

**Foss Park District
Committee Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorn, Commissioner Kingston Neal, Commissioner Donna King, and Commissioner Vance Wyatt

Board members absent: Commissioner Johnny Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Carnival: August 2024. Commissioner King stated staff is working on details for event and Commissioner Hawthorn stated she was excited.
2. Juneteenth: generator \$4,300.00. Commissioner Wyatt stated the amount was within the range of approval of the Executive Director and Commissioner Neal questioned why the Foss Park District is paying for the generator when that is not done for other groups.
3. Pre-employment physicals and drug screening. Mr. Skof stated Vista East will no longer perform pre-employment physicals and drug screens and these are not required by insurance. Commissioner Wyatt stated companies are no longer requiring the tests and Commissioner King agreed.
4. Amended General Use Ordinance. Commissioner Wyatt stated the General Use Ordinance was amended to include no animals on the beach and signs need to be posted.
5. Community Garden. Makiya Turman and Bruce Wright presented proposal for six to eight Community Gardens with a variety of fruits and vegetables to be located in Foss Park. Commissioner Hawthorn also suggested looking for space at Neville Park.

COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS

1. *Business Office*

a. Director report: Ms. Cowart report: Ms. Cowart submitted written report with updates through emails. Ms. Janiece Hayes also presented a flyer for Caribbean Fest and is requesting the date of July 28 and will have details at the June meeting.

b. Business Manager report: Mr. Skof report: Mr. Skof submitted written report and reviewed status of Boak Park playground equipment.

2. *Parks*

a. Superintendent of Grounds: Mr. Winter report: Mr. Winter reported the water was turned on in Foss Park however, there are repairs necessary. He continued his staff is trying to keep up with the grass cutting at the Golf Course. Commissioner Wyatt asked two tables to be moved to the south side of Twin City Park.

Commissioner Hawthorn stated she spoke to residents and explained that people are allowed to be at the tables during the day.

3. *Golf*

a. Manager/Golf Pro report: Mr. Monroe report: Mr. Monroe reported on outings, golf cars and DJ. He stated he is having a hard time find a DJ. Commissioner Wyatt requested a report on what the DJ needs and Commissioner Hawthorn thanked the staff for their hard work and asked about hours. Commissioner King stated the fish fry was the best day. Commissioner Hawthorn stated flyers should be done and distributed throughout the community. Mr. Monroe stated staff has done their best at keeping prices competitive, cut back on staff hours and other expenditures. He stated the frustration when prices, hours, etc. are set and

then changed. Commissioner King asked if local vendors are used and Mr. Monroe stated when they can offer the best price on items.

4. *Recreation*

a. Superintendent of Recreation: Ms. Johnson report: Ms. Cowart reviewed Ms. Johnson's written report.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. Bryan Oglesby: Mr. Oglesby stated his employee Autumn White says thank you for the opportunity and that he can offer the same items in the Pro Shop.

Executive Session

·5 ILCS 120/2 (from Ch. 102, par. 42 (c)(21)) Discussion of meeting minutes lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06

Commissioner Wyatt stated the Executive Session is not necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:13 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary

**Foss Park District
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorn, Commissioner Donna King, Commissioner Kingston Neal and Commissioner Vance Wyatt

Board members absent: Commissioner Johnny Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE waived as recited in the Committee Meeting.

1. MINUTES: Commissioner King motions to approve Executive Session (03/20/2024) and Committee, Regular Meeting and Executive Session Meeting (04/17/2024). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

2. COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

FINANCE: COMMISSIONER WYATT: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

GOLF: COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

PARKS: COMMISSIONER HAWTHORN: as presented in Committee Meeting.

RECREATION: COMMISSIONER KING: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

Commissioner King motions to approve Commissioner Reports. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

3. ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:

Commissioner Wyatt motions to approve the appointment of officers as stated in the Commissioner Handbook. Second by Commissioner King.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

4. ADOPTION OF RULES, REGULATIONS, POLICIES, REGULATING ORDINANCES AND BINDING AGREEMENTS OF PRECEDING BOARD

Commissioner King motions to approve the adoption of rules, regulations, policies, regulating ordinances and binding agreements of preceding Board. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

5. ESTABLISH REGULAR MEETING PLACE, DATE AND TIME: 1730 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064. Third Wednesday of month at 7:00 pm – **with exception of June 19, 2024 meeting: alternate date of June 18, 2024**

Commissioner Hawthorn motions to approve 3124 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, IL 60064, third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm with the exception of June 19, 2024 meeting: alternate date of June 18, 2024. Second by Commissioner King.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Commissioner Wyatt stated the appointment of Committees will remain the same as last year.

