

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Tuesday, November 24, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:	STAFF:
Anthony Serna, President	Ateria Allen
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President	Dawn Dawkins, Legal
Valda Lewis, Secretary	Vanessa Hernandez-Orange
Gilberto Cantu	
Eugene Austin	

Reported by: Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR
Fissinger & Associates

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Eugene Austin
Telephonic: Valda Lewis, Gilberto Cantu

Staff Present: Ateria Allen, Recording Secretary
Telephonic: Vanessa Hernandez-Orange, Director

MS. LEWIS: I'd like to call to order today's Board of Parks and Recreation meeting for Tuesday, November 24th, 2020.

First item on the agenda is Administrative Matters. Approval of the October 27, 2020, meeting minutes. I'll entertain a motion to approve the October 27, 2020, meeting minutes.

MR. CANTU: I make the motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MS. LEWIS: All in favor signify by saying aye? (All signify aye.) Motion carries.

Next, we have approval and signing of payroll dated November 13, 2020.

MR. AUSTIN: I make a motion to approve payroll.

MR. CANTU: Second.

MS. LEWIS: All in favor? All signify aye.) Motion carries.

1 have any questions for Mrs. Orange?

2 MR. AUSTIN: I'd like to say, this
3 approval for the \$423,198.52, by any chance, can we --
4 because the president and the vice are not here, so I
5 just hope there won't be no mistake in this. I guess we
6 just have to delay it for further notice.

7 MS. LEWIS: We've already approved that
8 warrant, Mr. Austin. I'm the next person in line to
9 conduct the meeting, so I don't think there will be any
10 problems with our decision this evening.

11 MR. AUSTIN: Okay, fine then.

12 MS. LEWIS: Do you have any questions
13 about the Alpha Kappa Sorority bench?

14 MR. AUSTIN: No.

15 MS. LEWIS: Anything else, Mrs. Orange?
16 Do you have anything else to add to the new business?

17 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: I would just let
18 you guys all know that on December 4th we'll be having
19 the virtual lighting of the Christmas tree at City Hall.
20 At this point, as you have seen throughout the parks,
21 the lights have gone up and we would just do the final
22 lighting of the parks on December 4th. It will be
23 virtual and it will be around -- I think, if I'm not
24 mistaken -- 6:00 o'clock. I could get you guys that
25 information or -- Ateria -- please send the Board that
information, the flier. I can do it tomorrow, just so
you guys know where to log on.

MS. LEWIS: All right. That would be
great. The parks are looking very pretty.

MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: Thank you.

MS. LEWIS: Is there any other business?

MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: That's all from
me.

MS. LEWIS: All right. Madame Attorney,
do you have any remarks or any new business concerns?

MS. DAWKINS: Only that we'll prepare

1 that MOU once we get the fees to them and they can make
2 that decision. We should have it ready for the next
meeting in December.

3 MS. LEWIS: In December, all right.
4 Thank you.

5 MS. DAWKINS: That will be our December
meeting.

6 MS. LEWIS: Okay. Is there any Public
7 Comment?

8 MR. AUSTIN: Yes. I'd like to say our
parks really look nice.

9 MS. LEWIS: Yes, they do.

10 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: Thank you. Makes
11 you feel better about the year.

12 MR. AUSTIN: Yes, they do.

13 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: I just want to
say I'm glad that everyone feels that way. Hopefully
14 keeps people smiling.

15 MS. LEWIS: That's true. I see that we
have got kids signed up and that's closed.

16 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: Yes. We actually
17 in our documents stated that we were going to have only
500 kids. We had to close it off at this point. We are
18 over 700 kids and that was in basically a week's time.
So that's the main reason we closed it off. You know,
19 our budget constraints are kind of slim, especially due
to COVID. We didn't know where the money was going to
20 come from at this point or if we would be able to have
things approved, so we didn't want to go into any other
21 funds because we didn't know. Warrants weren't getting
approved through the Council, so we wanted to make sure
22 that we had just enough from our own budget that we
currently have to cover gifts.

23 MS. LEWIS: We do have enough in our own
24 budget?

25 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: Yes, we do.

1 MS. LEWIS: Okay, very good.

2 All right. Any further questions,
3 comments, concerns? (None) Okay. I want to thank
4 everybody for coming to the meeting, and our next
meeting date is Tuesday, December 8th, at 5:00 p.m.
Hope to hear from everyone then. Everyone have a safe
and happy Thanksgiving.

5 Can I have a motion for adjournment?

6 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: You guys also.

7 MS. LEWIS: Can I have a motion for
adjournment?

8 MR. CANTU: Make a motion to adjourn.

9 MR. AUSTIN: I second.

10 MS. LEWIS: All in favor? (All signify
11 aye.) Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

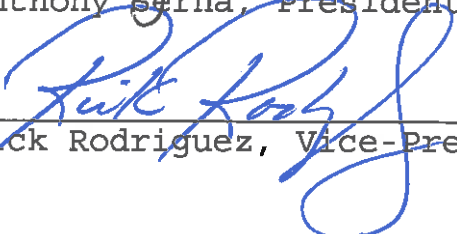
12 **** Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. ****
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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
November 24, 2020

Approved and signed December 8, 2020



Anthony Serna, President



Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

Valda Lewis, Secretary

Gilberto Cantu, Member



Eugene Austin, Member



Ateria Allen, Recording Secretary

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 30th day of November, 2020.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR