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**NILES PARK DISTRICT**  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 17, 2024  
6:00 pm

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Board Members present: Scott O'Brien, Vice President  
Julie Genualdi, Treasurer  
Jim Hynes, Commissioner  
Ronnie Strzelekci, Commissioner

Staff Members present: Tom Elenz, Executive Director  
Scot Neukirch, Finance Director  
Heather Petrie, Executive Admin. Coordinator  
Robin Brey, Recreation Program Manager  
Marty Stankowicz, IceLand Manager  
Jim Majewski, Facilities Superintendent  
Chris Czajka, Grounds Superintendent  
Julie Jentel, Marketing  
Kenny Krueger, Athletics  
Peter Dubs, Tam Golf Course  
Eric Aguayo, Golf Course Assistant Superintendent  
Dan Shapiro, Attorney

1. **Call to order**  
Vice President O'Brien called the regular board meeting to order on Tuesday, September 17, at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call**  
Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. President O'Donovan was absent.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
Vice President O'Brien led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.
4. **Changes to the Agenda**  
There were no changes to the agenda.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Bob Kreiling.

Seventeen years ago when the Village of Niles could no longer provide Park Patrol services to the Park District, Bob Kreiling stepped up and offered to run the operation. Bob did the hiring, training, made sure staff had the proper uniforms and equipment and provided safety to the Village of Niles. With the Park District's commitment to safety, Bob was instrumental in providing a safe environment for all the visitors and participants that have attended our facilities.

5. **Consent Agenda Approval**  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 20, 2024; and Voucher List as presented August 31, 2024 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$136,291.60
Recreation	\$244,456.69
Ice Rink	\$36,558.83
Swimming Pool	\$46,117.37
Golf Course	\$21,212.93
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	\$2000.00
General Liability	\$10,460.00
Paving & Lighting	\$327.00
Police Protection	\$108.00
Handicapped	\$47,598.62
Capital	\$170,206.03
Audit	\$5060.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$720,397.07</b>

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Treasurer Genualdi to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting of Tuesday, August 20, 2024, and the Voucher lists as presented, August 31, 2024. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Brien	Yes
Treasurer Genualdi	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 4-0.

**6. Treasurer's Reports**

Treasurer Genualdi read the treasurer report for the month ending August 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Vice President O'Brien and seconded by Commissioner Hynes to accept the August 31, 2024 treasurer's report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Vice President O'Brien	Yes
Treasurer Genualdi	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 4-0.

**7. Reports of Parks Officials**

A. President's Report – Vice President O'Brien wished President O'Donovan a speedy recovery on behalf of the entire Board.

B. Attorney's Report – There was no Attorney's report.

**8. Board Reports**

**Robin Brey, Programs Supervisor**

- Fall programs for dance, music lessons and art classes have started.
- Schools out camp for preschoolers will be offered on the holiday's that school is not in session. The camps were well received last year.

- Planning is underway for the three Halloween Special Events taking place next month.

### **Jim Majewski, Park Services**

- Pool is drained and fall maintenance has begun.
- Oak Park and Jonquil tennis courts are complete, and benches and racquet brackets have been ordered
- Now that camps are done, and pool is closed the carpets are scheduled to be cleaned and waxed at both Oasis and Grennan
- Additional signage and more speed bumps have been added to the Howard parking lot for the safety of our preschoolers

### **Marty Stankowicz, IceLand**

- Classes started last week and run until the holiday break in December.
- We currently have 151 players registered for Rangers hockey, which is 12 more than last season. Registration is still open, and we hope to add players at the younger levels. We currently have 10 teams in the league.
- The outdoor rink is being used for hockey dry land practices and is rented for lacrosse three days a week.
- We are planning our annual Thanksgiving hockey tournament. Registration is open for any teams interested.
- Maintenance work continues in preparing for the winter season. Hockey nets are being stripped, painted and new netting installed. The outdoor rink floor has been cleaned and rink boards both indoor and out are scheduled to be cleaned this week. Shielding gaskets will be inspected and replaced in the next couple weeks.

### **Chris Czajka, Grounds Superintendent**

- Set up and take down of Italian fest
- Restored field / equipment boxes (Sanded and painted) for soccer fields
- Set up an above-ground watering program at Oak Park and Iceland's soccer fields
- Fixed irrigation cycles and heads at Golf Mill West
- Finished working on my2025 Budget proposals.
- Playground inspections and repairs as needed.
- Daily mowing and general park maintenance

### **Scot Neukirch, Finance Director**

The 2025 proposed budget preparation is underway. Staff from each department met with administration to discuss each department's 2025 requests. Revenues and expenditures were discussed and analyzed line by line with the Finance Director and Executive Director prior to these meetings. The information gathered during this process will be used to develop the Staff's proposed budget which will be given to the Board in advance for review and discussed at the open budget meeting on Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **Laura Newton, Tam Tennis Manager**

- Permanent court time has begun.
- tennis classes will begin first full week of October and run for 10 weeks.
- Harvest Hustle registration continues (email blasts are ongoing).
- **Budget**
  - Revenue increase to date, compared to 2023 is up \$150,724.00, with the total Profit to date of \$848,255.00 +\$137,830 from 2023.
  - We are \$100,000.00 away from making budget.

- Revenue Increase from 2023
  - Adult Tennis Programs: \$21,514
  - Junior Tennis Programs: \$54,352
  - Private lessons: \$48,013
  - Senior League: -\$1,350
  - Court Fees: -\$245 (did not have a rainy summer)
  - Fitness: \$11,217
  - Non-Resident Tennis membership: \$17,300
  - **Junior Programs**
  - As of now we have 207 Juniors registered for fall classes.
  - **Adults Programs**
  - As of now we have 80 adults registered for classes
  - Fitness; 315 members
  - Tennis is continuing to enroll.
  - **Maintenance**
  - Courts were cleaned and baselines were painted.

