



# **WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT**

## **Regular Board Meeting**

### **Meeting Minutes**

*Monday, June 9, 2025*  
*7:30 p.m. – Village Hall Council Chambers*

#### **PRESENT**

**Commissioners:** President Lahey, Vice President Fraizer, Mike Murdock, Patrick Duffy, Cecilia Clarke, Julia Goebel, Kara Kosloskus

**Secretary/Interim Executive Director:** Margaret Resnick

**Visitor:** Walter Keats, Alan Golden, Suzanne Averill, John Flanagin

#### **1.0 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS CALLED TO ORDER**

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

##### **1.1 ROLL CALL**

#### **2.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

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Vice President Frazier moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of June 9, 2025.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Duffy, Murdock, Kosloskus, Clarke, Goebel, Frazier, Lahey. Voting No, none. Absent: None; **Motion Carried.**

#### **3.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

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President Lahey states there was nothing in the packet and he had no additional.

#### **4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

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Walter Keats – Comments on the Recreation report statistics.

**John Flanagin & Sue Averill – Present a check to the Wilmette Park District Scholarship Program from the Ouilmette Foundation for \$20,000. This money will be used to support recreational programs for families who qualify for scholarship aid.**

President Lahey expresses gratitude to the Ouilmette Foundation for supporting families in Wilmette so children can participate on the Park District programs.

#### **5.0 STAFF REPORTS**

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##### **5.1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Interim Executive Director Resnick gives the board her report.

Regarding the e-bike policy, after reviewing our current policies, we realize we do not need to update our ordinance to include e-bikes. Our policy states bikes (motorized or not) are not allowed where signage indicates. We are installing signs in areas where we feel it is unsafe to operate these bikes.

As you are all aware, the sprinkler incident at the CRC two weeks ago caused significant damage and chaos. She points out how well staff performed during this crisis. Everyone remained calm, followed their training and kept all the participants safe. After we were able to return to the building and assess the damage, once again they jumped in to do what they could to move programs and accommodate our patrons. Unfortunately, some rooms with specialized use will not be ready so we had to cancel some classes for the remainder of the season, but staff are already discussing ways to accommodate patrons and how to best celebrate the return of these programs when we are ready.

## **5.2 PARKS AND PLANNING REPORT**

Superintendent Wallace presents his report to the board.

### **Gillson**

There are nice green bike lanes now.

### **Langdon**

The guard shack will be built this month. Commissioner Clarke compliments how nice Langdon looks. Commissioner Goebel asks when it will be open to the public; it should be open soon and will have lifeguards.

### **Hibbard**

Hibbard OSLAD grant construction will begin next week.

### **CRC**

Staff have been working on community engagement events, such a Touch a Truck. Our staff worked at Keay Nature Center with the Scouts to do some repairs. Additionally, our foreperson for building maintenance has been working with the high school on their upgrades to Safety Town, which will be a multi-year project.

### **Pilot Indoor Greenhouse**

This project was a success! We started plants there during the winter to be moved into our parks later on.

### **Trees**

57 trees have been planted so far this year.

Commissioner Duffy asks about the sculpture the district purchased for and outside of the OSLAD grant work at Hibbard Park. Interim Director Resnick explains that this was to save some money because the district could get this item cheaper by purchasing it separately. Commissioner Duffy adds that he does not remember approving this sculpture as part of the original project. Superintendent Wallace explains that it is not a “sculpture” per se, but a part of the playground equipment.

## **5.3 GOLF REPORT**

Adam Kwiatkoski, Golf Course General Manager, gives highlights of his report to the board.

There was a 13% increase in resident memberships this year. Because of the cold spring, we are slightly behind budget on rounds, but revenues remain in line with 2025 budget allocations.

We have started planting flowers and are using autonomous mowers on holes 6, 7 & 8 this year. We are using the pumphouse for a charging station.

## **RECREATION REPORT**

Superintendent Merrill presents his report to the board.

### **Gymnastics**

Our high school gymnastics program has kicked off and will run through the summer.

### **Dance**

There were 180 dancers who participated in our Spring Dance Show and all performances were sold out.

### **Sailing Beach Operations**

We had boat move day with staff and Commissioner Clarke pitched in, too!

### **Pool/Beach**

It has been a slow start to the season, as the weather has been unseasonably cool. This has allowed our staff to adjust to their posts and be ready to go for the season.

### **Summer Camp**

Summer Camp started today. We are up by five unique users from last year to this year, per the data. Knowing more about the data helps guide the future of our programming. Staff did great today getting kids to camps.

