

**DIXON PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
804 PALMYRA STREET DIXON, ILLINOIS
JULY 19, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. President Ron Pritchard called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.
Roll Call: President R. Pritchard - present
Vice President - Shane Miller - present
Commissioner - Rodney Frey - present
Commissioner and Board Secretary - Keith Aurand - present
Commissioner - Steve Pritchard - present

Staff Present: Debra Carey, Executive Director
Greg Hunter, Park Ranger
Duane Long, Maintenance Director
Teresa Smith, Administrative Assistant
Ryan Harrison, Park District Insurer

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- A. None

III. VISITORS

- A. Steve Wilson representing GenNex, and other interested parties were present to discuss the recent closure of the Memorial Pool area to GenNex. Discussion centered on safety concerns with the building and the risk for injury to the kids when using the upper level of the pool. An engineer would need to be consulted to determine if the facility is safe. GenNex will be meeting tomorrow to determine if they want to use just the lower level of the pool with the understanding that the facility would be closed if anyone is observed using the upper deck. Sign-in sheet is on file.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to approve the June 28, 2017 regular session, and the June 28, 2017 executive session minutes.
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried.

V. APPROVAL/ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve all financial documents as printed.
Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

VI. REPORTS

- A. Commissioner
1. President R. Pritchard has been approached by Russ Bivins from the Al Morrison Board, questioning if the Park Board would consider allowing Al Morrison to have a Whiffle ball tournament as a fundraiser. They would like to have the tournament at the Al Morrison fields and serve beer as part of the event. President R. Pritchard will

contact Russ and let him know he should contact the Park District with additional information about the event.

2. Commissioner Miller shared that he recently had been approached by a park user regarding the taller grass on the extreme bike trails at Lowell Park. Commissioner Miller indicated (once he explained the trails are maintained by volunteers) the individual was satisfied. Thanks to Commissioner Aurand and Commissioner Frey for trimming the grass on the extreme bike path.

Commissioner Miller thanked Hunter for all that he does both on and off duty to improve the Dixon parks.

Commissioner Miller indicated he has heard many positive comments about the Petunia Festival and he would like to thank all the Park District staff for helping to make the Petunia Festival successful.

3. Commissioner Frey expressed his appreciation for the excellent condition of the ballfields at Reynolds field. Terry Shroyer does a nice job with keeping them in good shape for the games.
4. Commissioner Aurand indicated that he recently did an informal query of some of the trail users with people indicating they appreciate the current items in place to keep the trails safe. People also voicing they are concerned about increased usage of the trails for all purposes.
5. Commissioner S. Pritchard indicated that he was recently at the boat docks talking with people from Wisconsin who came to Dixon to fish because they enjoy fishing the Rock River and the Dixon parks.

B. Executive Director

Board reviewed Carey's report as printed.

Carey reported: The soccer parking lot has been sprayed with calcium chloride to control dust.

Carey has spoken with the engineer and the contractor regarding the bridge repair on the Stengel Trail and they have no concerns with waiting until fall when the grant may be available.

Hunter indicated he is seeing drones used in the parks and suggested the Board consider an ordinance on the use of drones in the park to address safety concerns and noise levels associated with drones.

Hunter indicated he has prepared permission letters for several people wanting to use metal detectors in the parks. The ordinance doesn't currently address specific locations that the devices can be used. President R. Pritchard recommended that the ordinance related to the use of metal detectors be updated.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution #283 - Board Meeting Date Change

Commissioner Miller made a motion, seconded by Commissioner S. Pritchard to approve resolution #283 changing the Board meeting dates to the third Wednesday of every month as presented with the year on the document changed from 2107 to 2017.

Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

- B. **Criminal Background Policy Review**
 Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Frey to approve the Criminal Background Policy as presented.
 Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

- C. **Al Morrison/DHS/Tennis Parking**
 Long presented two scenarios as options for parking at the Al Morrison fields. The first scenario includes removal of the trees for \$8000 and having 45,000 square foot of gravel spread for a cost of \$60,000, and the signs costing \$400 with the expected total cost of the project at \$68,400.
 The second scenario is for two entrances with a path between them. This would cost \$45,000 plus the maintenance department labor time with \$4,000 for the gravel and \$400 for the signage for an expected total cost of \$49,400. The Park District would need to talk with ComEd regarding the current easement before approaching Al Morrison.

- D. **Park Ordinance - Swimming Article XXIX Ordinance #577**
 Hunter indicated the attached verbiage is used by Illinois State Parks to cover swimming and wading in rivers. Reasons for prohibiting swimming and wading were discussed. Carey will contact the insurance agent to ask about liability associated with allowing wading in the Rock River.

- E. **Golf Cart and OHV Use on Park Property**
 Hunter indicated over the years he has seen an increase number of golf carts used in Lowell Park. Golf carts are already part of the OHV rules. The golf carts are provided with a license plate with the current OHV rules applicable to the golf cart. The golf carts need to provide proof that the golf cart is covered on their home owners policy with the \$250,000/500,000/100,000 limits for insurance.

- F. **Mobility Device Policy**
 Carey indicated the attached policy was drafted by the Park District attorney. The request was made to have the Park District attorney come to one of the upcoming Board meetings to answer questions on the reason for some of the verbiage included in the policy.

- G. **Referendum**
 A retreat to discuss the next steps with the referendum to enlarge the taxing boundaries will be on Tuesday, July 25th at 6:00 pm.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Trails Committee**
 Carey indicated that Shaw from the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has expertise as a facilitator and has indicated they would be willing to facilitate the trails committee. Commissioner Miller indicated he would like to have an ordinance for a trails committee to assure the committee continues beyond the tenure of the current Board members. Carey will contact Shaw to request that he come to a Board meeting to discuss the trails committee and the new enterprise zone.

- B. **Public Comment at Board Meeting Defining Time Allowed**
It was suggested that we continue with the current practice of having people sign in so we know who is present. Interested parties should be told they have a maximum time of 5 minutes to speak with a maximum of 10 people speaking on one topic.
- C. **Review of Petunia Festival**
Positive feedback was received from Dave Johnson, Petunia Festival. They appreciated all the efforts from the Park District. The maintenance department staff found the parks clean and in good condition after the Petunia Festival.
- D. **Woodcote Fees for 2019**
Discussion from the Board to accept the Woodcote fee increase beginning in 2019 as presented.
- E. **Portal for Board Meeting Packet**
No decision made regarding the use of a secure portal for the Board packets and other Board member specific information. Consider the purchase of tablets for the Board members.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board returned to Open session at 10:30 p.m.

X. ADJOURN

At 10:48 p.m., Commissioner S. Pritchard made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to adjourn.

Vote by roll call: R. Pritchard - yes, Miller - yes, Frey - yes, Aurand - yes, and S. Pritchard - yes; motion carried

Signatures:	_____	Date: _____
	Ron Pritchard	
	_____	Date: _____
	Shane Miller	
	_____	Date: _____
	Rodney Frey	
	_____	Date: _____
	Keith Aurand	
	_____	Date: _____
	Steve Pritchard	