### **Julie Jentel, Marketing**

- I have notified all the cars that participated in last year's Trunk or Treat event, as well as emailing some new vendors. Event is Saturday October 19.
- I have begun to work on the Winter Spring Guide. Staff has been given their sections to update for this new season.

### **Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director**

- Soccer started with two grade levels (Pre-K and Kindergarten) playing at Iceland and two others ranging from 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades playing at Washington. Our oldest grades (4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) are playing at Culver and Oak Park. Strikers are now into their regular season with games taking place after our rec league on weekends.
- Fall baseball and softball has been ongoing since mid-August at all our ball fields. Weather has been great, and we've gotten through 4 weekends without any rainouts.
- Our 4 specialized camps (Vince Thomas Basketball, Spike City Volleyball, Soccer Academy and Small Shots Basketball) have begun weeknight classes at both Golf View and LoVerde.
- Fall Basketball registration closed, and we're working on getting that league up and running which begins the first weekend of October.
- Indoor Soccer and Flag Football registration will be done a little differently this year as we have limited spots available. Residents will get first dibs to register on October 1<sup>st</sup> followed by non-residents on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- We had our gym floors repainted and refinished at Golf View and Grennan which limited foot traffic for the past 3 weeks. We also had Field Turf come out and fix a couple hundred feet of seams on the field which is still under warranty. He said the field is still in real good condition for being 7 years old.

### **Peter Dubs, Tam Golf Course**

- We hosted just under 6800 rounds in August at the golf course and remain about 1700 rounds ahead of last season's pace to date.
- Nearly all of our leagues and weekend permanent tee times have wrapped up their seasons.
- September is our busiest month of the year for outings as we are scheduled to host 22 special events this month for various groups.

- As long as we continue to be fortunate with the weather and avoid any significant closures over the next month and a half, 2024 revenue totals are looking likely to be among our best, if not the best, on record.

### **Eric Aguayo, Golf Course Maintenance**

- We aerified the greens
- Took delivery of our zero-turn mower after 4 months of delay just in time for mulching leaves.
- Completed the fertilizing of key areas of the course to make sure we get healthy turf going into fall/winter.
- General maintenance and fungicide applications.

## **9. New Business**

### **A. Discussion on Golf Mill Park bathrooms**

The Board requested that Staff find out the cost for a two room bathroom facility instead of a four room facility. The estimated price for the two room facility came in at \$420,000 with the alternates at \$132,000 with the total price at \$553,200. The alternates included heating and insulation, stainless steel fixtures, a metal roof, and stainless steel doors.

The price for the four room facility was \$603,620 with the alternates at \$142,476 for a total of \$746,000. Choosing the two unit facility would save approximately \$192,896. The Park District portion, if splitting the cost with the Village, for the two unit with alternates would be \$276,000 and \$210,000 without the alternates.

If the Board approves with the pricing, Staff will set up a meeting to discuss it with the Village. Staff would like to have an agreement reached by January.

### **B. Discussion on Motorized Scooters and Bikes**

There has been a substantial increase in the use of motorized bikes, scooters and skateboards in our parks. A new State law allows park districts to regulate the operation of motorized scooters, etc. This law prohibits anyone under the age of 18 from operating an electric scooter, prohibits operating a low speed scooter while under the use of drugs or alcohol, operating a low speed scooter carrying items that prevent the operator from having one hand on the wheel and prohibits carrying more than one person at a time. Due to the speed of these scooters, and the number of children in the parks, Staff believes it is time to ban all motorized scooters from our parks. Staff recommends that an ordinance be drafted that would allow the park district to remove anyone operating a motorized scooter.

## **10. Old Business**

### **A. Update on Pioneer Park**

Field lights are being installed and the wall caps for the monument sign still need to be installed and should be by the end of the month. The grass is still not completed. Staff will be hiring another contractor to finish it with the cost being deducted from the current contract. Once these three things are completed, the project will be considered done and Staff will be able to submit the final grant package to the State for reimbursement on the grant.

### **B. Update on Golf Mill Park**

Demo is continuing and the construction fence has been moved to include the entire grass field, tennis courts and the basketball courts. The set up for the Italian Fest seemed to work without any issues. There will be some change orders for the Board to consider, some sprinkler system

work is needed that was not included in the original bid. Staff is also looking into sports lighting at the soccer field. Originally the existing lights were going to be used, but if the price is not substantial, Staff recommends replacing the lights with sports lighting as they are currently parking lot lights. All the trees that were supposed to come down have come down.

**12. Miscellaneous**

The Board and Staff congratulated Treasurer Genualdi on her retirement.

Treasurer Genualdi thanked everyone and went on to suggest that a tree be planted in Bob Kreiling's honor.

**13. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**14. Executive Session**

There was no need for executive session.

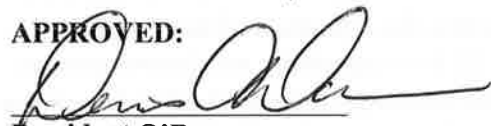
**15. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hynes and seconded by Treasurer Genualdi to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Vice President O'Brien	Yes
Treasurer Genualdi	Yes
Commissioner Hynes	Yes
Commissioner Strzelecki	Yes

The motion passed 4-0.

APPROVED:



**President O'Donovan**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Date: September 17, 2024**



**Board Secretary**