

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 06, 2023, 1:30 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order:** Vice-Chairman Gola called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:** The following Roll Call was taken:

**Members Present:** Jennifer Hermonson, Addison Park District  
Phyllis Schmidt, Bensenville Park District  
Michael Hixenbaugh, Butterfield Park District  
Maryfran Leno, Itasca Park District (1:36 p.m.)  
Paul Friedrichs, Lombard Park District  
Bruce Baum, Medinah Park District  
Shannon Elsey, Oakbrook Terrace Park District  
Randy Splitt, Village of Schiller Park  
Greg Gola, Village of Villa Park  
Jon Marquardt, Wood Dale Park District

**Members Absent:** Keith Knautz, Village of Glendale Heights

**Staff Present:** Rick Poole, Executive Director  
Jerry Barton, Superintendent of Recreation  
Carlos Marroquin, Marketing and Communications Manager  
Ana Salazar, Office Manager, Recording Secretary  
Maggie Goode, Recreation Coordinator  
Rosario Lopez, H.R. Generalist  
Nicole Kozlowski, Accountant  
Sam Crane, Accountant

**Guests Present:** Brian LeFevre, Partner, Sikich LLP Auditors.

3. **Introduction of Guests and Staff.** Director Poole welcomed everyone back from summer and introduced accountants Nicole Kozlowski and Sam Crane from Lauterbach & Amen, along with Brian LeFevre of Sikich LLP, who is attending to present the NEDSRA Annual Financial Report. He also welcomed and congratulated Maggie Goode for her new position as NEDSRA's Superintendent.

**4. Public Comments.** None.

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes.**

- a. Vice-Chairman Gola requested a motion to approve the Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes of June 7, 2023. Trustee Elsey motioned to approve the meeting minutes, and Trustee Schmidt made a second. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote with 9 ayes and 0 nays.

**6. Consent Agenda – Financial Reports.**

- a. Vice-Chairman Gola requested a motion to approve the NEDSRA Disbursements and Financial Statements as presented for the unaudited periods ending May 31, 2023; June 30, 2023; and July 31, 2023. Trustee Friedrichs made the motion, and Trustee Baum made the second. Vice-Chairman Gola asked if there was any need for discussion. There being no further discussion, on a roll call vote, voting aye: Trustee Hermonson, Addison Park District; Trustee Elsey, Oakbrook Terrace Park District; Trustee Baum, Medinah Park District; Trustee Schmidt, Bensenville Park District; Trustee Hixenbaugh, Butterfield Park District; Trustee Splitt, Village of Schiller Park; Trustee Marquardt, Wood Dale Park District; Trustee Friedrichs, Lombard Park District; Trustee Gola, Village of Villa Park. Motion passed with 9 ayes and 0 nays.

- 7. NEDSRA Annual Financial Report, Year Ended April 30, 2023.** Director Poole thanked Sikich, Lauterbach & Amen staff, and Manager Salazar for their dedicated efforts during the audit process. He then introduced Brian LeFevre from Sikich, who would be presenting the NEDSRA Annual Financial Audit Report. Mr. LeFevre began by expressing his appreciation to the NEDSRA Board of Trustees for the opportunity to present the audit reports. He was delighted to announce that NEDSRA had received an unmodified opinion on the audit financial report, which is the highest level of endorsement for a financial statement. He proceeded to guide the Board's attention to key sections of the report, including the Executive Summary prepared by NEDSRA, the Statement of Net Position, the Statement of Activities, Revenues and Expenditures, Short-term Assets and Liabilities, Deposits and Investments. Mr. LeFevre commended the smooth and timely cooperation he received from the Lauterbach & Amen team and the NEDSRA staff. Without further questions or comments, Vice-Chairman Gola requested a motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2023. The motion was made by Trustee Friedrichs, and Trustee Baum made the second. On a roll call vote, voting aye: Trustee Splitt, Village of Schiller Park; Trustee Hermonson, Addison Park District; Trustee Baum, Medinah Park District; Trustee Marquardt, Wood Dale Park District; Trustee Friedrichs, Lombard Park District; Trustee Schmidt, Bensenville Park District; Trustee Leno, Itasca Park District; Trustee Hixenbaugh, Butterfield Park District; Trustee Elsey, Oakbrook Terrace Park District; Trustee Gola, Village of Villa Park. Motion passed with 10 ayes and 0 nays.

**8. Comments and Communications.**

- a. Golf Classic Flyer. Manager Marroquin confirmed that RSVPs for the Golf Classic have been successfully received from all Member Partners. He then shared the latest count of registered golfers, which currently stands at 126.
- b. R.I.S.E. Flyer and Jeena Greenwalt Scholarship Application. Superintendent Barton provided updates on the R.I.S.E. event and information about the Jeena Greenwalt Scholarship award and status of the award recipients.
- c. NEDSRA TREC Site 2 Proposal. Superintendent Barton announced NEDSRA's plans to expand the TREC day program and the ongoing efforts to secure program space at a Member Partner facility.

