

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
FRANKFORT, IL – FOUNDERS COMMUNITY CENTER
6:30 p.m.

- I. Call Committee to Order – President McCarey called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Attendance: Commissioners McCarey, Barz, Ponton, Ruvoli, Gentry;
Executive Director, Gina Hassett; and Mary Strand, Recording Secretary.
Absent: None
Guest: None
- II. Public Comment –None
- III. Facility & Property Update –
 - A. Indoor Recreation Center –
 - i. Survey Discussion – A copy of the summary was part of the Board’s packets. There is no support for the two top designs. To sell the property it has to go to referendum. Discussion of to keep asking for an increase was held. Most responses were to not raise taxes. The survey brought up using Lincolnway North which is not an option. The traffic of the Patriot Center was discussed. A Bond Referendum needs a project tied to it. FPD needs \$1 million minimum for operating cost ongoing. Discussion of the tax base and need for operating budget was held. The immediate concern and needs is the Founders Center. Selling the property was discussed. Cost of doing a Referendum is approximately \$150,000. Commissioner Ruvoli said he still favors a November, 2026 Referendum. Phased plans were discussed. Different amounts to ask for were discussed. Discussion of buying Roma, but there were so many conditions to it.
 - B. Fort Frankfort Update – The *poured n’ play* surface has been finished. Some pieces are still not delivered, and two deck pieces need the correct coating. The footings for the large wood structure were poured. Signage and proposed plaques were discussed.
 - C. Five Oaks Park – The HOA has to draft the agreement and take it to their members to approve or deny. Gina has not heard anything back from the HOA.
 - D. DCEO Funding – Tod from Design Perspectives was present to discuss his meetings with the affiliates groups. This is in the design process. Football, Boys’ Baseball, Girls’ Baseball and Soccer were in the meetings. He is educating them on the grant and is asking them for feedback on what their needs and wants are. They met yesterday and

today. He will try to get everything needed by January to finalize plans for the DCEO money. Discussion was held. Discussion was held. Possibly moving the Dog Park was suggested. Tod left to attend a meeting with FGS in the next room. He returned to say it went well and they want a 3rd field, parking, storage and concessions.

E. Cell Tower Discussion – Gina asked for more rent money and \$1,900 is the most they would pay. Discussion was held.

F. Ponds – The HOA's of Sara Springs and Old Stone subdivisions do not want FPD to deed them the ponds. FPD can give them away to the residents.

IV. Recreation –

V. Miscellaneous –

- IAPD – Forms for the annual Distinguished Service Awards was given to commissioners. They were encouraged to send completed forms back to Gina.
- Financial Reports – Updated financials were distributed with directions on how to use them.
- Best of the Best - Commissioner Ruvoli is being honored at the annual gala on October 24th. Commissioners should let Gina know if they intend to attend and she will make the arrangements.
- Football – has requested to have a Drink vendor truck at Commissioners Park Pavillion. They intend to sell alcohol beverages.

VI. Executive Session – None

VII. Adjournment – With nothing further to discuss, President McCarey closed the Committee Meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Strand
Board Minutes Secretary