

Chicago Park District



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

11:30 AM

REGULAR MEETING

Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596)

4830 S. Western Avenue,

Chicago, IL 60609

Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Ashley Hemphill Netzky

Commissioner Jose M. Munoz

Commissioner Andrea Telli

Commissioner Sharif Walker

Vice President Modesto Valle

President Myetie H. Hamilton

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the REGULAR BOARD MEETING will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 11:30 A.M. or immediately following the Public Hearing at the Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596) located at 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Roll Call
- General Business
- Approval of the Minutes
- Acknowledging Excellence
- People in the Parks
- New Business
- Adjournment

By order of President Myetie H. Hamilton

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.), the Chicago Park District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or admission/access to programs and activities.

Any person with a disability who desires special accommodations or the services of a sign language interpreter in order to attend a meeting of the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners, should contact Disability Policy Officer, Larry Labiak, 504 Compliance Officer, 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609, at 312/742-5097 or accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com at least 72 hours before the Board Meeting.

Myetie H. Hamilton
President

Sarah Gelder
Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the Public Hearing.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was made and the following Commissioners were found to be in attendance:

Present: 5 - President Myetie Hamilton, Commissioner Jose M. Munoz, Commissioner Andrea Telli, Commissioner Sharif Walker and Vice President Modesto Valle

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Ashley Hemphill Netzky

1. GENERAL BUSINESS:

24-1025-021

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CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT TO SELL NOT TO EXCEED \$26,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BONDS AND \$11,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE)

Sponsors: Office of the Secretary

Indexes: Certificate of Publication

This Certificate was marked as received and filed by the Secretary.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

24-1017-021

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APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 24, 2024

Sponsors: Office of the Secretary

Indexes: Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Telli, seconded by Vice President Valle, that the Meeting Minutes be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Hamilton, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle

Absent: 1 - Hemphill Netzky

3. ACKNOWLEDGE EXCELLENCE:

The Secretary stated for the record that Commissioner Hemphill-Netzky joined the meeting during Acknowledging Excellence.

Present: 6 - President Myetie Hamilton, Commissioner Ashley Hemphill Netzky, Commissioner Jose M. Munoz, Commissioner Andrea Telli, Commissioner Sharif Walker and Vice President Modesto Valle

24-1022-021

4

**RECOGNITION OF CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT CELEBRATORY
EVENTS IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Sponsors: Community Recreation

Indexes: Presentation

Rosa Escareno, General Superintendent and CEO, gave remarks about the importance of celebrating Black History at the Chicago Park District and beyond. A short video was presented in recognition of parks and features named in honor of Black figures. Farah Tunks, Central Region Director, gave a presentation in recognition of Chicago Park District year-round cultural programming and events celebrating the Black community. Last, Chicago Park District dance instructors Elaine McLaurin, Brazhal “Ms. B” Brewer, Tashay Morris, and Maya Thompson showcased a traditional West African dance performance.

4. PEOPLE IN THE PARKS:

24-1019-021

4

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

Sponsors: Office of the Secretary

Indexes: Public Comments

The following members of the public addressed the Commissioners:

1. Basil Rhymes (Addressed the community benefits of The Chicago Archery Club and requested continued archery programming at Washington Park)
2. Marlon Harvey (Addressed community benefits of The Chicago Archery Club and requested continued archery programming at Washington Park)
3. George Herrera (Addressed the collaborative planning process and community benefits for Riot Fest)
4. Denise Ferguson (Requested direct meetings with Commissioners about concerns of Riot Fest and increased diversity in park staff hiring)
5. Dinita Robinson (Addressed collaborative planning process and community benefits for Riot Fest and requested collaboration meetings between the Commissioners, community members, and Riot Fest staff)
6. Susan Mullen (Addressed health and safety concerns around Riot Fest and discussed the Chicago Quiet Zone Ordinance)
7. Eric Lindsay (Addressed collaborative planning process and community benefits for Riot Fest)
8. Princess Shaw (Requested a redesign of community engagement process for Riot Fest, increased reporting transparency, and a review of park blackout dates)

scheduled for festival set up)

9. Kenneth Newman (Addressed advertisement revenue opportunities and requested increased program funding and increased park maintenance)

10. Phillip McGrath (Addressed concerns about Chicago Park District funding allocations and Pension Fund Program)

11. Cecilia Butler (Requested Chicago Torture Justice Memorial be moved to a more visible public location in Washington Park)

12. Tony Moore (Requested maintenance work orders for Washington Park baseball diamonds and restrooms)

13. Levette Haynes (Addressed Garfield Park natural area maintenance and landscape design and requested staff assignment to oversee maintenance needs and community meetings)

14. Dona Vitale (Addressed support of renaming Paschen Park as Pollard Park and requested meeting with the Paschen family to collaborate on next steps)

LaVonte Stewart registered to speak but was unavailable for comment.

No written testimony was received.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

[24-1018-021](#)

[4](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Sponsors: Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Indexes: Reimbursement Resolution

Attachments: [Reimbursement Resolution](#)

Steve Lux, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner Telli, that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle

[24-1027-021](#)

[4](#)

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE) FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Sponsors: Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Indexes: Bond

Attachments: [Published in Pamphlet Form Authorizing Ordinance](#)

Steve Lux, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner

Walker, that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle

[24-1026-021](#)

[4](#)

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REFUNDING BY MEANS OF A TENDER OF THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT'S OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX REFUNDING BONDS, TAXABLE SERIES 2021A

Sponsors: Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Indexes: Bond

Attachments: [Published in Pamphlet Form Authorizing Ordinance](#)

Steve Lux, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner Telli, that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle

[24-1021-021](#)

[4](#)

PRESENTATION ON SPECIAL EVENTS WITH PRE-EXISTING AGREEMENTS - BANK OF AMERICA SHAMROCK SHUFFLE, AND BANK OF AMERICA CHICAGO MARATHON

Sponsors: Revenue

Indexes: Presentation

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)

President Hamilton announced that because the two events being presented have existing agreements, they do not require provisional approval from the Board of Commissioners and the intention of presenting the two events is for the purpose of transparency to the public.

Lauren Quinn, Deputy Director of Revenue, addressed the Commissioners.

[24-1020-021](#)

[4](#)

PROVISIONAL APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL EVENTS - 2024 J.P. MORGAN CORPORATE CHALLENGE, FIFTH THIRD BIKE THE DRIVE, AND HOT CHOCOLATE RUN - CHICAGO

Sponsors: Revenue

Indexes: Provisional Approval - Special Event Permit

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)

Lauren Quinn, Deputy Director of Revenue, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner

Munoz, that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle

[24-1023-021](#)

[4](#)

**REQUEST TO OFFICIALLY NAME PARK NO. 581 AS THE PRAIRIE
PARK**

Sponsors: Planning and Construction

Indexes: Park Renaming-Phase II, Park Naming

Heather Gleason, Director of Planning and Construction, addressed the Commissioners. A motion was made by Vice President Valle, seconded by Commissioner Hemphill-Netzky that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Telli, Walker and Valle

Nay: 1 - Munoz

[24-1024-021](#)

[4](#)

**REQUEST TO OFFICIALLY NAME THE MONTROSE DUNES
EXPANSION AREA IN LINCOLN PARK AS THE MONTY AND ROSE
WILDLIFE HABITAT**

Sponsors: Planning and Construction

Indexes: Park Renaming-Phase II, Park Naming

Heather Gleason, Director of Planning and Construction, addressed the Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Telli, seconded by Vice President Valle that the matter be approved.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Telli, Walker and Valle

Nay: 1 - Munoz

6. ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Munoz that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Hamilton, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli, Walker and Valle