

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON MARCH 11, 2024**

The Board of Commissioners of the Oak Lawn Park District was convened in a Regular Meeting on March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. with President Johnson presiding.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Buschbach, Donahue, Mottl, Stalker, and Johnson  
A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Finance Meeting of February 12, 2024**

Mottl moved, Stalker seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: Mottl, Stalker, Johnson  
Abstain: Buschbach, Donahue  
Nay: None

**Regular Meeting of February 12, 2024**

Mottl moved, Stalker seconded to approve.

Voting: Aye: Mottl, Stalker, Johnson  
Abstain: Buschbach, Donahue  
Nay: None

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Volunteer of the Month – Oak Lawn High School**

For the month of February, we would like to award Oak Lawn High School as the volunteer of the month. Kelly Kenny, Service Learning Coordinator, has been sharing our volunteer opportunities with students and we have been getting an amazing turnout of volunteers. Specifically for our Special Rec Mardi Gras Dance, volunteers did an amazing job setting up tables, chairs, and decorations. We are excited to continue this great connection with Oak Lawn High School.

**Special Olympic Winter Game Athletes**

There are six individuals that we would like recognize today who attended the Special Olympic Illinois State Winter games. These athletes competed February 6<sup>th</sup> through February 8<sup>th</sup> at Chestnut Mountain and Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena Illinois. With over 150 athletes competing in events including snowshoeing and downhill skiing, these six athletes came out on top of their division.

These winter games athletes competed in 50, 100, 200, and 400 meter snowshoe competitions as well as our athlete who is an alpine skier.

Competition outcomes:

- Jessica Nowicki, 4<sup>th</sup> place in the 50-meter Snowshoe, & Bronze on the 100- meter Snowshoe.
- Jennifer Nowicki, 5<sup>th</sup> place in the 100-meter snowshoe & Gold in the 200-Meter snowshoe.
- Joe Coffelt, 4<sup>th</sup> place in the 200-meter Snowshoe & Gold in the 400-Meter snowshoe.
- Taylor Schaar, Silver medal in the 200-Meter snowshoe & 4<sup>th</sup> place in the 100-meter snowshoe.
- Marium Wahid, Silver medal in the 100-meter snowshoe & 5<sup>th</sup> place in the 200-meter snowshoe.
- 4 X 100 Meter Relay- Joe, Jennifer, Taylor, & Marium with the Gold medal.
- Johnny Damme, Silver medal in the Alpine Slalom & Silver medal in the Alpine Giant Slalom.

Congratulations athletes!

**Special Olympic Eagles D State Basketball Team**

We are also here to recognize a job well done for our Eagles D basketball team, who also competed in the State Special Olympics basketball tournament over the weekend. This team played some exciting games. With a new high score of 62 points in one game. We would also like to congratulate the Eagles D team for taking home the silver medal.

Congratulations athletes!

**Special Olympics State Basketball Skills Athlete**

First, we would like to congratulate Lucy Smith for getting a GOLD medal at the State basketball skills competition this past weekend. Lucy was in a tough division, but she was on her A game this weekend. We are all proud of the accomplishments you had this basketball season. We look forward to watching your basketball skills continue to develop and watch you shine on the court!

Congratulations Lucy!

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Buschbach moved, Stalker seconded to approve the payables of \$ 645,317.62 for the period of February 1, 2024 to February 29, 2024.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:** None

**LEGAL:** None

**APPROVAL OF BIDS OVER \$30,000:** None

**MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR:**

Hartwig stated that he attended NRPA's Director's School last week in Denver, Colorado. Hartwig said there were a lot of great learning opportunities, and he was able to network with several different agencies across the country. Hartwig made mention of the Strategic Planning session he attended and stated that overall, he had a great time.

Hartwig discussed the district's Strategic Plan and stated that staff meet quarterly to review their initiatives and present on their progress. Last week staff met to discuss the updates and provide new information regarding DEI, Communications, IT, and the district's website.

Hartwig stated he had the opportunity to attend and speak at the State of the Village address last month. Hartwig thanked Mayor Vorderer for the opportunity.

Hartwig said that he attended the Legislative Breakfast last month and it was great to see so many legislators in attendance.

Hartwig made mention of an upcoming prescribed burn that will be taking place at Wolfe Wildlife and Oak Lawn Prairie in the next few days. Hartwig told the Board not to be alarmed if they see smoke in the area.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Johnson stated that he loves to see so many awards be given out at the Board meetings. Johnson encouraged all the athletes in attendance to keep up the great work.

Johnson recognized the theatre department for doing so well with ticket sales this season.

**MATTERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Donahue stated that his new hobby is driving around to the district's parks with his son. Donahue stated it's great to see so many people out and about enjoying our parks. Donahue thanked the Maintenance Department for keeping our parks so clean.

Buschbach thanked the Finance Department and district staff for putting in the time and effort into the budget.

Mottl stated she attended the President's Day open gym at the Racquet Center and her kids had a great time there. Mottl said friends of hers also attended and they had rave review about the facility.

Mottl said she hosted her son's birthday party at the Pavilion this past weekend and everything went great. Mottl thanked staff for their help.

Mottl stated she will be attending the theatre production of Sister Act with some of her family members and that they all look forward to seeing the show.

Mottl mentioned that she overheard a few parents discussing our preschool program while she was waiting for her daughter to get out of dance class. Mottl said the parents had nothing but great things to say about the program and Recreation Supervisor, Bryce Nolan.

Mottl said she attended the Night of Champions event at the Pavilion and stated her son had a blast at it.

Stalker stated her and her niece recently went to a few of our parks and her niece had nothing but great things to say while she played at them.

Stalker said she attended a tree planting in Elmhurst and she represented the district.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Buschbach moved, Stalker seconded to adjourn at 7:31p.m.

Voting: Aye: All  
Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,



---

Daniel Johnson, President



---

Tracey Gallik, Recording Secretary