

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Sycamore Park District  
Tuesday, September 28, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, being held at our Clubhouse, located at 940 E. State St., Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2021.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Ackmann, Graves, and Kroeger.**  
**Commissioner Doty arrived at 6:10 pm.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting: **Commissioner Strack.**

Staff members present were Director Jonelle Bailey, Jeff Donahoe, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Kirk Lundbeck, Theresa Tevsh, and Sarah Rex.

**Guests at the Board meeting were:**

- Mark Zimmerman, 427 Gayle Avenue, DeKalb

**Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –**

**Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda.  
Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strack was absent, and Commissioner Doty had not arrived yet.

**Approval of Minutes –**

**Motion**

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve the August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strack was absent, and Commissioner Doty had not arrived yet.

**Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the August 24, 2021, Executive Session Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. Commissioner Ackmann seconded the Motion.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strack was absent, and Commissioner Doty had not arrived yet.

### **Claims and Accounts Approval**

#### **Motion**

Commissioner Ackmann moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$257,955.97. Commissioner Graves seconded the Motion.

#### **Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Strack was absent, and Commissioner Doty had not arrived yet.

### **Correspondence –**

- 18 Hole Ladies Thank You
- IAPD Best Winners
- Peter Polarek, Sycamore Fire Thank You

**Public Input –** Director Bailey noted we received the Best of the Best Award. There will be an award ceremony on October 15<sup>th</sup>. We will have a table for 8, so she sent out invites to Terry from the Forest Preserve. Someone needs to be there to accept the award.

### **Positive Feedback –**

- Commissioner Ackmann noted she has heard a lot of great things about the Superhero Challenge. It was well organized, so thumbs up to everyone and her kids loved it.
- President Kroeger noted the closing on the Reston Ponds and the Museum were two big things that have been accomplished that we have wanted to take of for a long time. He also noted that golf is doing great.
- Commissioner Graves noted he is getting great comments from a lot of people about the new trail. Also, that the new baseball/soccer complex is awesome. Staff is doing a great job.

**Planning Commission Report:** Commissioner Strack was not in attendance, so no report.

### **Old Business**

#### **Construction Updates:**

- **Memorial Park:** Supt. Donahoe noted the company is going to town within the limits they can work on. There will be a meeting in 2 weeks with engineering and contractors. They are doing what they can at this point on the parking lot and storm sewers, etc. Director Bailey noted the company is hoping to have all the cement work done by second week in October.
- **Soccer Complex:** Supt. Donahoe noted the company did more seeding and fertilizing.
- **Trails:** Supt. Donahoe noted the trails is great and Terry from the Forest Preserve working with the library for story signs.

**Construction Updates- cont'd:**

- **Founders Park:** Supt. Donahoe noted we are waiting for the new playground equipment and will be possibly November now. The old equipment will be donated to areas that can't get playgrounds.

Commissioner Doty arrived at 6:10 pm.

Director Bailey noted they have feedback from the community about the disc golf. There were some challenges with it being very open and not as challenging of a course.

**100-Year Anniversary update:** Sarah Rex noted there was a summary of this in the packet. This needs to be included in next year's budget or implemented next year. She went through the overall approach.

**Pool Update:** Director Bailey noted they had their first community focus group meeting last night. They will be meeting once a month and will present the findings at the December board meeting. They had seven people at the meeting, and it went well. Sarah sent a follow up to the group and will be sending out to them the usage & budget data along with the WT assessment and the community survey. The committee would like to keep the existing pool as long as possible, and they liked the fact the pool has a basic layout. The next meeting will be October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Foundation Update:** Director Bailey noted they had a great meeting. This group is amazing and she is very happy they are on the board. They discussed what they can do, and how they can help. They would like to tie into the 100-year video to promote the foundation. They would also like to have their own webpage on ours, Facebook, Instagram and have a digital payout. They would like to hold one large and two smaller events. At the next meeting, Director Bailey is going to take them on a park tour.

**New Business**

**Bridge 1 at Golf Course Proposal:** Director Bailey noted this is the cost of the bridge for engineering and she needs the board to approve this before going forward. The mussel survey has already been done and all good with that. Supt. Hienbuecher noted this would be in the 2022 budget. She also noted they have started the review of the 2022 capital budget. She has put these numbers in and is comfortable going forward. Supt. Lundbeck noted he is hoping working on in the summer with them building the new bridge next to the old one. Supt. Donahoe noted this would allow for the irrigation pipe not having to be moved.

**Motion**

Commissioner Graves moved to approve the ERA cost of \$64,300. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Strack was absent.

**GWT – Grand Opening Date/Activities:** Supt. Tevsh noted this is information on what will happen that day from 10:00 to 11:00. Sarah is going to line up the drone for that time. Sarah Rex noted everyone should have received the save the date and this week a more formal invite will go out and include inviting the public at this time. Also, inviting any other stake holders that helped make it happen.

**New Logo Concepts:** Sarah Rex noted a lot has been changing at the Park District with a lot of exciting things. They thought it would be a good time to refresh our logo. Make it more vibrant, active, and diverse like we are. Sarah went over what is behind the new logos.

**Quarterly Capital Funds Update:** Supt. Hienbuecher noted this is just a quarterly report on where capital items are at this point.

**Special Announcements – None**

**September Study Session:** Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 was scheduled.

**Public Input –**

- Mark Zimmerman from DeKalb. He noted he was told about the disc golf course, and he was hoping to give some input on the disc golf course. He has played many courses and noted that open design courses don't seem to get many people coming. Director Bailey noted that at this point, we have already started construction. We will be planting things and have native berms as it goes along to create challenges.
- Commissioner Graves noted he has had some kids talking to him about a skateboard park. He told them to come up with something and come present to the board. The board happy to listen, but he can't promise anything.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:54 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Ackmann for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

**Roll Call**

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Strack was absent.

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Sycamore Park District  
Tuesday September 28, 2021  
**P 5**

The Board convened to Executive Session at 6:58 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Doty and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, and Supt. Hienbuecher.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 7:19 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Graves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Strack was absent.

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 7:19 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Ackmann, Graves and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey, Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman, and Supt. Hienbuecher.,.

**Motion**

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:19 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Doty. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackmann.

**Voice Vote**

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Strack was absent.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeanette Freeman  
Recording Secretary  
Sycamore Park District