

CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
PARK BOARD MEETING
Highland Springs Golf Course
Rock Island IL 61201

9/20/22– Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Fred Dasso called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Fred Dasso, Bill Anderson (virtual), Mike Foley, John McEvoy, Paul Hansen, Venessa Taylor (virtual)

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: John Gripp, Executive Director; Todd Winter, Assistant Director; Kimberly Kruse, Parks Administrative Office Manager

Staff Absent: none

Audience: none

3. Motion to move 11A. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

John Gripp and Todd Winter gave a tour of the new construction of the clubhouse at Highland Springs. Things are coming along well. They meet with the crew once a week to discuss any challenges and potential changes needed and the project is on track to be completed in November.

4. August Park Board Minutes

Mr. McEvoy motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Anderson seconded. All voted yes.

5. Thank yous from Spring Forward QCA and LiveFit with Lupus were recognized.

6. Monthly Report from Finance Department as of July

Memberships and programs are up. Concessions and rentals are doing really well. Working with Finance to break out the clubhouse construction expenses. There are funds coming in from the Foundation. Minimum wage still presents challenges with each year's rise. Council has received this information well and will entertain an increase in funding or provide direction on the tough decisions. Parks provides excellent services that the community would not want to see ended.

7. Approval of the Bills for the Month of August \$242,953.71

Mr. Dasso: Aye Mr. Foley: Aye Mr. McEvoy: Aye Ms. Taylor: Aye Mr. Hansen: Aye Mr. Anderson: Aye

8. Director's Report and other reports

Budget was presented to the City Manager and Finance Director. Thank you to Public Works for the partnership to get several projects completed. City staff held a party at Whitewater Junction. HR took care of this. Highland Springs clubhouse construction is going well. There is a meeting every week to discuss progress and potential challenges. The concrete was a little behind on delivery but has since caught up. Horticulture and Director working on mowing bids. Part of the stipulations is to be able to modify bid after 30 days with performance evaluation. This allows for the Horticulture team to focus on projects rather than chasing grass. Parks are mowed on a rotation to ensure they are done at least once a week. Sunset and Skafidas are getting ready to have prescribed burns scheduled. This is a partnership with Blackhawk State Park. Thursday Night Groove is going well and is well attended. Dan and his staff are amazing.

Park report cards are starting to come in. This was emailed to the park board members as well to fill out. This is a list of all the parks and a checklist for each park to give a rating. This will help with repairs and items that are needed to be maintained. Todd met with the students at Augustana to survey and study Longview Park and to piece together the history along with identifying future trends for possible uses of the park. The results won't be in until 2024 but should be very beneficial. Rockridge boys golfed at Highland Springs. Cross country meet is coming up at Saukie. Aeration is completed for golf courses. Mr. Foley asked if the new clubhouse will be closed year-round. The answer is it will have the potential to be used year round and hope to install a golf simulator eventually.

RIFAC is underway having the ceiling tiles replaced from water damage from the new duct work. Many are done in the entryway but the rest of the building will be completed as well. Some of the staff attended Check & Connect luncheon held at Hauberg. This will bring some grant funded programming opportunities with the students that go through the program. Fall break programs will start soon. This will be the Daytrippers, preschool camp and sports camps at RIFAC. Several grants are due this month. There is a preschool grant to redo the jungle room and restrooms. There is also a transportation grant to renovate the Lincoln Park bandshell. Staff walked in the Labor Day parade. LEAD program is underway with Eugene Field for First Tee, basketball, soccer and swimming. Fall soccer and football are wrapping up.

Marc and David are busy with staff back to school. David completed asphalt repairs at the Complex as well as irrigation repairs. The plant calendar is wrapping up at the end of September for the season. Various painting projects being done. Some graffiti has been addressed. Day of Caring went well. Shadybrook underwent some updates.

9. New Business

Grant applications:

OSLAD Grant: Mel McKay Pickleball Project

An ARPA request is also being made for Mel McKay to redo the pickleball courts to match funds necessary to complete the project. The design is for a shelter in the middle of the courts. The space will also be able to provide education opportunities with MLK and other groups.

Special Event Request: Staff recommends approval of Clocktober Fest. Mr. Foley motioned. Mr. McEvoy seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Request: Staff recommends approval of Roe Roe Roe Your Vote. Mr. McEvoy motioned. Mr. Foley seconded. All voted yes.

Special Event Request: Staff recommends approval of Rotary Reindeer Ramble. Mr. Foley motioned. Mr. Hansen seconded. All voted yes.

10. Other Business

Carriage House has had several fundraising opportunities to raise funds. It has been requested of the ARPA funds for \$150,000 and will be matched by FOHCC and community efforts.

11. Items Not on the Agenda

HAPS went very well last weekend. The park was left clean and orderly.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. McEvoy. Mr. Foley. All voted yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Kimberly B Kruse,
Parks & Recreation
Admin Office Manager