

**Foss Park District
Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2024**

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

ROLL CALL

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

Board members absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Gewalt Hamilton (GHA) project: Ms. Cowart presented the contract for the beach erosion project for discussion.
2. Community Recreation Center roof: Mr. Skof stated two quotes were received for roof repair.
3. Twin City playground KABOOM! build: Ms. Cowart gave updated timeline on Twin City playground build.
4. Fence quotes (email July 11). Commissioner Hawthorn suggested complete removal of the fence around the skate park and repair of fence at Foss Park.
5. Not-for-Profit Foundation: articles of incorporation. Ms. Cowart stated the item will need approval and signatures to move forward in the creation of the foundation.
6. Trichelle Hanna – kickball tournament in Foss Park (June 2024 meeting): Commissioner Wyatt stated this item has been postponed indefinitely.
7. National Recovery Rally sponsorship (email July 8).
8. Heart of City sponsorship
9. Employee Connections Gala
10. District 187: banners in the parks: Ms. Dora King presented information regarding informational banners being put in parks providing information on the elected school board for 2025. Discussion among all Board members included size, quantity, language and length of time posted.

COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS

1. *Business Office*

- a. Director report: Ms. Cowart report: Ms. Cowart submitted written report with updates through emails. Commissioner Johnson asked why the Foss Park District always has to help sponsor events for others. Commissioner Hawthorn believes the children should come first. Commissioner Neal is concerned the district has to shore up someone else's events.
- b. Business Manager report: Mr. Skof report: Mr. Skof submitted written report and stated liquor licenses for Sounds of Caribbean were received, Community Solar sent information to lower electric bills, but he has not had conversation with broker yet. Commissioner Hawthorn asked if payment from Juneteenth was received and Mr. Skof stated the wine still needs to be credited. Commissioner Wyatt discussed Growing Healthy Veterans garden. Commissioner Neal stated the area has to be smaller. Commissioner Johnson suggested the east side of the tennis court. Commissioner Hawthorn stated GHV needs to be mindful that it is still a park and a fence may be necessary.

2. *Parks*

- a. Superintendent of Grounds: Mr. Winter report: Mr. Winter stated the beach rental chairs have been installed, signs for the shelters have been installed and he has an electrician looking at the electricity at the South shelter. He continued there was an unscheduled balloon release at Hamlet Park and caused a safety concern with the amount of people and the parking. Mr. Winter stated he spoke to Alderman Bobby Allen

regarding the matter. He continued that the golf course is very wet due to the high rain. Commissioner Hawthorn stated the rangers are clearing the parks at night, but people are still going down to the park.

3. *Golf*

a. Manager/Golf Pro report: Mr. Monroe report: Mr. Monroe reported on two upcoming outings and other events. He continued that the golf cart for Ms. Griffin will be done once the back seat is installed. Commissioner Hawthorn asked for information on the fish fry sales and Mr. Monroe stated on June 9, 9 baskets and 7 dinners were sold and on July 8 8 baskets and 11 dinners were sold. Commissioner Wyatt stated a paid ad on Facebook could help advertise.

4. *Recreation*

a. Superintendent of Recreation: Ms. Hall report: Ms. Cowart introduced new Superintendent of Recreation, Ms. Lonette Hall. Ms. Hall gave a brief introduction of herself and stated she is working on evaluating staff, the structure of the organization in the building, rangers, assessing programs and grants.

Mr. Monroe added he contacted public works regarding the fire hydrant on the walkway to the pavilion.

Mr. Winter added the aerial mosquito application has been scheduled for August 1 for Vision Park.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity: salary range review

Commissioner King motions to move to Executive Session. Second by Commissioner Neal

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES at 7:16 pm

Commissioner Wyatt returns to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:37 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary

**Foss Park District
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 7:43 pm.

ROLL CALL:

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

Board members absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE waived as recited in the Committee Meeting

1. MINUTES: Commissioner King motions to approve Budget & Appropriation Hearing, Committee Meeting and Regular Meeting (06/18/2024). Second by Commissioner Neal.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. BILLS: Commissioner Hawthorn motions to approve monthly bills: invoices paid (06/15/2024-07/11/2024): \$139,969.58, invoices due \$159,682.01, invoices to be paid by credit card at approximate \$9,176.07 and first of the month bills (August) – approximate: \$21,022.00 as presented. Second by Commissioner King.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

3. PAYROLL: Commissioner Neal motions to approve monthly payroll of \$115,525.55 as presented. Second by Commissioner Johnson.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

4. PETTY CASH REPORTS: Commissioner King motions to approve petty cash Business Office \$29.98 as presented. Second by Commissioner Neal.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

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

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

6. 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.

*see above

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Approval: Community Garden (May 2024)

Commissioner Hawthorn motions to postpone indefinitely Community Garden (May 2024) and Kickball tournament in Foss Park (June 2024). Second by Commissioner Neal.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: Kickball tournament in Foss Park (June 2024)

*see above

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval: application OSLAD 2025 grant (through GHA)

Commissioner Neal motions to approve application OSLAD 2025 grant (through GHA). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: fence quotes (email July 11)
Commissioner King motions to approve fence quotes (email July 11) for Foss Park with amendment. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES
3. Approval: Not-for-Profit Foundation – articles of incorporation
Commissioner King motions to approve Not-for-Profit Foundation – articles of incorporation. Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES
- ~~4. Approval: Not for Profit Foundation – articles of incorporation~~
5. Approval: National Recovery Rally sponsorship
Commissioner King motions to postpone indefinitely National Recovery Rally sponsorship, Heart of City sponsorship, Employee Connections Gala. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES
6. Approval: Heart of City sponsorship
*see above
7. Approval: Employee Connections Gala
*see above
8. Approval: Salary ranges (Executive Session)
Commissioner King motions to approve Salary ranges (Executive Session). Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

9. Approval: District 187 banners in the parks

Commissioner Johnson motions to approve District 187 banners in the parks. Second by Commissioner Neal.

Commissioner Wyatt stated he will abstain from the vote as he is a tennis coach for the high school. Commissioner King initially voted nay, and then changed her vote to aye.

Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal and Commissioner King

Nay: Commissioner Hawthorn

Abstain: Commissioner Wyatt

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

9. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:52 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kari Cowart, Board Secretary