer Brenda Timmons, Attorney Guy C. Hall, Joseph C. DeLuce, Executive Director, and Jarrod Scheunemann, Secretary and Assistant to the Executive Director.

Staff present in person: Andrea Wallace, Director of Finance, Andrew Weiss, Director of Planning, Dan Olson, Director of Operations, Tammy Hoggatt, Director of HR, Risk and IT

Jean Flood of the League of Women Voters, Stephanie Ceman, and Stu Meacham were also present electronically.

Call to Order

President Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Comments from the Public

Jean Flood complimented the parks. Ms. Flood also asked for more information about the purpose of sport tournaments at Park District fields and courts. Mr. DeLuce responded that the Park District prioritizes the needs of its residents.

Stu Meacham commented that he had informally surveyed local pickleball players about the pickleball complex site locations and they preferred the Seaman Field site plan. He cited several reasons why they preferred the Seaman Field location for the development of a pickleball complex. Discussion ensued.

Stephanie Ceman encouraged the Board to consider installing an outdoor ice rink. Ms. Ceman noted that her research indicated an unmet need for this recreation amenity in Champaign. She requested clarification from the Board on the necessary steps to accomplish this goal. Discussion ensued. Mr. DeLuce stated that staff would work with Ms. Ceman to develop a proposal.

Mr. Meacham and Ms. Ceman departed the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Communications

President Miller called attention to the communications, which had been distributed to the Board members by email.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Timmons presented the report. She stated the Park District's finances had been reviewed and were found to be in appropriate order.

Discussion and clarification ensued about the allocation process for the PayCom payroll system and customer service from PayCom's technical support team.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice President Hays. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; President Miller – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; and Commissioner Solon – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Executive Director's Report

General Announcements

Mr. DeLuce reported that the final beam would be placed in the Martens Center on September 22, 2021. He invited the Board to attend a ceremony on the same day to sign the beam before it is installed in the building.

Mr. DeLuce also reminded the Board about an upcoming strategic planning session at 5:30 pm on October 13, 2021.

Committee and Liaison Reports

Champaign Parks Foundation

President Miller reported that the Foundation would be meeting the following Monday for its regular meeting and Board training.

Report of Officers

Attorney's Report

Attorney Hall reported that he had been working on a number of typical matters for the Park District.

President's Report

President Miller drew attention to recent correspondence with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Consent Agenda

President Miller stated that all items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and shall be acted upon by one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any item, that item shall be removed and discussed separately.

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, August 11, 2021
2. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session, August 11, 2021
3. Approval of Minutes of the Special Board Meeting, August 25, 2021
4. Approval of Minutes of the Executive Session, August 25, 2021
5. Approval of Resolution Ratifying Change Orders 3, 5, and 7-11 for the Martens Center Construction

Commissioner Solon requested clarification about the details of Change Order 11 for the Martens Center Construction. Mr. Weiss responded that the engineers had recommended replacing angle steel with tube steel for a joist application.

Commissioner Kuhl asked for more information on Martens Center building permit revisions and expenses. Mr. DeLuce and Mr. Weiss responded that revisions related to City code interpretation and permit expenses for the Urbana Champaign Sanitary District and Illinois American Water. Discussion ensued.

Vice President Hays made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; President Miller – yes; and Commissioner Kuhl – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business

1. Approval of Disbursements

Staff recommended approval of the list of disbursements for the period beginning August 11, 2021 and ending September 8, 2021.

Commissioner Solon requested a comprehensive financial report for the Park Ambassador program.

Vice President Hays made a motion to approve the list of disbursements for the period beginning August 11, 2021 and ending September 8, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: President Miller – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; Commissioner Solon – yes; and Commissioner McMahon – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Approval of a Resolution Initiating the 2021 General Obligation Bond Issue

Ms. Wallace presented the report. She stated that staff recommended the approval of a resolution stating the Park District's need and intent to issue \$1,212,500 of General Obligation Bonds for FYE2022.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve a resolution stating the Park District's need and intent to issue \$1,212,500 of General Obligation Bonds for FYE2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahon. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; President Hays – yes; Commissioner McMahon; and President Miller – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

3. Approval of a Resolution Setting a Public Hearing on Proposed Bond Issue

Vice President Hays made a motion to approve a resolution to set a Public Hearing for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center (which can be heard and participated in live by the public utilizing Zoom call in information that will be posted on the Champaign Park District's website) to address and discuss the intent to issue and sell \$1,212,500 of General Obligation Bonds for the purpose of providing funds for capital improvements and pay debt service on alternate bonds. Commissioner Kuhl seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner McMahon – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Commissioner Solon – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; and President Miller – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Approval of Recreational Trail Easement for Parker Glen Trail

Staff recommended the Park Board vote to approve the recreational trail easement for the 800-foot Parker Glen Trail that connects to the North Champaign Trail.

President Miller discussed tabling the motion until the Board had been given time to review the 2011 Trail Plan and determine if its goals and objectives were still in the best interests of the residents of the Champaign Park District.

Commissioner Kuhl requested more information on the expected maintenance expenses for this proposed trail extension. Mr. Olson responded that he would calculate that number and provide a report in the near future.

Vice President Hays made a motion to table the approval of the recreational trail easement for Parker Glen Trail. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahon. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Commissioner Solon – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; President Miller – yes; and Commissioner McMahon – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Approval of the Induction of Olympic and Paralympic Athletes into the Olympic Tribute

Mr. DeLuce reported that staff, Jean Driscoll, and Maureen Gilbert had participated in an ad-hoc committee to review potential inductees. Staff recommended the Board approve the induction of Olympic Athletes: Justin Spring and Michelle Bartsch-Hackley into the Olympic Tribute at Dodds Park,

and Paralympic Athletes: Adam Bleakney, Aaron Pike, and Stephanie Wheeler. Staff also recommend adding "2020" to the squares within the Paralympic Tribute of five (5) Paralympics Athletes: Tatyana Mc Fadden, Amanda McGrory, Brian Siemann, Nichole Millage, and Joshua George, who are already inducted into the Paralympic Tribute are competing in the Tokyo Games.

