



**CITY OF GARY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS**

Board of Commissioners
Rev. Dwight Gardner, President
Willie Cooke, Vice President
Renee Ceaser Patterson
, Alan Harrell

Jerome Prince
Mayor, City of Gary

Dharathula T Harris
Superintendent of Parks & Recreation

**Board of Park Commission
Regular Park Board Meeting
Tuesday March 22, 2022
455 Massachusetts Street
10:00 A.M.
Minutes**

Call to Order

Certification: Let the record reflect there was an executive session held and no items were voted on.

President Gardner called the board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call: The following were present: Commissioner Dwight Gardner, Commissioner Willie "Bill" Cook, Commissioner Alan Harrell.

A quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance Recited.

Approval of Parks Board Minutes

Commissioner Gardner entertained a motion approve the Park Board minutes as presented for March 8, 2022. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Parks Claims Listing:

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve claims ratification list as presented for March 2, 2022. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the claims list. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Payroll:

Commissioner President Gardner, entertained a motion to approve the Parks Board payroll for March 11th 2022 as presented. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the payroll. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Legal: There were 2 contracts and 1 resolution to be approved.

Davis Dade Security: A professional service contract for security services. The term of the contract is from April 1, 2022-March 31, 2022 for an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. Commissioner Gardner entertained a motion to approve the contract for security at the pavilions not exceed \$3,000.00 for David Dade Security, LLC. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the contract. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Bridging the Gap Tutorial Program: A professional services contract for Youth Services Bureau for Bridging the Gap Tutorial Program to commence November 1, 2021 –July 1, 2022 not to exceed \$13,500. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the contract. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Resolution: A resolution was presented for the Park Board Commissioners, providing a hearing for the public comment on the increasing fees for Marquette and Lake Street Beaches parking and boat lodge. Commissioner Gardner entertained a motion to approve the change in fees for Marquette Park's parking fees. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the fees to be presented to the City Council. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Administrative Reports

Executive Director Marquette Park Pavilion: Kamishia Jackson- Mrs. Jackson requested permission to run the \$500 formal lounge special until 2024. The special cannot be used on Saturdays between Memorial Day and Labor Day. President Gardner entertained a motion to approved the request for the \$500 rental year around, except for between Memorial Day and Labor Day through 2024. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the fees. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Mrs. Jackson requested permission to run a \$1,280.00 Ballroom Special. Commissioner Gardner entertained a motion to add Saturdays to the \$1,280.00 Ballroom Special from Labor Day 2022 thru Memorial Day 2023. Commissioner Cook moved to approve the fees. The motion was seconded.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes.

Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner President Gardner stated that an executive session will be scheduled to discuss the Marquette Park bridges.

The books for Marquette are now open for 2023.

Aquatics Manager: Tawanna Lyons-

Reed Park: Ms. Lyons showed photos of Reed Park. The piping was stolen and the breaker boxes are broken. Right now, Ms. Lyons believes it may not be feasible to get the splash pad at Reed Park up and going.

Tolleston Park: There is water under the lining in the pool. Ms. Lyons has a contractor coming out to tell her how to get the water out to get it up and running as well as the cost.

Brief Discussion.

President Gardner requested a full itemized report (inspections and recommendations) on the repair of Reed Park to have it up and running.

The Parks Department is now hiring for lifeguards.

Youth Services Bureau- Atiya Muhammad- Ms. Muhammad requested permission for YSB to go into contract for Shuler's Boxing Club and Excel Dance Team. These organizations will replace One in a Million Boxing and Minkah's Martial Arts. YSB is still finalizing plans and locations for summer programming. As of right now the programs will be running June 6 –July 29th, Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 10am-2pm. The marketing and contractual plans will be finalized late April following Board approval.

Parks Foreman: Willie Barnes- On Vacation

Parks Manager: Don Plogh- The Parks Team has been working at Roosevelt for the last two weeks. The grass has been mowed. The goal is to be done with the three baseball fields at Roosevelt by April 1st. Assessments are being done on the dug outs. Each dugout may cost around \$350.

He and Superintendent Harris met with Kevin Bradley and Tracy Bro from Calumet Region Little League. They are going to use Roosevelt, Buck-Weaver, and Aetna for their youth programs.

Mr. Plogh also met with some of the Council Members to speak about their ideas for the Jewel Parks. He also met with Sandy O'Brien in regard to the controlled burning. There is some push-back for the controlled burned. Mr. Plogh and Sandy inspected the sites to see if it were possible to mow some of the areas. Due to the areas being turned into natural areas, it would jeopardize the equipment trying to get the mowers through. The controlled burn has to be done to maintain the area.

The Parks Superintendent: Dharathula Harris- A site visit was done at Howe Park with the Park Manager. Parks is going to ask for help from Redevelopment to remove what was demolished from the pool and debris from the basketball and tennis courts.

Superintendent Harris met with the Calumet Region Little League representatives and attended the MCC monthly meeting. She also met with the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment program. She and Justin H. of Fountain Technologies met to look at the fountains at Gateway Park west and east. She is awaiting a full report.

Action Items: Resolution of fees.

Building Maintenance: Superintendent Harris is getting quotes for painting and lighting replacement. The roof at Brunswick was looked at. The roof does not need to be replaced, but the drains have to be addressed. The lights in the gym also need to be replaced.

Superintendent Harris is investigating the rates for the baseball field rental. She has contacted Griffith and Hammond. She will have the rental rate information at the next meeting.

The website is currently being worked on.

Public comments were received by:
Michelle Robinson.

Adjournment:

Commissioner President Gardener entertained a motion to adjourn the Board of Parks, Commissioners Meeting of the Department of Public Parks, City of Gary, Indiana held on March 22, 2022; Moved by both Commissioners.
Meeting was adjourned.

BY: _____
Dwight Gardner, President

BY: 
Willie Bill Cook, Member

BY: 
Renee Patterson, Member

BY: 
Alan Harrell, Member