

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON MAY 8, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Regular Meeting on May 8, 2023 at 6:55 p.m. with President Coughlin presiding.

**BUDGET HEARING:**

Coughlin opened the budget hearing, noting that the budget has been on display for more than 30 days. Coughlin asked if there were any questions. No questions were asked. Coughlin closed the budget hearing at 6:56 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Boland, Buschbach, Donahue, Johnson, and Coughlin  
A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Regular Meeting of April 10, 2023**

Buschbach moved, Johnson seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: Boland, Buschbach, Donahue and Johnson  
Abstain: Coughlin  
Nay: None

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Volunteers of the Month**

At the Oak Lawn Park District, we pride ourselves on providing exceptional programs and services to enhance the quality of life and wellness for the Oak Lawn and surrounding communities. These programs benefit our community by helping people create lifelong habits of fitness and wellness, teach people new skills, promote happiness and fun in people's lives and help people develop friendships. These community benefits would not be possible without the support of our incredible team of volunteers.

Our diverse group of volunteers serve the Oak Lawn community in many ways. Some serve in our special recreation programs or at special events and others serve in the community garden or adopt-a-flower bed programs. Some volunteer at the golf course or by coaching in sports leagues, while others share their talents with our theater programs or by cleaning our parks. Whatever way you volunteer, you make a difference. In 2022, our collective group of volunteers donated over 10,000 hours of their time to ensure our patrons have the most rewarding experience possible.

Tonight, we recognize a dedicated group of volunteers. The individuals before you tonight have donated 50 or more (and usually many more) hours of their time to the Oak Lawn Park District and our programs during 2022. These volunteers are passionate about serving others and sharing their vast talents with our community. On behalf of our Board of Commissioners, recreation staff, and the Oak Lawn Community, I would like to thank you for all you have done for our programs and our patrons. Your generous gift of time and energy have helped make our programs and events successful all year long. We truly could not do what we do without all of you. Please join me in giving our volunteers a round of applause.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Boland moved, Johnson seconded to approve the payables of \$ 854,257.25 for the period of April 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Adoption of the Amended Budget and Appropriations Ordinance for FY 22'-23'**

Johnson moved, Buschbach seconded to approve the Amended Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for FY 22'-23'

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Resolution to Transfer of Property**

Johnson moved, Buschbach seconded to approve the Resolution to Transfer of Property.

Under discussion, Hartwig stated there is a parcel of land left over from the original sub-division of the area in 1891 and subsequent re-subdivision in 1896 which created this parcel which is 8' wide (at its widest) and 100' long. This parcel is currently part of a parking lot that is used by the strip mall at 95<sup>th</sup> & 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Village of Oak Lawn owns the balance of the current parking lot and it is in the best interest of the district to quit claim this parcel to the Village of Oak Lawn to avoid maintain a part of a parking lot which we cannot access or use.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Designation of Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Act Officers**

The Park District is required to designate one or more staff members as Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act officers.

Boland motioned, Johnson seconded to approve Tom Hartwig and Tracey Gallik as the district's officers.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**LEGAL:**

**Review of Executive Session Minutes**

There are no new Executive Session Minutes to review.

**APPROVAL OF BIDS OVER \$30,000: None**

**APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS:**

**Director**

Johnson motioned, Buschbach seconded to appoint Tom Hartwig as Director of the Oak Lawn Park District.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Attorney**

Boland motioned, Johnson seconded to appoint John Farrell as Attorney.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR:**

Hartwig shared that there is a community input meeting for Oak Meadows Park scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Hartwig stated all are welcome to attend.

Hartwig stated that he attended Parks Day at the Capital last week. Hartwig said the district was well represented with several staff members in attendance.

Hartwig discussed the Central Pool ribbon cutting and thanked Ryan Gory, Superintendent of Parks and Planning, for all of his efforts and oversight during the renovations at Central Pool.

Hartwig recognized the Finance Department for their year end wrap up and for all of their preparations for the upcoming audit in June.

Hartwig stated that the district's CAPRA review is scheduled for next week. The first meeting will take place Monday at 9:00am via Zoom.

