

MINUTES OF THE  
BERKELEY PARK DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2021

The regular meeting of the commissioners of the Berkeley Park District was held on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at Berkeley Park District's Lind Park building. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

Roll call: Commissioners present: J. Traina, D. Ditchfield, P. Smith, and T. Larem.  
Commissioners absent: K. Lowe

Others Present: S. Posey, Attorney -A. Schenone, Treasurer – P. Graham, Director – A. Hord, Secretary-Frank Parisi

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of October 6, 2021 meeting by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Larem.

Commissioners voting "aye" were: J. Traina, D. Ditchfield, P. Smith, and T. Larem. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Receipts for the month of October were \$77,092.50

There was no payroll for October.

Disbursements for the month of October were \$16,706.54. A motion was made to approve the Disbursements for September was approved by Commissioner Ditchfield and seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Commissioners voting "aye" were: J. Traina, D. Ditchfield, P. Smith, and T. Larem Motion carried.

Council: Attorney Posey suggested it would be a good idea to join the Illinois Association of Parks. There will be a 2 day conference in January, and offers great information. They also have a new commissioner "boot camp".

Correspondence:

Jerry Perez sent in a letter explaining he is planning on renting the Lind Park building in December. As an ex-commissioner of Berkeley Park District, he wanted to know if he would get a discount for the rental. The commissioners discussed the situation and decided that ex-commissioners fee would be \$150.00 for 1 time per year. They would be able to receive this discount for as many years that they served as a commissioner. The fee is still necessary, since there are fees involved for open/closing and cleaning.

Report of Commissioners:

- A.) No Report
- B.) Commissioner Larem will report during New Business
- C.) Commissioner Smith reported that he has playground inspection forms. He will check with Joe Romano if he still has the proper certification for monthly inspections of park equipment. This would take place March thru October. The other is a weekly inspection checklist, which can be done by Pete Graham.
- D.) Commissioner Ditchfield reported that he and Pete Graham ran the booth at the Autumn Fest. They feel that Berkeley didn't have much say in the planning of the event and hope next years fest will be different. They felt with having the food vendors on the Hillside portion, it kept most of the attendees there. There were many positive comments left at the Berkeley Park District table. Memorial Park District director spoke with Commissioner Ditchfield and Pete regarding doing a co-op exercise group. He also invited our commissioners to come and see their newly renovated facilities. During the Autumn Fest a woman from a company the Tollway hired, asked if they can post signage showing a detour of the Prairie Path when the overpass construction takes place.
- E.) No Report: Absent

Director's Report: Pete reported that Advance Electric completed the low voltage lighting at the Memorial Corner area. The Spooky Walk in Berkeley Park was held on Saturday October 30. There are a dozen volunteer ghouls who did a great job. Over 100 kids participated. The Veterans group has asked to use Berkeley Park again on May 21 and 22 to hold re-enactments, scrimmages, and have horses. It was suggested to set times for cannon firing and scrimmages so not to disturb neighborhood residents. Pete gave paperwork to the homeowner on McDermott Ave. next to Lind Park, to have him sign it giving Berkeley Park District permission to cut/trim the bushes as not to block the walkway into the park. Romano Landscaping will be contacted to do the trimming. Pete submitted a letter to the Village of Berkeley asking to waive the permit fee for the concrete sidewalk to connect the sidewalk along McDermott Ave. to the parking lot at Lind Park. He also reported that there will be a new exercise program that would cost \$36.00 and be for 7 weeks to give participants a chance to try out different classes. Kelly H will work with Memorial Park to co-op Senior exercise classes.

IT Report: None

Old/Unfinished Business:

- A.) Cell Towers: Commissioner Ditchfield stated that he and Commissioner Traina will be meeting with Mayor Lee and Administer Rudy Espiritu, to discuss the ownership of the property where the water tower and buildings are located.
- B.) Public Engagement: Stakeholder groups met with Frank Parisi from Williams Architects. They all provided great input. The next step is to have an Open House. It was decided to hold it at the Lind Park building on January 8, 2022. It will be advertised in the winter brochure, Facebook and website. Frank will provide idea boards for visitors to post their interests for Berkeley Park areas.

New Business:

- A.) A motion was made by Commissioner Traina and seconded by Commssioner Ditchfield to approve the 2022 Tax Levy in tentative form, for Berkeley Park District, Ordinance #21-04 .  
Commissioners voting "aye" were: J. Traina, D. Ditchfield, P. Smith, K. Lowe, and T. Larem Motion carried.
- B.) A questionnaire to residents of what they are looking for in a park district can be added to the brochure and Survey Monkey. Also putting a QR code on the brochure for online registration and payment, on the website and putting an ad on Facebook were some ideas that were discussed.
- C.) Winter Programs: A discussion took place regarding possible new programs. It was asked what happened to the radio control cars, and Pete explained that person moved away. There will be a Parent Drop Off day from 4 to 10 year old. Bag Tournaments will be held. It was discussed that if a program doesn't have enough interest, it will be cancelled. January Special will be and Unlimited Exercise Package for \$50.00 for 10 weeks. Commissioner Larem will work with Michelle and Pete with making some improvements on the website.
- D.) Covered earlier
- E.) Williams Architects Stakeholder Questionnaire with commissioners

Public Comment: none

Next meeting: Ad-hoc Meeting – Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at Berkeley Village Hall  
Regular Meeting – Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at Lind Park building

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ditchfield and seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 p.m.  
Commissioners voting "aye" were: J. Traina, D. Ditchfield, P. Smith, and T. Larem Motion carried.

Ann Hord  
Secretary