

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
July 26, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS:

Grayling Gordon, President
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President
Gilberto Cantu
Eugene Austin

STAFF:

Debbra Gritters
Dawn Dawkins
Vanessa Hernandez-Orange

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

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: Grayling Gordon,
Rick Rodriguez, Gilberto Cantu,
Eugene Austin

Staff Present: Debbra Gritters
Vanessa Hernandez-Orange

MR. GORDON: I would call the meeting of
the East Chicago Board of Parks and Recreation to order.
We do have a quorum.

First, under Administrative Matters,
we have approval of July 12th, 2022 meeting minutes, as
written. I'll entertain a motion to approve.

MR. CANTU: Move that we accept the
meeting minutes.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: Any questions on the motion?
(None) All in favor signify by saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

Motion carries.

Next approval and signing of payroll
dated July 22, 2022. Can I have a motion for approval
of payroll dated July 22, 2022?

MR. CANTU: I move that we accept.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

1 MR. GORDON: Any questions on the motion?
(None) All in favor signify by saying aye?
2 (All signify aye.)
3 Motion carries.

(Mr. Rodriguez has joined the
4 meeting.)

5 MR. GORDON: Approval and signing of
Warrant 072622 PB, in the amount of \$67,881.34. Can I
6 have a motion for approval and signing of the warrant?

7 MR. CANTU: I move that we accept.

8 MR. AUSTIN: Second.

9 MR. GORDON: Any questions on the motion?
(None) All in favor signify by saying aye?
10 (All signify aye.)
11 Motion carries.

12 Madame Secretary, is there any old
business to discuss? I know that there is at least one
13 item, I think we have to talk about the summer
contracts.

14 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: It should have
been one under Old Business, the basketball one, and
15 then one under New Business. We actually put them both
in New Business.

16 I am asking for approval of two
final contracts, one being for the boys basketball with
17 the name of Mr. Mroueh. He will be the one who runs the
boys basketball program. And then we have soccer, which
18 will be run by Shannon Dempsey. And then the next
meeting would be, I think, the girls basketball coach,
19 that will be the final and then all of our programs
would be done by next week.

20 So I'm just asking approval of the
final two contracts for coaching, one for Mr. Mroueh and
21 the other one would be for Shannon Dempsey.

22 MR. GORDON: Can I have a motion for
approval of the summer camp contracts?

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Make a motion to approve
24 the summer contract coaches.

25 MR. CANTU: Second.

1 MR. GORDON: Any questions on the motion?
(None) All in favor signify by saying aye?

2 (All signify aye.)

3 Motion carries.

4 MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: I don't have
5 anything else for approval, I just want to give you a
6 couple of announcements of what we have going on with
7 Parks and Recreation.

8 Tomorrow is our final -- not
9 tomorrow -- Thursday is our final movie night at Kenny
10 Lofton Field. We'll be watching Mr. 3000 on the field.
11 So we are excited to be able to bring that out. The
12 Little League will be actually doing a concession stand.
13 So anyone wants some food, that will go to the Little
14 League.

15 I have to say that we are continuing
16 to update our parks, so we do have a lot of swings that
17 are out. I have our contractor trying to fix as much as
18 possible. We just had some stuff that was replaced at
19 our fitness center in Tod Park.

20 We are still waiting for the shield
21 from my understanding. The last thing that was left,
22 they had to put the footings for those actual poles to
23 put those shields over. It's coming -- I wanted it done
24 for the 23rd, but we couldn't because of rain. So
25 hopefully by the end of this month. But I'm on top of
them, I want to make sure everything we have out there
is safe, also looks good.

I don't know if you noticed, we have
a lot of new benches in a lot of different parks. We
are pruning as much as possible at the parks. It's hard
because we lost our manager for the Greenhouse, but my
girls, my right hand steady girls are trying their
hardest to make sure everything stays maintained. We
are working here and I'm very proud of the staff that we
have. That's all really. If there is any questions --

MR. GORDON: Thank you. All right. We
have no one here for any Public Comment.

Our next meeting date will be
Tuesday, August 9, 2022, right here in the City Hall
Council Chambers, at the appointed time of 5:00 p.m.

If there is nothing else to discuss,
we'll move for adjournment. Can I have a motion for
adjournment?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Make a motion to adjourn.

1 MR. CANTU: Second.

2 MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by
3 saying aye?

(All signify aye.)
4 Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

5 * * * *

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7
8 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
9 July 26, 2022

10 Approved and signed _____

11 
12 _____
13 Grayling Gordon, President

14 _____
15 Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

16 
17 _____
18 Gilberto Cantu, Member

19 
20 _____
21 Eugene Austin, Member

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23 _____
24 Debra Gritters, Recording Secretary
25

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 Valparaiso, Indiana, this 27th day of July, 2022.

Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR



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