

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR PARK  
DISTRICT, MACON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD AT  
DECATUR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
620 E. RIVERSIDE AVENUE, DECATUR, ILLINOIS  
AT 12:00 NOON ON THE 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2022**

The Board of Park Commissioners of the Decatur Park District, Macon County, Illinois, met in a regular session on Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, 2022 at the hour of 12:00 Noon at the Decatur Park District Administration Office, 620 E. Riverside Avenue, Decatur, Illinois at which time and place there were present the following officers and members of said Board:

Bob Brilley, II, President  
Dr. Kristin White, Vice President  
Chris Harrison, Commissioner  
Shelith Hansbro, Commissioner  
Stacey Young, Commissioner

A quorum of the members of the Board of Park Commissioners being present, President Brilley called the meeting to order and declared the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited.

**NO. 16200** A motion to approve items 1-2 on the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Young and seconded by Commissioner Hansbro, Commissioner Harrison abstained. Upon call of roll, all else voted aye.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
2. Bills for Approval

**NO. 16201** Staff recommended approval of the third addendum to the Adams Aerial Solutions lease for the cargo building. There will be a 2% increase to the base rent. This lease shall now be for the period beginning October 12, 2022 and ending October 31, 2023. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Harrison and seconded by Commissioner Young to approve the third addendum to the Adams Aerial Solutions lease for the cargo building. Upon call of roll, all voted aye.

**NO. 16202** Staff recommended approval of the second addendum to the Adams Aerial Solutions lease for the hangar. There will be a 2% increase to the base rent and a 2% increase for the taxes on the lease space. This lease shall now be for the period beginning October 12, 2022 and ending October 31, 2023. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Harrison and seconded by Commissioner Hansbro to approve the second addendum to the Adams Aerial Solutions lease for the hangar. Upon call of roll, all voted aye.

**AIRPORT** conversation continues with Daniel Belmont regarding SkyWest. SkyWest has scheduled an earlier departure time of 8:30 a.m. for mid-October and November. Currently

the bid process is on going and ultimately it will be the Department of Transportation making the decision. Cancellations are still happening across the states and rider confidence is definitely down. Everyone throughout the industry is experiencing these issues and continue discussions on a solution.

**CFO** Laura and her staff continue to work on implementing compliance with the Illinois HB0453 unfunded mandate. This mandate requires that any taxing body that levies taxes in excess of \$5,000,000 in the 2022 levy year must collect data on vendors regarding whether they are minority, women or veteran owned. A letter has been created and sent out to vendors to collect this data. Once the data has been collected taxing bodies are required to post it on their website.

Election packets for the Commissioner seat vacated by Jack Kenny/Matt Whitehead were available for pick up on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Packets can be obtained online and at the Decatur Park District Administration office. Completed packets can be returned to the Decatur Park District office December 12, 2022 through December 19, 2022. Staff will keep the board posted.

Staff continue to work on the 10-year Capital Plan. Kristin and Clay have met to go over the first round in this lengthy process.

Last Friday staff received the first taxable value report from the County and it had a sizeable increase in the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV). Currently it is 6% over the 2021 levy. If it continues to stay above 5% the District will be required to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing.

**MARKETING DIRECTOR** Scovill Zoos “G” the alligator has hit 1.5 million views on twitter and over 3,000 on Facebook with his swimming excursion video in the lazy river at Splash Cove! “G” has had recognition on News Stations and Online Platforms throughout the World.

Boo at the Zoo tickets are now on sale.

Tees on Trees tickets will go on sale November 8, 2022.

Commissioner Young inquired about the new Trees on the Tees with Hickory Point Banquets. This idea is an opportunity to benefit the Hickory Point Banquet during Trees on the Tees. Customers can book a party of 50 guests or more. It will include a 2-hour banquet rental with appetizers, dessert, bar service and more. After, guests will take a cart ride through Trees on the Tees. Available dates are December 8<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>. Parties must be booked by November 4<sup>th</sup>. Excitingly there have already been 10 inquiries to book.

**FOUNDATION DIRECTOR** Devon on Tap is this weekend, October 8<sup>th</sup>. It is a Decatur Parks Foundation unrestricted fundraiser partnered with the Decatur Area Arts Council. Tickets are still on sale!

Aly attended the National Recreation and Parks Association conference from September 19<sup>th</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was exciting to network and acquire knowledge and ideas to bring back to the District.

December 15, 2022 the Foundation will host an annual donor party for Foundation supporters. This event will take place at Trees on Tees.

**RECREATION** Overlook Adventure Park will hold a Halloween Glow Golf on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

The last open day for Scovill Zoo's 2022 season will be Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Boo at the Zoo will then begin October 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Arts Halloween Trivia Night will be October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The DISC has collaborated with the Arts Department during this event and is hosting Parent's Night Out at the DISC to accommodate parents that would like to attend Trivia Night.

**OPERATIONS** park crews have been busy working at Fairview Park to clear the trees around the train trestle foot bridge. This is in preparation for the contractor to do the necessary repairs on the bridge. They continue to work at the new tree farm location in Fairview preparing the location to plant trees.

Park staff are approximately 70% complete winterizing Splash Cove for the season. They have been draining the pools, putting the deck chairs away, taking the shade sails down and blowing all of the plumbing lines out.

Horticulture staff are working at the Scovill Zoo in preparation for a dedication of the recently installed flagpole. They also continue to work on the "Phone in the Wind" project.

Construction staff have been conducting their annual furnace checks at all of the Decatur Park District facilities.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** displayed a photo for the Board to view the base of the train trestle foot bridge in Fairview Park as crews prepare for the stabilization of the bridge. Work is being completed to add steel reinforcement plates to the main supports and pour additional concrete around the base piers as a stop gap measure while a more replacement plan is being developed and funding secured. A grant has been submitted for this project to the Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) to replace the trestle.

Staff continue to work on numerous grant opportunities. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) grant application was submitted to increase the size of the Devon concession and restroom building. Staff will also be resubmitting the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant application for the destination playground at Fairview Park.

Construction on the Steven's Creek Bike Trail Phase 2B project is close to being complete. All that remains is the railings to be installed on the bridges and the fencing to be installed along I-72. Staff have set a ribbon cutting date for October 14, 2022 at Cresthaven Park.

Katie and Chloe did a great job with the release of Scovill Zoo's "G" the alligator's adventure at Splash Cove video. It quickly became widespread and they handled all of the media call questions in addition to monitoring social media posts from all over the Country. Big thank you to them!

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Dr. White** Awesome job on "G"!

**Commissioner Young** Good job!

**Commissioner Harrison** agreed, great job!

**President Brilley** Good job! There is a need for executive session.

At approximately 12:48 p.m., Commissioner Harrison made and Commissioner Young seconded a motion to move into executive session. Upon call of roll, all voted aye.

A motion to adjourn executive session and return to open session was made Commissioner Dr. White, seconded by Commissioner Harrison and unanimously approved.

**Directors Remarks**

The Board discussed if we move forward with Decatur Public School District 61 the sale must include a public park design that is acceptable to Decatur Park District.

A motion to adjourn the open session was made by Commissioner Dr. White and seconded by Commissioner Harrison and unanimously approved.

/s/ Bob Brilley  
President, Board of Park Commissioners

/s/ Melanie Moore  
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners