

**MEETING MINUTES
HARRISBURG TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
JUNE 29, 2020
8:00 AM HARRISBURG PARK OFFICE**



- CALL TO ORDER:** President Richard Rumsey called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
- ROLL CALL:** The following members of the Board of Commissioners were present: President Richard Rumsey, Vice President Doug Emery, and Secretary/Treasurer Mike Williams.
- Park Staff Present: Executive Director Blake Emery, Administrative Assistant Jill Marvel, Maintenance Director TA Sullivan, and Pool Manager Melonie Motsinger.
- PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Blake Emery announced that the Harrisburg Township Park District (HTPD) was accepting public comment by email or written submission up to the start of the meeting at 8:00 AM on June 29, 2020. There was no one from the public present or on the teleconference call. There were no comments received via email or written submission.
- CLOSED SESSION:** There was no motion to enter into closed session.
- SPECIAL BUSINESS:**
- COVID-19** Blake Emery announced that the purpose of the Special Meeting is to assess the current COVID-19 circumstances and making decisions on the process of reopening the park pool and playgrounds. Concerns about the health and safety of patrons, employees, and all community members should be at the forefront of all the decisions. Information from the Restore Illinois Plan, Illinois Department of Public Health, and from the insurance provider of the park (IPARKS) was used as valuable guidance in making decisions.
- The following decisions were made by the Park Board of Commissioners at the meeting.
- Park Pool** Blake Emery presented to the Board that the pool operates under the guidance of the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). On the evening of June 26, 2020, the IDPH released their Phase 4 Swimming Facility Guidance. The guidance was reviewed and discussed at the meeting. It was felt that if the pool was able to open we would have to use the 50 person limit (7 of which would be pool staff). Logistics of when the pool could be opened and how the Guidance would be followed were discussed. With the 4th of July Holiday weekend upcoming and pool chemicals needed, it was determined that the earliest the pool would be ready to open would be around July 10, 2020. It was discussed that school is still scheduled to resume on August 17, 2020 and what a realistic closing date would be. Melonie Motsinger brought it to the attention of the Board that most of her lifeguards had gotten other jobs or scheduled vacations and would not be available to work until August. Of the lifeguards she has available, several are under 16 and did not receive the proper Under 16 Work Permits yet. They would not be able to work until all proper paperwork was received. Several of the lifeguards are also currently doing private swim lessons on the side in private pools. There would also need to be an additional pool employee designated to cleaning and monitoring guidelines. Mike Williams made the motion that due to the limited pool lifeguard staff, the need for supplies, and the time

frame the pool would realistically be able to be open, that the pool remain closed for the 2020 Swim Season and seconded by Richard Rumsey. All in favor 3-0 per voice vote.

Playgrounds

Blake Emery presented to the Board that Executive Order 2020-43 no longer has language in it that playgrounds are to remain closed. Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) reached out and received official guidance from DCEO that: "Indoor playgrounds are to remain closed. Units of local government are provided the discretion to determine if outdoor playgrounds can open; the playground should be limited to no more than 50 persons at the playground, individuals should follow social distancing guidance and all other applicable IDPH guidance." Blake Emery reached out to the insurance provider for the park (IPARKS) and asked, "Does this mean we can make our own decision to open the playgrounds now if we keep capacity under 50?" IPARKS responded, "Yes, I am happy to report." Cleaning procedures were then discussed. CDC recommends that "outdoor areas generally require normal routine cleaning and do not require disinfection." Doug Emery had to leave the meeting at 8:35 a.m. but before he left he said that if the motion was to open playgrounds and follow proper cleaning guidelines then his vote was yes to open. Basketball courts were then discussed and it was decided they should be included with being open with playgrounds. The park recommends social distancing while playing basketball and no "pick-up" games. It was discussed and decided to keep the entire Gaskins City Complex (except for Field 4) closed until further notice. Richard Rumsey made the motion to open playgrounds at Paul Emery Park and follow cleaning guidelines and seconded by Mike Williams. All in favor 2-0 per voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

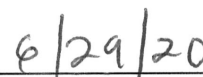
Blake Emery announced that the next regularly scheduled board meeting is July 17, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Rumsey moved to adjourn, seconded by Mike Williams. All in favor 2-0 per voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.



Michael Williams, Secretary / Treasurer



Date Signed