



Board of Park Commissioners

Board Meeting Minutes

Joe Doud Administration Building
545 Academy Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
847-291-2960
nbparks.org

MINUTES of the Board Meeting of the Northbrook Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at the Joe Doud Administration Building, 545 Academy Drive, Northbrook, Illinois.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Chalem called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Commissioners Present: President Chalem; Vice President Goodman; Commissioners Chambers, Chao and Silverman

Commissioners Absent: Commissioners Kumar and Schyman

Officers Present: Secretary Leiner; Treasurer Tokar; Assistant Secretary Peterson

Staff Present: Directors Baron, Kim, Loftus and Olas; Business Manager Drahos; Superintendent of Grounds & Golf Maintenance Meyer

Staff Absent: Director Scovic

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS – NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Chalem called for any changes to the Agenda. Commissioner Chambers made a motion to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Silverman seconded the motion.

Roll Call: President Chalem, Vice President Goodman, Commissioner Chambers, Commissioner Chao and Commissioner Silverman voted aye.

Motion Passed: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

STAFF RECOGNITION – Audubon Recertification

President Chalem recognized Superintendent of Grounds & Golf Maintenance Meyer for his efforts on the successful recertification of Heritage Oaks Golf Club as a Certified Audubon Sanctuary for Golf Courses. Superintendent Meyer conducted a tour with an Environmental Program Manager of the International Audubon Society to showcase continued efforts to maintain the certification. Areas of focus include wildlife and habitat management, water conservation and water quality management, chemical use reduction and safety, and education and outreach.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS / VERBAL UPDATES

Continental Construction Update

Executive Director Leiner provided a brief update on Continental Construction. Further discussion will be held at the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on August 19, 2024.

Contractual Field Renter Update

Executive Director Leiner informed the Board of Commissioners about an ongoing situation related to a synthetic turf renter. In May 2024, Commissioner Chao was contacted via email by two individuals sharing publicly available information regarding the conduct of Rory Dames, an owner of Eclipse Soccer of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. Eclipse Soccer rents the synthetic turf field at Techny Prairie Park and Fields. These individuals requested the District review the information and determine if Rory Dames' conduct aligned with District standards. Included with this information was a third-party investigation commissioned by the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) and conducted by Sally Q. Yates, a former U.S. Deputy Attorney General. Staff have reviewed the District's business relationship with

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Eclipse Soccer and with input from legal counsel and President Chalem it was determined that based on the District's Policies and Guiding Principles, the District would no longer conduct business with Eclipse Soccer. In July 2024, Eclipse Soccer's existing rental contract in the amount of \$6,675 expired. A letter was sent to Eclipse Soccer informing them of the end of the rental relationship. The letter provided Eclipse Soccer an opportunity to request a hearing presided over by Executive Director Leiner to appeal this decision. The District received a request for a hearing and legal counsel is preparing a response to the request. Commissioners engaged in a question-and-answer session.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS - NONE

CONSENT AGENDA

President Chalem announced that the matters listed for consideration on the Consent Agenda had been discussed previously by the Board of Commissioners at the July 16, 2024 Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting and there was unanimous agreement for placement on the Consent Agenda at this meeting. Consent Agenda items are those that are approved by one motion, unless any Board Member or staff requests that an item be removed. If a Consent Agenda item(s) is removed, it is then relocated to Action Items for discussion and consideration. President Chalem called for any additional changes to the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, Commissioner Chambers made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Silverman seconded the motion.

VII.42. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2024

Motion: I move to approve the June 26, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.

VII.43. Approval of Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2024

Motion: I move to approve the June 26, 2024 Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Meeting Minutes.

VII.44. Approval of June 2024 Vouchers

Motion: I move to approve the June 2024 Vouchers in the amount of \$1,795,277.88.

VII.45. Approval of West Park Concept Plan

Motion: I move to approve the as amended West Park Master Plan per the discussion held during the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting on July 16, 2024 provided by Hitchcock Design Group of Naperville, Illinois to be made available for public comment.

VII.46. Approval of Expenses – Board of Commissioner per Ordinance 17-O-1 Travel Expense Control Act

Motion: I move to approve travel expenses for Commissioner Chambers to attend the Park District Conservation Day at the Illinois State Fair, August 16-18, 2024 as part of her responsibilities as an Illinois Association of Park Districts Board Member.

