



**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
Mayor, City of Gary

Rachelle Morgan-Ceaser
Interim Parks & Recreation Director

**Board of Park Commission
Regular Park Board Meeting
Tuesday May 09, 2023
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 Alan Harrell, Commissioner Renee Patterson, Commissioner Willie Cook.

A quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Pledge of Allegiance Recited

Approval of Parks Board Minutes

President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the Park Board minutes for April 11, 2023.

Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Parks Claims Listing

President Gardner entertained a motion to ratify the claims listing for May 05, 2023. Commissioner Patterson so moved the motion. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

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

Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Payroll: President Gardner entertained a motion to approve the Parks Board payroll for May 5, 2023. Commissioner Harrell second the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Gardner, Yes, Commissioner Cook, Yes, Commissioner Harrell, Yes, Commissioner Patterson, Yes.

Motion carried 4-0.

Legal: President Gardner did a motion to rescind all lawn care contracts previous to this date.

Commissioner Harrell made a motion and Commissioner Patterson second the motion.

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

Motion carried 4-0.

Administrative Reports:

Marquette Pavilion Manager: Kamishia Jackson- Ironworks 395 will fix the pedestrian bridge for no charge. Getting ready for the summer season. The meters are in. And the water for the fountains have been turned on. A couple of leaks in the women's bathroom. AJ The Plummer will address this. Batteries for the parking meters will be put in next Monday. Looking to get two more pay stations to go at Lake Street and one at Marquette Beach. Clean up will be May 24th by Nipsco and then July 22 will be our 3rd Annual Food Truck Block Fest. Total numbers of events for the month of April 11 events. Wind down Wednesdays will be happening 2nd weekend in July.

Director of Hudson Campbell: Christine Gooden- Right now everything is on hold for spending. I have a meeting with Rachelle and the controller to see what we can do and what we can't do. Still working very hard to keep up with the dust coming out of the vents upstairs. And working on quotes to have vents clean.

Youth Service Bureau Director: Atiya Muhammad- Summer Nature Program will be held at the Douglas Center. Volleyball will be starting June 12th Monday thru Thursday 10am to 2pm. Contact Youth Service Bureau at (219) 881-5270. Summer Food Program is ready with the Summer Youth program hosted by the City of Gary. The jobs will be posted May 31st. Looking for youth that live in the City of Gary age 14 to 21. There are 150 spots. There are flyers available and are posted in schools and churches and through social media.

Aquatics: Tawanna Lyons- Nothing major to report. We are still trying to hire. We have 9 guards. We are still hiring. And yes, you need to know how to swim. We had fifteen people the class. But I had to let a few go due to the fact they didn't know how to swim. We are in negotiations about the buoys. On who is responsible when buoys are lost or damage. We do not have a date when buoys will be dropped.

Park Manager: Don Plohg- Election Day went well. I feel the team did an excellent a job getting everything ready at the polling places. Started the maintenance of the parks. Started the cutting the parks. The pavilions are not online. We will do a punch list to see what has been done and what needs to be done, so that the pavilions can open. Winter training went well, so we know how to fix our equipment.

Superintendent: Rachelle Ceaser- We are ready for our full-time maintenance person. Working with all directors to be ready for the beach season. Our team went to the shoreline meeting. We need to replace the handicapped mat at Marquette Park. Looking for ways to fill in the holes for summer workers, ticket taking, lifeguards and groundskeepers.

Old Business/New Business: - Discussion of the Jewel Parks

What work is being done at Glen Ryan Shelter work is being done roofing, lighting and concrete work. Brunswick building work has begun. The floor tile and cabinets have been removed. Ironwood's playground equipment is beginning to be put in. The fence around tennis court has been removed. Roosevelt, Tolleston, and Howe work is starting on the buildings.

Public comments were received by:
Sandy O'Brien

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 May 09, 2023 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

Minutes prepared by: Angela Noel-Peasant