

# Chicago Park District



## Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

11:30 AM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BROADWAY ARMORY PARK

5917 N. Broadway  
Chicago, IL 60660

## Board of Commissioners

*Commissioner Donald Edwards*

*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 120/1.01 et seq., PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the REGULAR BOARD MEETING will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 11:30 A.M. or immediately following the Public Hearing. The Regular Board meeting will be held at Broadway Armory Park located at 5917 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60660.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- Roll Call
- General Business
- Approval of the Minutes
- Acknowledging Excellence
- Presentations and Reports
- People in the Parks
- Unfinished Business
- 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, 541 North Fairbanks Court, Chicago, Illinois 60611, at 312/742-5097 or [accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto: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 Budget Hearing.

**Roll Call**

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

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

**Absent:** 1 - President Myetie Hamilton

**1. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

[22-1121-121](#)

[4](#)

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION FOR THE NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING BEING HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2022, AT 11:15 AM REGARDING THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT 2022 ANNUAL TAX LEVY**

**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:**

[22-1118-121](#)

[4](#)

**APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING AND THE PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 2022**

**Sponsors:** Office of the Secretary

**Indexes:** Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Telli, that the Meeting Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

**3. ACKNOWLEDGE EXCELLENCE:**

[22-1128-121](#)

[4](#)

**RECOGNITION OF CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT LIFEGUARD RESCUE OPERATIONS AT BEACHES AND POOLS DURING THE 2022 SEASON**

**Sponsors:** Commuity Recreation

**Indexes:** Presentation

Andrew Walsh, Manager of Beaches and Pools, gave a presentation in recognition of Chicago Park District lifeguard rescue operations at the beaches and pools during the 2022 season.

The following lifeguards were recognized and in attendance: Manuel Gurrola, Lili He, John Saenz, and Quentin Banks. Theodore Collins and John Milton were also recognized but weren't in attendance.

**4. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**

There was nothing to present.

**5. PEOPLE IN THE PARKS:**

[22-1119-121](#)

[4](#)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS  
DECEMBER 14, 2022**

**Sponsors:** Office of the Secretary

**Indexes:** Public Comments

The following members of the public addressed the Commissioners:

1. Phillip McGrath (Addressed pension reports, the hiring process within the park district, and disparities at Soldier Field)
2. Nancy Joesph (Request for more funding and support for the TreeKeeper volunteer program)
3. Mary LuSeidel (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park )
4. Juanita Irizarry (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park)
5. Kurt Gibbert (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park)
6. David Esteban Zapata (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park)
7. Marai Cabrera (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park)
8. Kendra Parzen (Addressed Construction by National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture in Humboldt Park)
9. Rev. Rachel Birkhahn-Rommelfanger (Spoke in support of 2023 Budget Recommendations and requested continued community engagement efforts from the Park District)

- 10. Ryan O'Donnell (Requested to change the name of Columbus Park and to increase staffing at the Refectory)
- 11. Jack Spicer (Addressed Shoreline protection efforts at Promontory Point, which is a historic landmark)
- 12. Lara Weber (Spoke against proposed LED lighting at Welles Park Baseball field)
- 13. Gene Schulter (Spoke against proposed LED lighting at Welles Park Baseball field)
- 14. Kenneth Newman (Requested that the Park District work with nearby high schools to provide tracks and artificial turf fields for community use)

Jackson Blue was registered to speak, but was unavailable for comment.

Written Testimony was received from Rebecca Wolfram, Elizabeth Claffey, Karl Brinson, Sidney Lubitsch, Claudia Galeno, and Monique Sandberg.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was nothing to present.