Vice President Hays made a motion to approve the induction of the Olympic and Paralympic Athletes into the Olympic Tribute. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuhl. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Vice President Hays – yes; President Miller – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; and Commissioner Solon – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Approval of Acceptance of Interim GASB 75 Actuarial Valuation Report for FYE2021 Ending April 30, 2021

Ms. Wallace presented the report. She provided an overview of the GASB 75 Actuarial Valuation Report's assumptions and liability calculations. Ms. Wallace noted that she would request a modification to the assumptions related to national trends. Discussion and clarifications ensued about retiree plan payment amounts, IMRF retirement age requirements, and benefits eligibility.

Commissioner McMahon stepped out of the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve acceptance of the FYE2021 GASB 75 Actuarial Valuation report as presented. Vice President Hays seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Kuhl – yes; President Hays – yes; Commissioner Solon – yes; and President Miller – yes. The motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner McMahon returned to the meeting at 7:46 pm.

7. Approval of Adoption of Ordinance No. 653: Declaring Personal Property as Surplus

Mr. Olson reported that staff recommends that the Board adopt Ordinance No.653, an ordinance providing for the disposal of personal property owned by the Champaign Park District of Champaign County.

Commissioner McMahon made a motion to adopt Ordinance No.653, an ordinance providing for the disposal of personal property owned by the Champaign Park District. The motion was seconded by Vice President Hays. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Commissioner Solon - yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; President Miller – yes; and President Hays – yes. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Approval of Adoption of Ordinance No. 654: Annexing Territory

Mr. Weiss presented the report. He reported that the City Council had voted to approve annexing territory pursuant to petition at 1216 W. Windsor Road, Champaign. The Park District's boundaries are coterminous with the City's boundaries; therefore, staff recommends approval of Ordinance No. 654 annexing territory pursuant to petition (1216 W. Windsor Road, Champaign).

Commissioner Solon made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 654, Annexing Territory Pursuant to Petition (1216 W. Windsor Rd, Champaign). The motion was seconded by Commissioner McMahon. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: President Miller – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; and Commissioner Solon. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion

1. Pickleball Complex

Mr. DeLuce proposed several pickleball complex options. He asked the Board to consider each option and provide direction to staff for a final location and budget:

- A. Seaman Field (Centennial Park) includes 12 pickleball courts, lights, site work including detention, lights, fencing, restroom and concessions, and a 30-space parking lot for an estimated cost of \$999,358.05.

- B. Parkland College (Tennis Courts) includes 12 pickleball courts, extended asphalt service for additional space for each court) new fencing, lights, and the removal of two tennis courts for an estimated cost of \$785,129.79
- C. Reduce the number of courts to 6 or 9 for whichever location is selected.
- D. Construct 6 courts at Seaman Field in Centennial Park and 6 courts at Parkland College and see how each location works and then determine if additional courts are needed in the future.
- E. Complete the planned and approved additional courts at Hessel Park and then determine if additional courts are needed in the future.

Discussion and clarifications ensued about the number of pickleball courts that will be installed at Hessel Park.

Commissioner Solon favored locating the pickleball complex at the Parkland College tennis courts.

Commissioner McMahon preferred the Seaman Field site due to its current lack of use, location, and visibility.

Vice President Hays stated the Seaman Field site is a long-term, viable option for pickleball, although he expressed concerns about site drainage and future expansion needs of the operations area. Vice President Hays stated that the Parkland College location would be less expensive and more suitable for pilot-testing the viability of a pickleball complex in Champaign.

Vice President Hays and Commissioner Solon noted the importance of prioritizing the complex's use for Champaign Park District residents and recommended a controlled access system for its users.

Commissioner Kuhl favored the Seaman Field site for the future development of a pickleball complex and discussed revisions to the site plan related to tree removal and number of parking spaces.

Vice President Hays requested more information on current programming at Seaman Field.

Commissioner Kuhl expressed concerns residents shared about the tennis court surface at Morrissey Park.

President Miller noted the lack of open space within Champaign. He prefers the central location of the Seaman Field site for the pickleball complex.

Mr. DeLuce stated that the Board had approved \$320,000 in its Capital Plan for a pickleball complex.

Commissioner Kuhl recommended the pickleball complex to be constructed in three phases. Discussion ensued about the number of courts, desired amenities, controlled access, number of local participants, and requesting donations from local pickleball players.

The Commissioners directed staff to proceed with Seaman Field as the pickleball site location with a \$750,000 budget for the first phase of a three-phase development plan.

Comments from Commissioners

Vice President Hays noted maintenance requests from residents that he will address with staff.

Commissioner Kuhl requested an update on the Greenbelt Bikeway project and the timeline for the extension that was received from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the Illinois Bicycle Path Grant award. Mr. DeLuce responded that a grant extension had been received and would end in October, 2022. He noted that the project is currently in design phase.

Commissioner Kuhl requested a report on grant funded projects and corresponding deadlines.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner McMahon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice President Hays. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: President Miller – yes; Commissioner Kuhl – yes; Vice President Hays – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; and Commissioner Solon – yes. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Approved

Kevin J. Miller, President

Jarrod Scheunemann, Secretary