### **CRC Reconstruction**

Superintendent Merrill thanks the Parks and Planning department for working together with Rec staff to move forward working on this reconstruction. There is a lot going on at the CRC these days, with the construction having started at Hibbard as well.

Commissioner Kosloskus asks when marketing will begin for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> event. Superintendent Merrill says he will let Superintendent Thomas go over that. We will be bussing with PACE this year from Loyola Academy to Sheridan Avenue on an express route. We have been working closely with the police and the Village in order to make a safe plan to get people to and from fireworks. In order to use the bus, riders will need to purchase a round-trip ticket.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

Superintendent Thomas gives the board highlights from the Operations Report.

### **July 3<sup>rd</sup> Marketing**

We are working to finalize a few parts of our maps for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> event. We had a press release go out last week.

### **Ouillette Foundation**

We are so grateful to the Ouillette Foundation for their donation to the scholarship fund and everything they do for the district.

### **E-Bike/E-Scooter Ordinance**

We will be putting up signage to support our efforts to increase safety around e-bike and e-scooters in the Village.

### **South Beach**

We believe the hard work of our marketing department to get information out to the public has been reflecting positively at South Beach.

### **Staff Anniversary**

Carol Heafey, HR & Risk Manager, celebrated her 15 and 30 year anniversaries this month. Carol was hired for the first time in 1995, and we celebrate Carol.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Interim Director Resnick highlights a few things in the finance report in Superintendent Foy's absence.

The results of operations for the District through April is an \$8.2m fund surplus. This amount is ahead of budget by \$3m. The April YTD variance of \$1.44m in fees is mainly due to the collection of camp fees in April that were budgeted for in May. Last month we reported the timing difference between the revenue collection and the budget would be cleared up by the end of May. I checked the preliminary YTD fee revenue numbers for the end of May and the District is showing a variance of only \$190k or 1.5%. The utility expense through April is underbudget by \$143k or 41.2%. I will review the 2024 budget, 2024 actuals and 2025 actuals for utility expense and see what is happening with that line item. I will have that analysis available at the June COW.

The report also highlights the work of IT in what it takes to get ready for summer, especially this year with bringing Langdon online.

## **6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **6.1 CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL COMPREHENSIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Commissioner Murdock moves and Vice President Frazier seconds a motion to approve the 2024 Audit.

President Lahey states that there was a Financial Committee of the Whole meeting before this meeting, where the auditors answered some questions. Commissioner Duffy asks if the board should move to approve the audit with changes discussed during the Financial Committee of the Whole.

Commissioner Murdock amends the motion to approve the Annual Financial Report, to include the deletion of the word “material” in the letter from the auditor. Vice President Frazier seconds the motion.

Commissioner Goebel states that this is the 17<sup>th</sup> year the auditors awarded the district an award for Good Governance.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Duffy, Murdock, Clarke, Goebel, Kosloskus, Frazier and Lahey. Voting No, none. Absent: None; **Amended Motion Carried.**

## **7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 CONSIDERATION OF FORMATION OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

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Commissioner Goebel moves and Vice President Frazier seconds a motion to form a special committee for the process and transparency of future planning of the Big Tree Lane project that is upcoming. President Lahey nominates Commissioners Duffy and Kosloskus to serve on the committee, with Vice President Frazier as chair.

Vice President Frazier states that the engagement and transparency of the process will be the primary focus of this committee. Commissioner Duffy says he believes it would be in the best interest of the board to have the entire board as part of the process and handle this business via the Committee of the Whole structure we currently operate within. The board had formed an ad-hoc real estate committee during the purchase of this land to provide for the ability to react quickly during the negotiation of the contract for purchase. However, he believes it would benefit every commissioner to be a part of the public process for this land and for the entire board to hear from all consultants. In a 3-person committee structure, even if other commissioners attend, they are not permitted to comment on the information being presented because that would be a violation of the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Clarke states that this committee would be solely to determine the public process. Commissioner Kosloskus states she can go either way, but has agreed to be on the committee. Commissioner Murdock asks how forming a committee of less than the full board will improve transparency.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Lahey, Frazier, Clarke, Goebel, and Kosloskus. Voting No, Duffy, Murdock. Absent: None; **Motion Carried.**

## **8.0 ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

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There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Clarke moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to adjourn to closed session for reason

By a voice vote; **Motion Carried.**

Minutes Approved on: **September 8, 2025.**