

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON DECEMBER 11, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Regular Meeting on December 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with President Johnson presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Buschbach, Donahue, Mottl, Stalker, and Johnson
A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting of November 13, 2023

Mottl moved, Buschbach seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: All

Nay: None

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE:

Volunteers of the Month – Oak Lawn Community High School and the Cast of Elf

Oak Lawn Community High School

On November 12th Athletic Director, Jeremy Cryan, got a group of students to volunteer at our annual Turkey Shoot. Athletic Supervisor, Don Villalobos, had this to say about the group. "On behalf of the Oak Lawn Park District, I wanted to extend our heartfelt gratitude to every one of you for your invaluable contribution in helping us successfully run the Annual Turkey Shoot event. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work made a significant impact, and we are truly grateful for your support. Your efforts helped create a fun and memorable experience for participants of all ages, and we have received nothing but positive feedback from attendees who thoroughly enjoyed the event. Your enthusiasm and commitment to making a difference are truly inspiring, and we are grateful to have such remarkable individuals as part of our Oak Lawn community. Your invaluable support has not gone unnoticed, and we are truly appreciative of your efforts."

The Cast of ELF the Musical

These talented individuals volunteered 10 hours per week for 8 weeks rehearsing for *ELF the Musical*. On top of that they volunteered another 25 hours during tech week. Add up all the hours for everything and you're looking at a grand total of 141 hours across 10 fun filled weeks. The weeks were full of singing, acting and jazz hand musical theatre goodness! The Park District doesn't "sit on a throne of lies" when we say we are honored we had such a dedicated and talented group of performers such as yourselves for bringing the story of Buddy the Elf to the Erica Heilmann Theatre. You have brought pure joy to 2,664 of our theatre ticket holders and have reminded us we should treat every day like Christmas.

Special Recreation Jr. and Sr. Athletes of the Year

Jr. Athlete of the Year- Vinny Olsen

This year's Jr. Athlete of the Year is Vinny Olsen. Vinny started in the Special Recreation Learn to swim class back in 2014. Vinny was such a great student in the program. Once Vinny was strong enough to swim the length of the pool on his own, he was moved up to the Penguins swim team. His main event is the Freestyle swim. Vinny, keep practicing your swim strokes. We know you will receive many Special Olympic medals in the future.

Congratulations Vinny on being selected as Jr. Athlete of the year.

Sr. Athlete of the Year- Mary Wolfe

Mary Wolfe is an enthusiastic dedicated athlete who puts her heart and soul into any sport she participates in. She has competed in Softball, Basketball, Unified Volleyball, Soccer, & Track & Field over the years. Coaches say she is a joy to have on the team. Mary most recently was on the State champions Eagles Softball team.

Congratulations Mary on being selected as Sr. Athlete of the year.

Special Olympics Floor Hockey

We are here to recognize a successful season for the Fury Floor Hockey team. With a season record of 9 wins and 3 losses, this team took home a 1st place finish at the TR section hockey tournament hosted at Oak Lawn Pavilion in October. They finished their season at the State Special Olympic Hockey tournament in November with a Bronze medal.

The board of Commissioners would like to congratulate each and everyone of you on a successful season.

Oak Lawn Fury- Coach Scott Curtiss, Joe Balich, & Alan Balich

Matt Balich	Joe Coffelt
Scott Curtiss	Johnny Damme
Shane Figura	Becca Gehle
Sarah Gehle	Julia Huscher
Allison Leehaug	Emily McNeill
Taylor Schaar	Scott Sullivan
Andrew Vranicar	

Special Olympics State Bowling

Congratulations to the Special Olympics Bowling athletes that competed in the State Bowling Championship on December 2nd in Peoria.

First let's talk about how they got there. August was the regional event they received a gold medal with a combined score of 759. Next up was sectionals in Addison also received a gold medal with a combined score of 858. Results are in with a combined score of 807, The silver medal goes to Brandon Brown and Scott Curtiss.

We would also like to honor the unified doubles bowling team of Zac and John Welsh. They have participated in an exhibition tournament at both Addison and Peoria.

Congratulations Scott, Brandon, Zac and John for representing Oak Lawn Park District at these events.

NEW BUSINESS:

Accel Entertainment

Andy Blyth, Oak Lawn resident and Sales Agent with Accel Entertainment presented the Board with the opportunity to add video gaming terminals to Stony Creek Golf Course, specially the 19th hole room.

Blyth discussed the logistics of adding the machines to the golf course. Items discussed were hours of operation, power requirements, payouts and the application process.

Blyth thanked the Board for their time and encouraged them to reach out if they had any additional questions.

FINANCE REPORT:

Buschbach moved, Stalker seconded to approve the payables of \$ 947,027.63 for the period of November 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Tax Levy

Mottl moved, Buschbach seconded to approve the total amount levied of \$4,783,393.00

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

LEGAL: None

APPROVAL OF BIDS OVER \$30,000: None

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR:

Hartwig stated that staff have been very busy with the special holiday events across the district. Hartwig said the Racquet Center recently offered their holiday open gym, the dance department had their holiday dance recital, and the Ice Arena hosted their winter figure skating exhibition.

Hartwig mentioned that the Employee Recognition Dinner was held last Thursday at the VFW. Hartwig stated that the event is a great way to honor staff and build comradery across the district.

Hartwig said in mid-November several staff members from the district attended PDRMA's Risk Management Institute. Hartwig said there were over 800 park and recreation professionals present at the event and there was a lot of great information presented.

Hartwig discussed the upcoming IPRA/IAPD Soaring to New Heights Conference coming up at the end of January. Hartwig said he will share more information as it becomes available regarding conference.

Hartwig wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Johnson stated that he has been out of the country in Europe the past two weeks but while away he received an email from someone who recently became a member at the Racquet Center. Johnson stated the letter was paying compliments to the facility and staff.

Johnson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MATTERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS:

Donahue stated that this was the district's first full year without being affected by the pandemic. Donahue said he is happy to see all the amazing things that the district continues to do and offer the public. Donahue stated that he is thankful to be on the Board and an Oak Lawn resident.

Donahue wished everyone a Happy New Year and is looking forward to what 2024 has to offer.

Mottl stated that she was able to attend the last performance of the theatre production of ELF. Mottl said she along with her family enjoyed the performance and looks forward to seeing more performances.

Stalker stated she held her family holiday party at Stony Creek this past weekend and everything went well. Stalker thanked all the wonderful staff that worked at the party.

Stalker made mention of a recent volunteer opportunity that she took part in that had members of other park districts present. Stalker stated that those that she spoke with only had wonderful things to say about the Oak Lawn Park District.

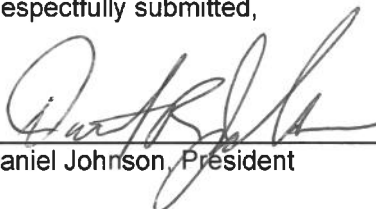
Buschbach wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT:

Donahue moved, Stalker seconded to adjourn at 7:36p.m.

Voting: Aye: All
Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel Johnson, President



Tracey Gallik, Recording Secretary