

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024
FRANKFORT, IL – FOUNDERS COMMUNITY CENTER
7:00 p.m.

- I. Call Committee to Order – President McCarey called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.
Attendance: Commissioners Ruvoli, McCarey, Barz, Ponton, and Gentry; Executive Director, Gina Hassett; and Mary Strand, Recording Secretary.
Absent: None
Guest: None

- II. Administration –
 - A. Tax Objection Settlement – In June of 2022, the Board discussed tax objections that were filed. There had been no action since our last discussion. However, this past week, Park District attorneys indicated that the tax rate objectors’ counsel woke up and was asking about settlements again. A memo with the explanation of what is being considered and what the attorney advises was in the Board packets. The attorney suggested FPD could settle for \$12,000. After discussion the consensus of the Board was to offer \$10,000. Gina will send the commissioners a list of all that are on the tax objection.
 - B. Public Comment Ordinance – FPD does have a Public Comment Policy of 3 minutes. It is recommended that Park District Board have an adopted resolution that governs the rules for Public Comment at a meeting of the Board. In 2016, staff presented the Board with a Public Comment Policy. It was not approved at that time and was not a resolution but rather a policy. Staff have not been able to find a previously approved resolution for this issue. Attached is a copy of what was shared with the Board in 2016 and a draft resolution to be adopted in the future by the Board. If the Board agrees, it would be appropriate to approve the draft resolution at the June meeting of the Board. Discussion was held.

- III. Facility & Property Update
 - A. Park Maintenance – Complaints regarding excessive garbage from a recent baseball tournament was discussed at the Special Board Meeting held tonight. A discussion with Boys Baseball will be conducted. The photos were embarrassing to the Park District.
 - B. Windy Hill OSLAD Project – A few pieces of the structure are still needed. Some of them were received today, but there are roofs that are needed. It will delay the poured and played surface. Georges Landscaping is not happy about it.
 - C. Laraway Road Property – road expansion- no update.
 - D. Land Donation- None
 - E. Five Oaks Park Property – Discussed in Executive Session earlier this evening.
 - F. Facility Rental Opportunities – Micro School- None
 - G. Indoor Facility Exploration – The surveys are done. Tod will prepare a report. Hopefully Williams will be able to present at one of the June meetings. Gina sent the commissioners the link to the public survey. The second survey was not shared yet. There were 400 electronic replies and also paper replies. The two main points were that the residents want a pool and the new tax bills. Gina thinks it would be worth it to sit down with School District 157-C to ask how they could help FPD. People want to support FPD but not by raising taxes. Gina’s opinion is

that a referendum would be too late and too hard to get passed at this time. Beyond Your Base would charge about \$75,000 to promote. Commissioner Gentry says there is a general sentiment that FPD needs more money, but their taxes just went up and they would vote against it. Discussion was held. The consensus is that November 2024 is not a good time to get it passed.

H. Fort Frankfort – A rendering of the plan for building the fort was included in the packets. Columbia Cascade say they could build from this rendering. They are currently building off one of them at a Chicago Park. There is a park being built in Columbia Wyoming that will use Leather & Associates as their contractor. Gina will stay in contact with them to assess costs.

IV. Athletic Field Agreements – Warriors Organization was part of FPD until 2021. A draft copy of the most recent affiliates agreement was included in the packets. The Warriors wanted things that FPD didn't typically do for groups from a Recreation program. When FPD split from the Warriors, our staff helped to transition them by among other things, saving the gym space and providing staff at the schools and they would reimburse the park. The person in charge of the organization did not want to follow the rules and now the school doesn't want to rent to them because they were very rude. When FPD staff went to the school to discuss using facilities for the Day Camp, they brought up the problem to Gina. Now the group wants to come back as an affiliate. But they have many participants who are not residents of FPD as they are a private traveling team. Discussion was held.

V. Recreation

A. Team Recognition – A draft copy of a Resolution to honor and congratulate the 2024 On-Ponte Dance Troup was included in the packets. Gina will invite the Troup to a meeting. A small token could be given to each girl.

VI. Miscellaneous –

- Gina had a question from a resident asking if they could have a boat on one of the ponds. We do not have a written document on boating rules and she will investigate further to create a policy or ordinance. Gina will get back to the person.
- Gina is exploring ways to preserve paper documents in the future. Perhaps the staff can start a system.
- The Community Showcase is this Sunday. FPD will have a table showcasing recreation programs. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.
- Commissioner Gentry received a survey from Girls Softball. They want to start full-time travel. They would be replacing the District's recreation programs, they do not play recreation ball. Commissioner Gentry would like to treat all traveling teams equally regarding rental fees.
- Gina has a draft of the Government Efficiency Commission report. She would like to put it on the agenda in June.
- FPD split the cost of mulch for the 22 trees at Olde Stone subdivision.

- The Operation Playground will meet on May 29th. The discussion will be on the parking lot for Fall Fest and perhaps partnering with a restaurant at a food booth.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – With nothing further to discuss, President McCarey adjourned the Committee Meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Strand Board
Minutes Secretary