

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Regular Meeting on February 8, 2021 at 7:01pm with President Coughlin presiding via Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Boland, Callahan, McCauley and Coughlin
A quorum was present.

Coughlin opened the meeting by recognizing Commissioner Buschbach's empty seat at the meeting. Coughlin said it is with great sadness that Buschbach lost his fight against cancer last week. Coughlin said Buschbach was a huge advocate for the park district and he will be missed by many throughout the Oak Lawn community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting of January 11, 2021

Boland moved, McCauley seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

Finance Meeting of January 11, 2021

Boland moved, McCauley seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCE REPORT:

McCauley moved, Callahan seconded to approve payables of \$351,223.78 for the period of January 1, 2021 to January 31, 2021.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Employment Contract

Callahan moved, Boland seconded to approve the employment contract for Director Hartwig.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

LEGAL: None

APPROVAL OF BIDS OVER \$25,000: None

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR:

Hartwig offered his and his families thoughts and prayers to the Buschbach family. Hartwig stated that he briefly spoke to Buschbach's son at the wake. They discussed the goals Buschbach set for himself and how attending the Board Meeting was one of his last goals.

Hartwig stated that the Buschbach family asked for donations to be made to the Oak Lawn Children's Museum in lieu of flowers. Hartwig shared that he recently won a raffle for a \$500 donation to a charitable organization and he will be donating the money to the Children's Museum in Buschbach's name.

Hartwig thanked the park district's Maintenance staff for doing such a great job with the snow removal across the district. Hartwig commended the department for their hard work and dedication.

Hartwig stated that several programs are back up and running and that it is wonderful to see patrons back in our buildings. Hartwig thanked the FLASH staff for continuing to be adaptive during these ever-changing times.

Hartwig shared that he attended the IPRA/IAPD Soaring to New Heights Conference again this year although being offered virtually. Hartwig said there were over 80 sessions available and over 1,300 people registered for the conference this year despite the new platform. Hartwig stated that he has taken on the role as the Chair of the Exhibit Committee for IPRA/IAPD Conference.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Coughlin thanked Hartwig for making that donation in honor of Commissioner Buschbach.

Coughlin stated that although she is out of town she continues to stay connected through social media and there have been several compliments regarding the Maintenance Department clearing the walking paths at the parks.

Coughlin shared a compliment she received regarding the gymnastics programs at the Racquet Center.

Coughlin said she found it interesting that the Theatre Department will only be offering 3 productions next year but that she understands the changes. Coughlin said she looks forward to attending the productions when they start again.

Coughlin recognized the Finance Department for proving a thorough and easy to read summary of the budget reports.

Coughlin thanked all park district staff for their continued dedication to the district.

MATTERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS:

Callahan stated that he personally knew Commissioner Buschbach for over 20 years and he can still remember his first encounter with Buschbach. Callahan said no matter the situation Buschbach always knew how to bring people together.

Callahan said although Buschbach was only on the board for 4 years he truly made the town of Oak Lawn a better place. Callahan stated that Buschbach will truly be missed.

Callahan thanked Costello for his involvement with the Chamber of Commerce. Costello announced that the Chamber will be renaming their Annual Business Award to honor Buschbach.

Boland made mention of Buschbach's involvement with Advocate Christ Hospital and how his impact has been instrumental for the hospital.

Boland stated that she has seen the outpouring of love and support for Buschbach all over social media. Boland said Buschbach touched so many lives and he will be missed by many in the community.

McCauley said the best word to describe Buschbach was inspirational. McCauley stated that during Buschbach's time on the Board he made a lasting impact on her as well as the entire Oak Lawn community.

McCauley thanked the Finance Department for meeting with her earlier today to discussed the budget as well as answer her questions

McCauley recognized the golf course and the growth of the golf simulator league from 18 teams in 2020 to 48 teams in 2021.

McCauley commented on the exciting collaboration with the Special Recreation Department and School District 218.

McCauley also mentioned how incredible it is that our Dance program continues to offer Zoom classes. McCauley stated that a military family that was relocated to Texas loved our program so much that they requested to continue taking our classes via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT:

Callahan moved, Boland seconded to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pat Coughlin (Approved via Zoom)

Mary Pat Coughlin, President

Tracey Gallik
Tracey Gallik, Recording Secretary