VII.47. Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2023

Motion: I move to approve the October 17, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.

VII.48. Approval of Hall of Fame Committee Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024

Motion: I move to approve the February 12, 2024 Hall of Fame Committee Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call: President Chalem, Vice President Goodman, Commissioner Chambers, Commissioner Chao and Commissioner Silverman voted aye.

Motion Passed: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

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ACTION ITEMS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS – NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 1) The 4th of July events were successful. Thank you to President Chalem, Commissioner Chambers and Commissioner Chao for working the refreshment table and holding the race ribbon at the Liberty Loop and Lap. Also, thank you to Commissioner Kumar and her family for participating in the Liberty Loop walk. Thank you to President Chalem, Commissioner Chambers, Commission Chao and Commissioner Kumar along with their family members for participating in the parade. The day's events require cross-divisional coordination, thank you to all staff who worked to make the day a great celebration for the Northbrook community.
- 2) Unplug Illinois is a campaign created by the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) that encourages people to unplug from their electronic devices and plug into play, creativity, friendship adventure and family. The Employee Action Team (EAT) hosted two events on Friday, July 12 for full-time staff a morning walk around the basin at Techny Prairie Park and Fields and a walk at West Park followed by a mediation lunch. Thank you to Fitness Supervisor Lappas and Systems Administrator Romanello for coordinating the event. On Saturday, July 13 free pool admission was offered from 3-7pm.
- 3) Due to the heat and humidity, the Employee Action Team (EAT) surprised staff working outdoors with a popsicle day.
- 4) On July 20, eight teams participated in the Cup-in-Hand Tournament held at Techny Prairie Park and Fields.
- 5) The weather has been challenging for Tuesdays in the Park. On July 16, the event was cancelled due to a pop-up storm that took place just before showtime and on July 23 the event was moved indoors to the Northbrook Theatre.
- 6) A West Park Community Input Meeting will be held in conjunction with National Night Out at the Meadowhill Aquatic Center on August 6 from 6-7:30pm. Residents will be able to view Concept Plan boards as directed by the Board of Commissioners and provide input via comment cards.
- 7) The second lifeguard audit has been completed and went very well. The final report is forthcoming.
- 8) Bike the Green will held July 25 at Village Green Park as part of the Northbrook Grand Prix. The new event will offer a bike washing and decorating stations, tricycle races, face painting, games and sports. At 6:15pm a Community Bike Ride will be held on the Grand Prix course. Registration is required.
- 9) The Kids' Duathlon will be held on July 26 at Meadowhill Park near the Chalet.
- 10) The last planned Live Music event at Acorn Grill + Terrace will be held on July 26 with a performance by Peter Warren.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Chambers

- 1) Attended the Liberty Loop and Lap, which is always a fun time. The parade was fun, short and sweet. She has received many positive comments.
- 2) Attended the Town Hall meeting hosted by Senator Morrison and Representatives Morgan and Katz Muhl at the Northbrook Library.

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Commissioner Chao

- 1) Thank you to staff for the events on 4th of July. It was a busy, long day for staff on a holiday and your dedication to the community is appreciated.
- 2) His family is enjoying spending time at the Northbrook Sports Center pool.
- 3) Drove by the pool on Unplug Illinois Day and it was very busy. He was glad that the District held the event.

Commissioner Silverman

- 1) No report.

Vice President Goodman

- 1) He was disappointed to miss the 4th of July festivities.
- 2) His children have participated in a variety of summer camps.
- 3) Congratulations to Superintendent Meyer on the Audubon Society recognition.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 1) The 4th of July is always a fun day, and she appreciates the effort staff puts into making the day successful.
- 2) President Chalem and Executive Director Leiner had lunch with Representative Katz Muhl at Acorn Grill + Terrace. It was a nice to meet and discuss Park District projects and events.
- 3) The annual evaluation for the Executive Director will take place in September. Information will be sent to Commissioners in the next few weeks.

NEXT MEETING

President Chalem announced the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be the Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 7pm at the Joe Doud Administration Building, 545 Academy Drive, Northbrook, Illinois.

ADJOURN

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Chambers made a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 7:21pm. Commissioner Silverman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
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/s/ Chris Leiner

Chris Leiner, Secretary
Board of Commissioners/wp