

VILLAGE OF ROBBINS  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OCTOBER 23, 2021 10:30 A.M.

Meeting Location: Robbins Park District 13650 S Claire Blvd, Robbins IL, 60472

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 10:56am

BY: Mayor Darren Bryant

ROLL CALL: Trustee

ROLL CALL (TRUSTEES)

P David R. Dyson

P Ernest Maxey Jr.

P George Brewton

P Tiffany S. Robinson

P Gregory N. Jackson

P Michael Collier Sr.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

P Mayor Darren E. Bryant

P Village Clerk Sharon Dyson

P V.A. Jasmine Washington

PLEDGE OF ALLEGINACE/ PRAYER

- I. Introduction – Mayor Bryant, Good morning to my fellow elected officials and leaders, we are here for unity, this is the first time that the entities across the Village has gotten together. We are trying to create organization; we are in a budget debt crisis along with others at the same time. There is new leadership in police and fire dept. We need help with our children, library, and park district we must get support to lead our children. This burden is heavy, and I stand equal with everyone. We must strategize and begin to hold the State Representatives and Senators accountable. We need to begin to share financial books and create TIF, share grant writers, and lobbyist. Entities present were: Jasmine Washington Village Administrator (Village of Robbins), Board of Trustees, PRSD 143.5, Robbins Park District, CHSD 218, William Leonard Public Library District.
- II. Discussion of collaboration amongst community governmental entities. Village of Robbins, PRSD 143.5, Robbins Park District, CHSD, William Leonard Public Library District.  
Posen Robbins 143.5 - Keller and Childs School have made a deliberate effort to exemplify that the board has kept the lawn and inside the schools clean and bright. The students must feel like they have everything that is the best. COVID numbers are low due to very aggressive quarantine policy and will continue until CDC lifts mandates. We are trying to get things back to normal. The school clubs can run, but the only issue is transportation. Student participation is increasing in spite of this. Thanks to the village board for the speedbumps on Lydia. We want to create a Robbins database and create a platform to communicate and to distribute information on programs and youth related issues for the children in the Village of Robbins. Digital speedometer would be great to control speed during school hours. Discussion on how facilities can be used for adult learning in the evening. Board member Collier mentioned that a transition to high school from grade school is needed as our kids from Kellar going into Eisenhower are behind. We want to make sure that we connect so that we can ensure our children are entering prepared.

William Leonard Library- Homewood library has digital books at the library that are used if a schoolbook is needed, they have access to it at the library. Tutoring at library to assist them with school. Like a college prep class, us as minorities are not privy to. The program parent university teaches parents how to assist the students and issues a parent report card made for recommendations and holds them accountable.

Whenever the use of the digital boards is needed send information to Ms. Gosa, newsletters can also help filter information. All entities information can be displayed at the village hall to distribute to the community.

218 Board member Mrs. Collier stated they have been fighting hard to help with equity challenge within the district, there is a very diverse student body and 90% white staff. Superintendent position is open now and if anyone knows a qualified person, please have them apply.

Equity is important to ensure we have a place and given the opportunity. We will challenge the board and we want to make sure being challenged with the presence of being an African American. Calling for a Black or Hispanic superintendent, minority leadership. Data shows that the diversity is needed. We need to support Mrs. Collier as she faces Worth Township, Palos, etc., many times as the only African-American.

Zootering (zoom tutoring) – When in Robbins face to face tutoring will be available so that they see face to face. – Mayor stated that he will make the connections to include all parties. Collier stated that she is trying to be the face so that the students are being treated fair when being disciplined. And student was published that they are from Robbins and wasn't needed and incident parent didn't come and have a voice from the child. Mayor reaches out and need to have information to see what parent knows that if you don't speak up for your child they have no voice.

To wrap up 218 has not heard from as a recent gun was confiscated and have not yet heard back from superintendent. Radom wand, bookbag, and locker checks will be implemented, and they are going to beef up checking things. ID enforcement needs to be reinforced.

218 under Jaqueline articulation program was further along 8th grade math teachers did a shadow day to discuss gaps and allowed to see that freshman year 8<sup>th</sup> graders where not up to par.

Library – Kimberly Harris interim director – There is a technology divide and have recently secured a grant to upgrade computers, to increase resources, and have swan to 8mil resource item to access. The Library ran in deficit for a very long time with basics. With the new census numbers, it has allowed more money to be secured with grants. Currently securing construction grant to transform the library into a digital resource center. Now they are working on the infrastructure fixing the roof. FCC internet service in the VOR T-Mobile will be out to address hot spot and connectivity issues with-in the library. Senior Thursdays and community outreach programs will help to get foot traffic in door and get them signed up to get library card. October's teen month delayed because of roof. We want to focus on youth and young adults. Due to COVID, a lax approach was taken to see how things would be operated. There is a system in place for background checks and a warming center for homeless. Breast cancer event had over 50 people and brought good conversation in to assist with ideas. Even though we meet the criteria with per capita, the library is behind with duns number and business, and has never applied for the grants. Library is working on

transforming space and encourage everyone to stop by and see the new improvements. Training students for military and are actively looking for help. We hold block club meeting second Monday of every month. Must have apprenticeships to bring in youth and allow them to be built up.

Robbins Park District- want to get the children back into the park district, some people start programs but don't continue them. We want to work with everyone to bring resources. Senior brunch coming soon.

Want to make sure that they can have parks in each sectors of the village, and multi -mix facility. Every third Wednesday park district meetings are held.

Turkey drive on Nov. 20

- III. Citizens Comments
- IV. Adjourn

It was moved by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee Collier to adjourn. Upon unanimous vote in the affirmative, meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Village Clerk, Sharon Dyson

Sharon Dyson