Hartwig discussed the Volleyball For Charity Tournament that was hosted at the Pavilion and Oak Lawn High School last month. Hartwig stated there were a total of 41 teams this year. Hartwig said this year's after party was held at Bar 106 and everyone there was unbelievable to work with.

Hartwig stated that there are two new commissioners that will be sworn in tonight but before that happens, he would like to recognize both Mary Pat Coughlin and Lisa Boland for their service to the park district. Hartwig thanked Coughlin for bringing her educator experience and for her insightful outlook when things would arise at the district. Hartwig thanked Boland for her dedication to the district and for handling a lot of the odd and unusual complaints with an open mind. Hartwig wished them the best moving forward and hopes that they get out and enjoy their free time.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Coughlin stated that the past six years have gone by so fast. Coughlin said she is proud to have served on the Board and thanked staff for their tireless efforts through the pandemic. Coughlin stated that because of the dedicated staff that the district has, it made it easy for her to be on the Board.

Coughlin wished the two new commissioners the best of luck!

**MATTERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Boland stated that she is grateful for the opportunity to have served on the park district Board for the past six years. Boland stated that she has grown up in Oak Lawn and has raised her family here and the park district holds a special place in her heart.

Boland wished the new commissioners well and stated that they are going to enjoy their time on the Board.

Buschbach thanked Coughlin and Boland for showing him the ropes when he first joined the Board.

Buschbach recognized the volunteers that collectively donated more than 10,000 hours to the district. Buschbach also thanked the staff that helped organize all of the volunteers.

Buschbach stated that a few weeks ago he had family in town and that they visited some of our parks. Buschbach said the kids absolutely loved our parks and they told him "these parks are better than the ones in New York."

Donahue thanked Boland and Coughlin for their guidance and for fostering a great culture among the Board members. Donahue thanked them for their leadership and wished them the best in this next chapter.

Johnson thanked Boland and Coughlin for everything they have done for the district during their terms.

Johnson thanked staff for their monthly reports.

Johnson recognized the staff and volunteers that work hard on maintaining the flower beds across the district.

Johnson said he is happy to see that the pools will be opening soon and thanked staff for their efforts during the Central Pool renovations.

**SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Melissa Mottl and Melinda Stalker were sworn in as Park District Commissioners.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL, REAL ESTATE, AND LITIGATION**

The Board entered into Executive Sessions at 7:32 p.m.

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 7:37 p.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

**President**

Donahue nominated Commissioner Johnson to be Board President for the coming year; Buschbach seconded.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Vice President**

Johnson nominated Commissioner Buschbach as Vice President; Donahue seconded.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Secretary**

Buschbach nominated Commissioner Donahue as Secretary; Stalker seconded.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

Johnson made the following appointments:

- Finance ..... Commissioner Buschbach
- Public Relations & Marketing ..... Commissioner Stalker
- Recreation ..... Commissioner Mottl
- Building & Grounds ..... Commissioner Donahue

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

**Appointment of Auditors**

Stalker motioned to approve Lauterbach & Amen; Donahue seconded.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Designation of Depositories**

Mottl motioned, Buschbach seconded to approve the depositories as presented:

1. Illinois Funds                      2. Old National Bank                      3. Illinois Trust

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**Designation of Newspapers for Legal Notices**

Donahue motioned, Stalker seconded to approve the newspapers listed:

1. SouthtownSTAR                      2. Oak Lawn Independent                      3. Reporter

4. Chicago Tribune      5. Chicago Sun-Times  
Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resolution to Form a Committee on Local Government Efficiency**

Donahue moved, Stalker seconded to approve the formation of an efficiency committee.

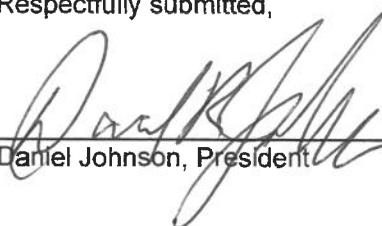
Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Stalker moved, Donahue seconded to adjourn at 7:43p.m.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Daniel Johnson, President

  
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Tracey Gallik, Recording Secretary