

Metamora Park Board

Minutes of **September 7th** Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Call to Order - In the Village Hall: 102 N. Davenport, Metamora IL at 7:02 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance - Performed.

Roll Call - Sarah Buss, Kerry Brock, Matt Bidne, and Jarrod Love were present. *Michelle Spielman was absent.*

Minutes - Minutes for the following meetings were reviewed and approved as listed:

1. August 3rd Regular Meeting Minutes - Motion made by Bidne and seconded by Love. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Public Input

- Nathan Hendricks with Agera Energy put a proposal to the board. He is interested in being a supplier of energy to the Village of Metamora. He is able to provide lower rates than our current provider. At the same time, he wants to give back to the Park District in line with how many local businesses sign onboard.

Reports

1. Treasurer Report
 - a. Joan Garber gave Treasurer's report. Buss highlighted that the pool lost \$43,000 this summer in day-to-day operations, not including closing costs. There are already ideas to cut losses next year, but if the board is going to vote to move forward and open again, they must keep this figure in mind. She also wanted to review the camps. Executive Director Dawn Deeb explained that wages were out of line this year because the counselors were guaranteed 20 hours a week, however there were several slow weeks. The extra staff was put to work doing maintenance and pool office work. Once the half day option was put back in place, enrollment grew. She endorsed returning to the old model used in previous years.
 - b. Kerry made motion to approve the treasurer's report. Bidne seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
2. Director's Report
 - a. A meeting with Woodford County Historical Society determined that there are considerable repairs needed at Lee Cabin. Signage will not be replaced until a means of contact for the community is established. WCHS has provided a certificate of insurance.
 - b. A walk-through inspection of the pool went fine. The inspector pointed out that a wall needs to be put up at the pool office.
 - c. All concession stand products have been either sold or donated. All freezers are emptied and unplugged.
 - d. Deeb described her tour at the WCSPEA building. They received a rent suggestion of \$6,000/month.

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- e. Met with Hofstetter about the berming at our playgrounds. Berming would be the most aesthetically pleasing and easy option to maintain, but initial installation would be very messy. He is going to explore other options to build a border in a cost-effective way. Enclosing each individual piece made the most sense. The teeter totters are down, but the base is still intact. The slide still needs to come down because it is now sitting at a slant. Buss requested a special meeting to discuss replacing removed equipment.
 - f. Located the company used to weed our parks previously and are waiting for a bid.
 - g. Damage was done to the Herring Field property. Cars were parked on the grass while the ground was still wet, leaving ruts in the field. MGS offered to pay for replacement dirt.
 - h. Received positive feedback about camps and programs
 - i. First Little Free Library installed at Park District Office. Three others are under construction and will be placed in our parks.
 - j. Kacir will be removing tree stumps out of Schupp in October or November. He will be making a fine mulch for the playground.
 - k. Eagle Enterprises said they could take down the hedge for \$700. The Eagle Scouts also offered to take it down and the village offered to help haul it away. The board agreed that it would be preferable to use the eagle scouts.
 - l. Metamora Motors and Lowe's accounts have been made, primarily used by Roger for maintenance.
 - m. Deeb is in the process of creating credit card processing for Rec1.
 - n. Wagenbach electrician thinks he can get electricity to the garage and street lamp. All that is left to do is coordinate dates for the job.
 - o. An emergency plan is coming together. There is some confusion about the intergovernmental agreement wherein the police patrolled BPP. Metamora Police has told Woodford County that they no longer have anything to do with the park.
 - p. Fall/Winter Park District program guide is out and some programs are already filled up.
 - q. Want to use the same materials at all of our parks. Waiting to find out if the pool opens.
 - r. Inflatables have been secured for Meet the Heroes. The providers will have an attendant on duty.
3. Pool
- a. Mike Brockhouse gave an update on closing the pool. He told the board that all pools are now empty. He is waiting for estimates to close the pool and facilities. A valve needs to be fixed by Moses Plumbing and water will not be shut off until after it is done. \$1715 to winterize the pool and bathhouse. It was said that Todd Alderson suggested that the Foundation cover the costs of the valve replacement.
 - b. He compared previous year's income and expenses to this year. There was an \$18,000 increase in revenue compared to last year. Pool parties were another increase. Wages and other expenses are considerable. By changing hours, Brockhouse says at

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least \$800 could be saved. He also suggested skipping advertising because the Metamora Pool is well-established in the community. By making several changes, Brockhouse estimates that \$10,000 could be saved. Buss stated that she only wants one person working at the concession stand ever. Brockhouse also wanted to open the pool later due to low morning attendance.

4. Budget/Strategy

- a. Buss asked the board how the loss from the pool would be absorbed in the long term. There are not savings to cover such losses each year. One option would be to have an endowment that could offset those losses each year.

5. Marketing/Events

- a. Brock gave an update on Happy Fall Y'All. It is still in need of a date. The proceeds are intended to beautify the parks. St. Jude has shown interest in participating in the event. It needs to be decided if other entities will be allowed to participate in the event.
- b. Deeb informed the board that an organization approached her about hosting a Halloween themed event.
- c. High school Homecoming is having an event on the square and asked if we would be interested in doing an activity for them. Brock put forward a leaf-rubbing event which she could run.

6. Futures

- a. Bidne recapped a conversation with Sports Court Midwest about basketball courts. They want to come out and take a look at the sites to determine how the courts would be oriented. They suggested fencing around the court. They would work with local contractors to put down the concrete. Recommended Nice Rink to make it floodable to use as an ice skating rink.

7. Maintenance

- a. Love told the board that all is well. The new cameras and doors have cut down on vandalism.
- b. Roger is still adding mulch to Brighton.

Old Business

- Ball Diamonds at BPP
 - Bidne went over the Farnsworth proposal with the board. MATBO is looking for additional fields for older kids. Looking to rework fields at Riverview and Springbay. There might be interest there adding additional fields. Bidne offered to reach out the the MATBO board. Damien wanted four fields. Bidne reminded him that the back entrance has some issues in the past, but Damien wants to go forward with it. Love expressed concern that a lane would need to be added. A Farnsworth representative said adding a lane would be issue number one. If it unfeasible, they would stop wherever they were at. Bidne said that an agreement would need to be made concerning maintenance with MATBO. Brock felt that \$2,000 was a lot of money just to explore an option.

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- Bidne made motion to approve \$2000 to match MYSA's contribution to explore this option. Love seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- An Ordinance annexing 845 County Road 1500 N, Metamora, Illinois into the Metamora Park District
 - Brock made motion to approve. Bidne seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- An Ordinance annexing 1440 Coal Bank Road, Metamora, Illinois into the Metamora Park District
 - Bidne made motion to approve. Brock seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- An Ordinance annexing 1400 Coal Bank Road, Metamora, Illinois into the Metamora Park District
 - Brock made motion to approve. Bidne seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- An Ordinance annexing 1310 Coal Bank Road, Metamora, Illinois into the Metamora Park District
 - Brock made motion to approve. Bidne seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- Replacement maintenance equipment
 - Roger has expressed previously that the gator is at the end of its life. Buss proposed continued use of the gator in addition to the purchase of a new machine with a bumper. The cost of the new gator is \$8300 with a discount.
 - The board discussed purchasing a new tractor. Cost estimates need to be gathered for replacements. Bidne proposed that a forklift attachment would be a useful investment for moving playground equipment. Buss said that she wouldn't want to purchase something that would have limited use.
 - Buss emphasized there was a need to replace much of our equipment.
- Additional equipment at BPP
 - Bidne told the board that they previously paid \$650 for one of the original spinners. They come in a rainbow of colors. Buss suggested the board decide what they wanted out there or how much to spend, but not to vote on it tonight. Bidne also looked at slides from the same company, whose prices ranged between \$3,500 and \$13,000. They came in a variety of sizes and were made for many age groups. The Farnsworth representative suggested that the park district acquire a price with their representatives using the GSA program. Deeb put forward that ground coverage would be less expensive if the playground was intended for a younger age group. Buss suggested determining a budget, selecting pieces, and then presenting them to the public at upcoming Fall events. The Farnsworth representative said a six foot clear zone was a general guideline. Swings and slides need even more space.
- Park weed prevention spraying
 - Will be followed up on later when a bid is acquired.

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New Business

- Deeb reported that a picnic table was moved and its lock broken. The gator was also misused. Buss suggested sending an invoice for damage to the perpetrators.

Executive Session

- Motion to move into executive session made by. Seconded by. Moved into at 9:04pm
- Motion to leave executive session at 9:25 made by Brock and seconded by Love. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.

Michelle Spielman, President of the Metamora
Park Board

Paula Winkler, Metamora Park Board Secretary