Minutes
Bloomingdale Park District Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 19, 2024, 6:30 P.M.
Johnston Recreation Center

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board, staff and visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomingdale Park District Board (BPD) of Commissioners was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Burke. In attendance were Commissioners Buzz Puccio, Jerry Marshall, Gerace Olson, and Frank Saverino, and staff members Joe Potts, Sandy Vangundy, Jennifer Vale, Lonna Converso, Mesha Hadzic, Mark Goode, and Jackie Tithof Steere.

Recognition of Visitors

The Board welcomed Recreation Supervisor Tania Rodriguez, who was present to be recognized for her work anniversary, along with Karie Friling, executive director of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, and Dan Probst, The Conservation Foundation, who were present to discuss their upcoming referendum with the BPD Board.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to establish the Consent Agenda of the August 19, 2024, meeting as presented. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Saverino, Olson, Puccio, Marshall, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

The following Consent Agenda items were considered by the Park District to be routine and were enacted in one motion with no separate discussion.

A. Approval of Minutes
    i. July 22, 2024, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
    ii. July 22, 2024, Special Meeting
B. Acceptance of Financial Reports – July 2024
C. Approval of Directive to Pay – August 19, 2024

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to approve the Consent Agenda. On voice vote the motion was approved 4-0 with Commissioner Puccio abstaining from approval of the minutes in Item A and 5-0 on Items B and C.

At this point, Commissioner Puccio moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to move up on the agenda Item 8A. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Puccio, Marshall, Olson, Saverino, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: None

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board

Referendum Presentation by The Conservation Foundation and the DuPage County Forest Preserve District

Karie Friling, executive director of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, and Dan Probst, member of The Conservation Foundation, presented on an upcoming referendum to raise funds for the DuPage County Forest Preserves. On November 5, 2024, the Forest Preserve will ask voters to consider a referendum to increase the limiting rate of its tax levy to preserve, restore, and maintain forests, open spaces, and water quality; acquire 250 additional acres of land to preserve; plant trees and enhance flood control and drainage systems; provide nature education and outdoor opportunities for all ages; increase access and safety of the preserves; and maintain and improve woodlands, wetlands, and prairies.

The Forest Preserve last went to referendum in 2006. Since that time, the district has been receiving less property tax income and has operated with fewer employees, accumulated additional acres and trails, had more visitors, and completed nature restorations. If passed, the referendum would amount to under $12 year for a $100,000 property or $58 for a $500,000 property. The Board inquired about the cost to maintain new land and the impact on Bloomingdale. The Conservation Foundation asks that leaders in the community support and lend support for the referendum. More information can be found at dupageforest.org/referendum 2024.

(The Forest Preserve guests left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.)

Old Business

Approval of Resolution No. 2024-05: Board Term Limits

The Board had no further comments on the changes to the Board Manual that were discussed at the July 22, 2024, Board Meeting. The change, a five-year presidential term limit, was presented in resolution format.

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to approve Resolution No. 2024-05: A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Board Policy Manual Concerning Officers of the Board. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Olson, Saverino, Puccio, Marshall, Burke
Nay: None
Absent: None

New Business

Approval of Resolution No. 2024-04: Property Tax Assessment Appeals

Staff presented a resolution required by the DuPage Board of Review authorizing Robbins Schwartz to intervene in property tax appeals on the District's behalf. Attorney Price from Ancel Glink has approved the document.

Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to approve Ordinance No. 2024-04: A Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Property Tax Assessment Appeals. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Marshall, Saverino, Puccio, Olson, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board, Continued

Observation of 10-Year BPD Anniversary of Tania Rodriguez

The Board and staff thanked Tania Rodriguez, recreation supervisor, for her 10 years of service to the District. Tania started in 2012 part time in the Parks Department after Executive Director Potts and former Executive Director Fullerton recognized a need for additional support in the parks office. Tania loves her work and is passionate, enthusiastic, kind, creative, and has a positive attitude. The director of recreation is very appreciative of all that she does – managing the gardens, Museum, Clubhouse, tiki hut, and concessions, to name a few.

Strategic Plan Update

In the interest of time, this item was tabled for next month's meeting.

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to table Item 8C - Strategic Plan Update. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Olson, Saverino, Puccio, Marshall, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Retirement of Commissioner Buzz Puccio

The Board and staff thanked Commissioner Buzz Puccio for his service with nothing but kind words. (During this time, an audience of well wishers had amassed in the meeting room to celebrate Commissioner Puccio's public service over cake, appetizers, and soft drinks once the meeting was adjourned.)

Staff Reports

There were no comments on staff reports.

Executive Session
Commissioner Puccio moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to not enter into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Puccio, Marshall, Olson, Saverino, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Adjournment
Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Marshall, Saverino, Puccio, Olson, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Potts
Board Secretary