7. BILLS: Commissioner King motions to approve monthly bills: invoices paid (04/13/2024-05/10/2024): \$65,332.99, invoices due \$82,788.92, invoices to be paid by credit card at approximate \$9,050.10 and first of the month bills (June) – approximate: \$28,899.00 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

8. PAYROLL: Commissioner King motions to approve monthly payroll of \$79,251.05 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

9. PETTY CASH REPORTS: Commissioner King motions to approve petty cash Business Office \$50.97 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

10. FINANCE REPORTS & COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Commissioner King motions to approve finance reports and Commissioner Reports as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Present: Commissioner Neal

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Approval: Electric and water in Foss Park (March 2024)

Commissioner King motions to approve to May electric and water in Foss Park (March 2024) if the amount does not exceed Executive Director's approval threshold. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

2. Consider: Release of Executive Session Minutes calendar year 2023 (March 2024)

Commissioner King motions to not release of Executive Session Minutes calendar year 2023 (March 2024). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

12. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval: Community Garden

Commissioner King motions to postpone Community Garden. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: payment of interest on Bond Series 2021B in amount of \$61,150.00 due June 15, 2024

Commissioner King motions to approve payment of interest on Bond Series 2021B in amount of \$61,150.00 due June 15, 2024. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

MOTION CARRIES

3. Approval: Sounds of Caribbean Fest – July 28, 2024 in Foss Park with necessary documentation/presentation
Commissioner King motions to approve Sounds of Caribbean Fest – July 28, 2024 in Foss Park with necessary documentation/presentation. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Johnson MOTION CARRIES

4. Approval: attendance for Commissioners and staff at NRPA Conference in Atlanta, GA October 7-11, 2024 at an approximate cost of \$3,000 per attendee
Commissioner King motions to attendance for Commissioners and staff at NRPA Conference in Atlanta, GA October 7-11, 2024 at an approximate cost of \$3,000 per attendee and attendance for Commissioners and staff for ASBPA Conference in Galveston, TX August 25-30, 2024 at an approximate cost of \$3,000 per attendee. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Johnson MOTION CARRIES

5. Approval: attendance for Commissioners and staff for ASBPA Conference in Galveston, TX August 25-30, 2024 at an approximate cost of \$3,000 per attendee
*see above

6. Approval: pre-employment physicals and drug screening
Commissioner King motions to not approve pre-employment physicals and drug screening. Second by Commissioner Wyatt.
Commissioner Hawthorn asked for clarification that potential new employees will not be required to have a pre-employment physical or drug screen and asked if there was another entity to use. Commissioner Wyatt stated companies are no longer requiring drug tests unless mandated by law. Commissioner Hawthorn is concerned and Commissioner Wyatt stated this not stop the Foss Park District from performing random drug tests on employees. Mr. Skof stated the physicals cost \$125.00 and drug screening was \$25.00. Commissioner King asked if physicals can be eliminated and keep drug screen. Commissioner Wyatt stated the motion can be amended.
Commissioner Hawthorn motioned to amend the original motion to include eliminates pre-employment physicals only.
Commissioner Neal stated companies no longer do pre-employment drug screens to eliminate the cost and drugs can be out of systems in a couple days. Commissioner King agrees with Commissioner Neal and the Foss Park District can test employees at any time. Commissioner Hawthorn still believes the drug screening should be included in pre-employment procedures. Commissioner Wyatt stated there was not a second on the amended motion and the motion dies and asks for roll call on original motion.
Aye: Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: Commissioner Hawthorn
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Johnson MOTION CARRIES

7. Approval: amended General Use Ordinance
Commissioner King motions to approve additional \$50 gift card to Black History Report writer. Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Johnson MOTION CARRIES

8. Approval: posting of fiscal year 2024/25 budget for 30 day inspection
Commissioner King motions to approve posting of fiscal year 2024/25 budget for 30 day inspection.
Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Johnson MOTION CARRIES

13. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:36 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary