

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
December 8, 2025– 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Secretary Kathleen Forzley

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Barcelos, and Sink
Absent: Draudt and Fetzer

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Kathleen A. Forzley, Secretary
Katie Gock, Assistant Director
Blake McMahon, Superintendent of Parks

President Austin requested a motion to allow Commissioner Draudt to participate remotely due to out-of-town business, as defined in Resolution R-2014-05, adopted by the Park Board of Commissioners on April 28, 2014. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Sink, Commissioner Draudt entered the meeting (via telephone) at 7:02p.m. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Barcelos, Sink, and Austin
Nays: None
Absent: Draudt and Fetzer

Addresses from the Audience

Hosek Park resident, Phil Ordway, addressed the Board for updates on the Hosek Park proposed swale. Due to the delay on the project, Mr. Ordway requested using sandbags to channel the water away from the homes in the short term. Derrick from V-3 informed him that the Park District cannot do anything to change the hydrology of established wetlands, and President Austin informed him that the Board had decided against using sandbags to push the water.

President Austin tabled this issue until the approval from the county was received. The residents exited the meeting at 7:16p.m.

Approval of consent agenda

President Austin asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. There being none, she requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Sink, seconded by Commissioner Barcelos, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Sink, Barcelos, Austin, and Draudt (via telephone)
Nays: None
Absent: Fetzer

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt (via telephone) presented to the Board Ordinance 2025-03, the Levy Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2025, and Ending April 30, 2026. After Board discussion, President Austin requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-03, the Tax Levy Ordinance. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Draudt (via telephone), seconded by Commissioner Barcelos, Ordinance 2025-03 was adopted. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Draudt (via telephone), Barcelos, Sink, and Austin
Nays:	None
Absent:	Fetzer

Commissioner Draudt (via telephone) presented to the Board Ordinance 2025-04, an Ordinance Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2025 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source). After Board discussion, President Austin requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-04, the Abatement Ordinance. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Sink, Ordinance 2025-04 was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Barcelos, Sink, Austin, and Draudt (via telephone)
Nays:	None
Absent:	Fetzer

Aquatics Committee

Commissioner Sink introduced to the Board Nicole Interrante who was hired as the Superintendent of Recreation, which now includes the duties of Aquatics Supervisor. She informed the Board that she has already begun sending out letters to past aquatic staff and will begin hiring for the 2026 pool season. She has locked in the contract with Ellis Association and is in the process of updating old staff manuals.

The Board welcomed her to the Park District.

Recreation Committee

In the absence of Commissioner Fetzer, Assistant Director Katie Gock gave the Recreation report. She informed the Board that the December events were again extremely popular, with 450 residents registered for the upcoming Santa's Workshop family event. There were 103 Letters from Santa sent out and 25 enrolled for Cookies and Cocoa. The Winter/Spring brochure was released within the last two weeks and registrations were ongoing.

RecTrac was in the process of developing an app for the Park District which will be hosted on the RecTrac server and will encompass all Park District information on one app. The design is currently being worked on. Commissioner Sink suggested that a person not associated with Clarendon Hills try out the app before launching it to the public.

President Austin presented to the Board Resolution R-2025-05, a Resolution to Approve Amendments to the Joint Agreement for the Southeast Association for Special Parks and Recreation (“SEASPAR”). After discussion, President Austin requested a motion to approve R-2025-05, approving amendments to the Joint Agreement for SEASPAR. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Sink, seconded by Commissioner Barcelos, Resolution R-2025-05 was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Sink, Barcelos, Draudt (via telephone) and Austin
Nays: None
Absent: Fetzer

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Superintendent of Parks, Blake McMahon, informed the board that the sled hills were up in both parks. The ice rink was set up in Prospect Park but would require a week to ten days of below freezing temperatures before it would be ready to skate on. The snow plowing operations were going smoothly.

Commissioner Barcelos presented a proposal from Benito’s Landscaping for Hosek Park to create a swale to direct water towards the wetland, The low proposal of \$37,380, with an alternate proposal of \$6,680 which includes installation of PVC, fabric, stone and two catch basins along the new swale.

He also informed the Board that the County requires the replacement of eight trees. Benito’s Landscaping will replace three trees, and the Park District staff will plant five trees.

President Austin requested a motion to approve the two proposals in the amount of \$44,060 from Benito’s Landscaping. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Sink, the proposal was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Barcelos, Sink, Draudt (via telephone), and Austin
Nays: None
Absent: Fetzer

Superintendent of Parks, Blake McMahon, informed the Board that a tree service removed three dead ash trees on the east side of the park.

President’s Report

President Austin asked Jim Leppert, IHC Construction, to update the Board regarding the pool construction project. He reported that although winter came early, they would be completing the footings for the slides and would be digging the spray ground in the next couple of days.

The siding on the pool restroom/mechanical building was almost completed. The filters will be delivered at the end of the week. The winter months would be spent inside working on the filtration.

Jim Leppert exited the meeting at 8:03pm.

President Austin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Barcelos to convene to Executive Session for the purpose of:

Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed to the public, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes, pursuant to Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act

The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Austin, Barcelos, Draudt (via telephone), and Sink
Nays: None
Absent: Fetzer

The Board convened to Executive Session at 8:04pm.

The Board reconvened to the Regular meeting at 8:07pm.

President Austin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Barcelos, to release the Executive Session minutes of April 28, 2025, and for the destruction of the Executive Session Audio Tape from April 29, 2024. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Austin, Barcelos, Sink, and Draudt (via telephone)
Nays: None
Absent: Fetzer

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Austin, adjourned at 8:09 p.m. by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
