



**Bourbonnais Township Park District  
Board of Commissioners Meeting  
Exploration Station... a children's museum  
1095 W Perry Street, Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
October 24, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.**

On October 24, 2022, President Zinanni called Board of Commissioners Meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the following people present:

**Commissioners Present:** David Zinanni, Anthony Settle, Bill Bukowski, Brian Hebert, Jeff Mullinax

**Appointees Present:** Ed Piatt- Executive Director, Amanda Langlois- Board Secretary, Tom Planera- Board Attorney, Rob Romo- Treasurer

**Staff Present:** Cherie Smolkovich, Kristi Schu, Frank Cianci, Monalisa Keele, Mike Crews,

**Visitors:** Courtney Stephens, Kayla James, Jeff Schneider, Jennifer Corke Kafer, Kathy King Watters, Allen Ray Watters, Beth Rieger

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion was made by Settle and seconded by Bukowski to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.

-Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 26, 2022

-Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes October 10, 2022

**Public Comment-** Courtney Stephens, KVTA President, thanked the park district for trusting them in allowing them to do the Reenactment. She also thanked Brittaney Beck and Anthony Settle as well as Cherie Smolkovich. Stephens stated that working with the park district on this endeavor was amazing and KVTA hopes the district will consider doing it again next year.

Jennifer Corke Kafer stated she was a participant in the scarecrow festival and was disheartened with the scarecrow display that was allowed to stay up for a limited time that. She would like to see better guidelines in place for the future.

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Cathy King Watters is not a Bourbonnais resident but also did not like the scarecrow that was allowed to be up for a limited time as well.

**Staff Reports:**

Executive Director Piatt thanked everyone for being here and introduced Monalisa Keele, the district's new Recreation Supervisor for Youth. Ms. Keele then gave a brief description of her background and told everyone that she is very excited to start her new position. Piatt then gave a brief description of what he has been working on:

- *Dr. Piatt's leadership article, "Eroding Poor Leadership Strategies," was published in October 2022 in the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association Magazine, Volume 53, Number 5.*

- *Scarecrow Fest – Perry Farm - success.*
- *Sleepy Hollow -Perry Farm – success.*
- *Blues and Brews music fest – Perry Farm – success.*
- *Met with Kankakee County Historical Society and approved window replacement 1<sup>st</sup> and second floor Perry Farm Farm House, new entrance door, and fixing the foundations and painting of the barns at Perry Farm.*
- *Parking lot extensions (bidding in Spring 2023).*
- *Ninja Challenge course expected installation – Spring 2023.*
- *New Roofs Perry Farm and barns are expected in November 2023.*
- *Met with the Kankakee County Convention and Visitors Bureau (as a board member) to discuss a \$500K grant for Diamond Point.*
- *Assess and monitor new hires for the Before and After School programs. A decision will be made on December 1, 2023, on the status of the Bourbonnais location and possibly moving the entire program to the Recreation Station in Bradley. Nicole Jenkins, Superintendent of Recreation, sent letters were sent to all parents with an update status. We are exploring every opportunity to attract new employees from this program, including advertising in the Kankakee Journal, meeting with KCC and Olivet educational departments, Workforce Board, Chambers of Commerce, Facebook, BTPD website, and personal networks.*
- *Ronald L. McDaniel grant completed and forward for funding opportunities for the Ninja Challenge Course and new equipment for the Exploration Station – Children's Museum.*
- *Continue to meet with and explore regional opportunities with community partners.*
- *Continue to meet with local mayors to discuss possible joint programs and events.*
- *The memorial marker on Perry Farm will be held for the Veteran's Memorial sign and rededication of the memorial monument on 10/26/22 at Perry Farm.*

Treasurer's Report- Rob Romo gave a brief update on finances and would like to proceed to move the fiscal year to January to December.

IT- Frank Cianci's report was submitted in the board packet and he had nothing more to add.

Superintendent of Recreation- Nicole Jenkin's report was submitted with the board packet and she was absent.

Superintendent of Parks- Mike Crews report was submitted and they are busy cleaning up Sleepy Hollow.

Marketing- Cherie Smolkovich's report was submitted in the board packet. She thanked Brittaney, Kristi and Courtney with KVTA for helping her get her through her first big event. Smolkovich stated that our Facebook impressions skyrocketed as well.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports:**

Special Recreation- no report was submitted but Settle added that on November 12<sup>th</sup> the Great Mouse Race will be held which is a big fundraiser for the organization.

Living History- no report was submitted

Kankakee County Convention & Visitors Bureau- Piatt covered items in his Executive Director's report.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Zinanni asked if there was a motion to approve to pay the bills. Hebert made the motion and Mullinax seconded. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.

Zinanni asked if there was a motion to approve to pay the payroll. Settle made the motion and Hebert seconded. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.

Zinanni asked if there was a motion to approve to the Board Meeting schedule for 2023. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.

Zinanni asked if there was a motion to approve the Restoration Windows Proposal for Perry Farm House. Bukowski made the motion and Settle seconded. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.

Zinanni asked if there was a motion to go into closed session at 5:57 pm. Settle made the motion and Bukowski seconded. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.


Zinanni asked if there is a motion to come out of closed session and reopen the meeting at 6:30 pm. Settle made the motion and Mullinax seconded. Roll Call: Mullinax- AYE, Bukowski- AYE, Hebert- AYE, Settle-AYE, Zinanni-AYE. Motion carried.


Settle made the motion at 6:30 pm. to adjourn, Mullinax seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes respectable submitted by Amanda Langlois.

  
Amanda Langlois, Board Secretary

  
Date

  
David Zinanni, President

  
Date

Minutes approved at the board meeting of November 21, 2022