

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO  
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

BOARD MEMBERS

Anthony Serna, President  
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President  
Valda Lewis, Secretary  
Gilberto Cantu, Member  
Eugene Austin, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes  
(Via Zoom Conference)  
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates  
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: Anthony Serna, Eugene Austin.

Present Via Zoom: Valda Lewis, Gilberto Cantu.

STAFF: Present in Chambers: Ateria Allen, Genesis Jones-Gary.

Present Via Zoom: Dawn Dawkins.

MR. SERNA: Rick Rodriguez did contact me to let me know he wouldn't be able to make this meeting. But we have four of our five Board Members. We do a quorum.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

Approval of Minutes: September 28, 2021.

Motion to approve September 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes made by Valda Lewis. Second by Gilberto Cantu.

Questions/Comments: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

1 Approval & Signing of Payroll: October 1, 2021

2 Motion to approve October 1, 2021 Payroll made by Gilberto  
3 Cantu. Second by Eugene Austin.

4 Questions/Comments: None.

5 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
6 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

7 Approval & Signing of Payroll: October 8, 2021.

8 Motion to approve October 8, 2021 Payroll made by Valda  
9 Lewis. Second by Eugene Austin.

10 Questions/Comments: None.

11 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
12 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

13 Approval & Signing of Warrant: 100421PB \$64.35

14 Motion to approve Warrant 100421PB made by Valda Lewis.  
15 Second by Gilberto Cantu.

16 Questions/Comments: None.

17 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
18 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

19 Approval & Signing of Warrant: 101221PB \$59,581.79.

20 Motion to approve Warrant 101221PB made by Gilberto Cantu.  
21 Second by Eugene Austin.

22 Questions/Comments: None.

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
24 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

25 OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MR. SERNA: Next item on the agenda is New Business. We  
have Genesis Jones-Gary, Manager of Parks and Recreation.

MS. JONES-GARY: Good evening, Park Board. I have no  
New Business today. The Parks Department is running pretty

1 well.

2 We are breaking ground for the Riley Park Fitness  
3 Space that you guys approved for us back in August. They are  
4 laying cement for that starting tomorrow. The equipment has  
5 been put together. So we're moving along nicely here.

6 MR. SERNA: Thank you. Are there any questions for  
7 Miss Genesis Jones-Gary?

8 MR. AUSTIN: Yes.

9 MR. SERNA: Mr. Austin.

10 MR. AUSTIN: You said they're breaking ground?

11 MS. JONES-GARY: Yes, sir. They're digging into Riley  
12 Park and laying the cement. Couldn't because of the rain for  
13 the last few days.

14 MR. AUSTIN: I haven't been out too much on that. So I  
15 will check. How far have they got? Have they broke ground  
16 or beginning to break ground?

17 MS. JONES-GARY: Yes. We have it all marked out and all  
18 that. We're laying cement tomorrow.

19 MR. SERNA: Thank you, Mr. Austin. Are there any other  
20 questions for Miss Genesis Jones-Gary?

21 Thank you.

22 MS. JONES-GARY: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT:

24 MR. SERNA: Yes, sir, Mr. Austin.

25 MR. AUSTIN: I have heard some people, you know, just  
out saying things. They were kind of wanting to know when is  
the baseball, when we're going to open that for view.

MR. SERNA: Are you speaking of Block Stadium?

MR. AUSTIN: Yeah.

MR. SERNA: I believe maybe Vanessa Hernandez-Orange  
will be able to answer. I don't know.

1 MS. JONES-GARY: I have no information right now on when  
2 they plan to open for viewing purposes. I believe maybe  
3 sometime in the spring of 2022.

4 MR. SERNA: So it probably would be in the spring of  
5 next year.

6 MR. AUSTIN: I just want to know because like I said  
7 people asked me. I told them I would find out. So I'll tell  
8 them just hope we get to the spring.

9 MR. SERNA: All right. Any other public comment?

10 \* Next Regular Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 26,  
11 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers.

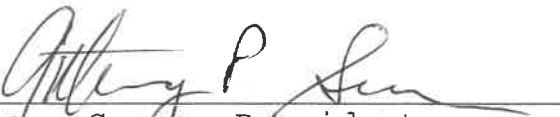
12 Motion to adjourn was made by Valda Lewis. Second by Eugene  
13 Austin.


14 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.  
15 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

16 \* Meeting ended at 5:07 p.m.  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of  
2 Tuesday, October 12, 2021

3 Approved and Signed October 26, 2021

4   
5 Anthony Serna, President

6   
7 Rick Rodriguez, Vice President

8  
9  
10  
11 Valda Lewis / Zoom  
12 Valda Lewis, Secretary

13  
14 Gilberto Cantu / Zoom  
15 Gilberto Cantu, Member

16   
17 Eugene Austin, Member

18  
19   
20 Ateria Allen, Recording Secretary


21  
22  
23  
24  
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa Pena, 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 said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Portage, Indiana, this 16th day of October, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Pena  
Notary Public Porter County  
Certified Shorthand Reporter  
License Number 084-003483