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

[22-1120-121](#)

[4](#)

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO FOR WATER SAMPLING AND TESTING SERVICES FOR CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT BEACHES**

**Sponsors:** Cultural and Natural Resources

**Indexes:** Agreements (Not Bidded)

Commissioner Edwards stated for the record that he would recuse himself from discussion and voting on the agreement between the Chicago Park District and the University of Illinois Chicago because he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

Cathy Breitenbach, Director of Cultural and Natural Resources, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, seconded by Commissioner Munoz, the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Valle, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli and Walker

**Recused:** 1 - Edwards

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

[22-1126-121](#)

[4](#)

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT  
WITH F.H. PASCHEN, S.N. NIELSEN AND ASSOCIATES, LLC. FOR  
NUMEROUS PARKS IN CONNECTION WITH  
ADA FIELDHOUSE MODIFICATIONS  
SPECIFICATION NO. P-16008-056**

**Sponsors:** Planning and Construction

**Indexes:** Contract Award-IFB, RFP, RFQ

**Attachments:** [Exhibit A Fieldhouse Locations to Receive ADA Improvements](#)

EDS - FH Paschen, SN Nielsen and Associates

[MWBE Schedules - FH Paschen, SN Nielsen and Associates](#)

**Heater Gleason, Director of Planning and Construction, addressed the Commissioners. Mark Reed, Director of Purchasing, also addressed the Commissioners.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

[22-1122-121](#)

[4](#)

**ADOPTION OF THE 2022 ANNUAL TAX LEVY ORDINANCE**

**Sponsors:** Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**Indexes:** Tax Levy

**Attachments:** [2022 Tax Levy Ordinance](#)

**Steve Lux, Chief Financial Officer, addressed the Commissioners.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Telli, seconded by Commissioner Walker, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

[22-1124-121](#)

[4](#)

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS AMONG OPERATING FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022**

**Sponsors:** Chief Financial Officer and Budget and Management

**Indexes:** Transfer of Operating Funds

**Attachments:** [Ordinance Transfer Among Operating Funds FY2022](#)

Jeffrey Shellhorn, Director of Budget and Management, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

[22-1123-121](#)

[4](#)

**2023 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Sponsors:** Budget and Management

**Indexes:** Budget-Appropriation Ordinance

**Attachments:** [2023 Appropriation Ordinance](#)  
[2023 Budget Recommendations](#)

Rosa Escareno, General Superintendent and CEO, gave remarks highlighting the initiatives of the 2023 Budget proposal.

Jeffrey Shellhorn, Director of Budget and Management, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

[22-1127-121](#)[4](#)

## AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER V OF THE CODE OF THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

**Sponsors:** Law Department and Human Resources

**Indexes:** Code Change

**Attachments:** [Ordinance Amendment to Chapter V of the CPD Code](#)  
[Exhibit A Proposed Amendments to Chapter V of the CPD Code](#)

Rosa Escareno, General Superintendent and CEO, highlighted the goals of the proposed amendments to increase benefits for current employees and new hires. The General Superintendent and CEO requested that the Board of Commissioners waive the 45-day notice period for the proposed amendments so that the benefits may take immediate effect.

Argentene Hryzikos, Director of Human Resources, addressed the Commissioners and provided an overview of the proposed amendments.

Vice President Valle stated for the record that the Board of Commissioners accept the General Superintendent's written finding of an extraordinary circumstance and that the Board of Commissioners waive the 45-day notice period pursuant to Chapter 1, Section B.2 of the Code of the Chicago Park District Code. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

### 8. CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12)

A motion was made by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, that the meeting enter into Closed Session. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

### 9. OPEN SESSION:

A motion was made by Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, that the meeting return to Open Session. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton



**VOTE ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM(S)**

**Final action may be taken on the following matters considered in Closed Session:**

**22-1125-121**

**4**

**ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION  
PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**SETTLEMENT OF THE PRESUIT CLAIM  
JANE DOE (22017) V. CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT**

**Sponsors:** Law Department

**Indexes:** Settlement Agreement

**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 - Valle, Edwards, Hemphill Netzky, Munoz, Telli and Walker

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton

**10. ADJOURNED**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hemphill Netzky, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hamilton