9. **Agency Report.** Director Poole shared updates from his recent meeting with Trustee Hermonson regarding the roof replacement timeline and playground improvement plans. Trustee Hermonson added that the Addison Park District plans to update the playground to a full all-inclusive playground and is in the process of applying for an OSLAD grant to secure additional funding for the playground improvement project. Director Poole also mentioned that NEDSRA received the DCEO grant check from the state, totaling the full amount of \$244,400, and has initiated the grant process for the state's current fiscal year. Superintendent Barton thanked the Member Partners who hosted NEDSRA's summer camps. He highlighted the success of the Amazing Race event hosted by NEDSRA and the nine-team flag football tournament held at Willowbrook High School. Superintendent Barton also announced that NEDSRA had two golfers who qualified and were set to participate in the Special Olympics North America Golf Tournament. Additionally, he shared the news of Jay Aguado's appointment as the new Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies coordinator at NEDSRA.

10. **Chairman of the Board Comments.** None.

11. **Unfinished Business.** None.

**12. New Business.**

- a. Bank Signer Resolution. Director Poole communicated the need to pass a resolution to update the authorized bank representatives at Fifth Third Bank due to changes in officers in 2023. The following individuals are proposed to be recognized as authorized bank representatives: Executive Director Rick Poole, Chairman Keith Knautz, Vice-Chairman Greg Gola, and Secretary Michael Hixenbaugh. Vice-Chairman Gola asked for a motion to approve the passing of Fifth Third Bank Multi-Product Resolution 09-06-2023 in order to approve the Authorized Bank Representatives as Executive Director Poole, Chairman Knautz, Vice-Chairman Gola, and Secretary Hixenbaugh. The motion was made by Trustee Baum, and Trustee Hermonson made the second. On a roll call vote, voting aye: Trustee Marquardt, Wood Dale Park District; Trustee Schmidt, Bensenville Park District; Trustee Hixenbaugh, Butterfield Park District; Trustee Leno, Itasca Park District; Trustee Friedrichs, Lombard Park District; Trustee Baum, Medinah Park District;



Trustee Elsey, Oakbrook Terrace Park District; Trustee Splitt, Village of Schiller Park; Trustee Hermonson, Addison Park District; Trustee Gola, Village of Villa Park. Motion passed with 10 ayes and 0 nays.


- b. Front Entry Remodel Drawings. Director Poole presented the updated plans for remodeling the front entry, as provided by the architect. He explained that the project will be divided into two phases. Phase one will focus on the hardscape, with an alternate option for addressing maintenance costs. Phase two will involve the addition of trellises for shade. The intention is to initiate the bidding process for phase one in October and hold off for phase two for the subsequent fiscal year. Trustee Leno inquired about the budget for both phases and suggested revising the plans to incorporate all hardscape, electrical, and maintenance costs, with an alternate for adding the trellises, consolidating it into a single-phase project. Director Poole expressed his commitment to continue collaborating with the architects on this project and obtain additional cost information.

**13. Board of Trustees Comments.** Trustee Splitt reported that Schiller Park had a wonderful summer season. Trustee Schmidt shared the exciting news that the Bensenville Park District is gearing up to construct the Kaboom Playground, located on shared land with the Wood Dale Park District. They have also submitted an OSLAD grant application for the renovation of Sunrise Park and applied for a park grant for the redevelopment of the Deer Grove Leisure Center. Trustee Friedrichs conveyed that the Lombard Park District is currently in the process of searching for a new Director of Recreation. Trustee Baum provided updates on the Medinah Park District, mentioning that they are in the final stages of revamping their website and preparing for the grand opening of their outdoor fitness court, which coincides with their annual Harvest Fest event. He also announced his retirement and received congratulations from all. Trustee Leno shared that the Itasca Park District had a busy summer season, their pool remains open, and their October Fest is coming up. She expressed their enjoyment in hosting NEDSRA summer camps and the positive impact it had on their staff. Additionally, Itasca recently completed roofing and rooftop unit replacements, installed new wood floors, and updated their fitness equipment. Trustee Elsey reported that the Oakbrook Terrace Park District had a successful summer with a new team, the highest summer camp numbers in a long time, and focused on beautifying the parks. She added that they are in the process of redesigning Terrace View Park. Trustee Marquardt announced that Wood Dale is actively engaged in multiple projects and received \$324,000 in grant funding. Trustee Hixenbaugh shared that the Butterfield Park District had a busy summer and is continuing to develop the park on Butterfield Road and Route 53 and pursuing an OSLAD grant for new pickleball courts. Trustee Gola reported that the Village of Villa Park is breaking ground on the new recreation center soon, has commenced an OSLAD grant project for Lufkin Park, and has applied for another OSLAD grant for their recreation center.

**14. Next Meeting Date.** Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., NEDSRA

**15. Adjournment.** Vice-Chairman Gola said he would entertain a motion to adjourn without further business before the NEDSRA Board of Trustees. The motion was made by Trustee Hixenbaugh and a second by Trustee Eley. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote with 10 ayes and 0 nays. The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ana Salazar, Recording Secretary



Keith Knautz, Chairman



Michael Hixenbaugh, Board Secretary

