



**CITY OF GARY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PARKS**



Board of Commissioners
Rev. Dwight Gardner, President
Willie Bill Cook, Vice-President
Renee Patterson-Member
Alan Harrell-Member

Jerome Prince
MSM Mayor, City of Gary

Marianetta L. Barber SHRM-CP,
Interim Superintendent

Board of Park Commission
Regular Park Board Meeting
Tuesday July 12, 2022
455 Massachusetts Street
10:00 A.M.
Minutes

Call to Order

Certification: Let the record reflect there was no 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

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the minutes for Tuesday June 28, 2022. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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 the claims listing for June 28, 2022. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of Payroll

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the Parks Board payroll for July 15, 2022. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried 3-0.

Legal

No Legal Reports Submitted.

Administrative Reports:

Hudson Campbell: Christine Gooden, Manager- The Total for Mar I as followed:

20 Tennis Court Rentals by members (Tennis Academy)

8 Basket Ball Court Rentals

16 Aerobics Room Rentals

20 New Memberships

The total revenue for the month of May is

\$8,922.00 The total for the month of April is as

follows:

25 Tennis Court Rentals (5 from the Tennis Academy)

16 Aerobics Room Rentals

20 Boxing Room Rentals

29 New Memberships

The total revenue for the month of April is \$8,176.71.

Commissioner Cook would like a report on how much money the small rental space at the Hudson Campbell brought in.

Parks Manager-Don Plohg- The Summer youth employment program has been very valuable to us with cleaning up the fire work debris in the park. The youth have picked up at least 30 bags of garbage. Foreman Barnes will schedule a cutting day and the day before they cut I send the youth over to remove debris. Our full time staff is now complete. We were able to mow Hatcher, Carolina and Gibson Park in one day. Having a full complete staff really makes a difference. Commissioner Cook asked if Parks cuts the Hudson Campbell. Yes, we do it on our cutting schedule. I have also started my spraying program now for the weeds and on the sidewalk and curb. Commissioner Cook asked who is involved with the beautification of the Hudson Campbell. That is the native plants which parks does not take care of. President Gardner suggested that we locally or if possible contact a landscaping company not just for mowing but for plants as well. We meet with Councilman Williams last week at Howe Park to discuss his thoughts on his Jewel Park. I'm

meeting with some tree vendors at Howe Park to get a quote for removal of several trees. We are meeting with Councilman Weatherspoon on Thursday at Brunswick.

Interim Superintendent Report: Marianetta Barber-There are 6 Jewel Parks chosen, the other parks are parks that we chose. One of those parks is Buffington in partnership with the Calumet Township Trustee. Each week I have asked the council to give me dates they are able to meet so we will do the site visits. I am requesting approval for purchase of a vehicle for transportation of beach patrol. I do have the funding available and it has been set aside.

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle for the Parks Department. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

Motion carried 3-0.

My next request is for additional funding and amending a contract for Attorney Monroe. Legally I know she does a lot for parks but what I'm looking at now is that we've had the Jewel Parks come on and some other things have happened. I've rewritten the Adopt the Park policy. I'm just asking for an additional \$10,000.00 be added to the contract because those things have to be reviewed. I need legal for those items. I can do the best I can with them, but legally at the end of the day, I have to send everything to her. We want to make sure the policies that we're rewriting and things we are putting in place are clear with legal to protect us. This is a professional service and I have identified the funding.

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the additional funding for Attorney Monroe. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried 3-0.

The next amendment I would like to have for a contract is for De-Vine Landscaping. I have been over to Ambridge and what has happened over at Ambridge, there is fencing, trees and wooded area has grown back and there is also a little trail over there. Our staff isn't able to go in and do all that cutting and stay on their schedule. So I would like to request De-vine which is the company that keeps up Rees park, and Brunswick. They cut and trim out all the way to the street and the electrical boxes. I would like to increase that contract starting at \$7,000.00 to go in and clean up all of the bushing that's there and a whole cut.

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the additional funding De-Vine Landscaping for work at Ambridge. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

Motion carried 3-0.

I have sent everyone a copy of the Adopt a-Park application. I have had Attorney Monroe look through it I have made the corrections that were suggested and she approved it. So I just need approval if there are no objections from the board to get the adopt-a-park program up and running.

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the Adopt-a-Park application as presented. Commissioner Cook so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

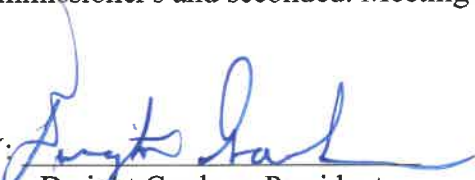
Motion carried 3-0.

The last request that I have is from the Calumet Township Trustee who wants to meet with us to discuss the partnership with Buffington. We will discuss dates after the meeting.

Old Business/New Business

Adjournment:

Commissioner President Gardener entertained a motion to adjourn the Board of Park Commissioners Meeting of the Department of Public Parks, City of Gary, Indiana held on July 12, 2022 moved by Commissioner's and seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

BY: 
Dwight Gardner, President

BY: 
Willie Bill Cook, Vice President

BY: 
Renee Patterson, Member

BY: 
Alan Harrell, Member