



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 19, 2025
6:30 p.m. – Mallinckrodt

PRESENT

Commissioners: President Patrick Lahey, Vice President Allison Frazier, Patrick Duffy, Cecilia Clarke, Julia Goebel, Kara Kosloskus, Mike Murdock (arrived 7:12 p.m.)

Secretary/Interim Executive Director: Margaret Resnick

Staff: Superintendent Sheila Foy, Superintendent Dave Merrill, Superintendent Josh Wallace, Superintendent Lindsay Thomas, Adam Kwiatkoski, Nick Marfise

Visitors: Mary Smoley, Aly Jiwani, Walter Keats

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL TAKEN

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

None.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

None.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS

None.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 GOLF UPDATE

Adam Kwiatkoski and Nick Marfise give a Golf update to the board.

Commissioner Duffy asks if we grow our own sod. Nick answers that there is a small nursery between holes 6 and 8 where we have some we can harvest, but this project was too big and we did order the sod.

Nick goes over the experience he had with autonomous robot lawn mowers. He gives the pros and cons of being a part of the pilot program along with photos. Adam adds that it's good we are a part of this program because we can learn about the different models and software, and this program is no charge to the district. We want to make sure we are equipped with the knowledge and experience we need when it is time for us to invest in these mowers. Nick adds that we want to make sure we know the right kind of mowers to purchase for our type of property, at the time of day when we will most likely be using them. Every course is different and has different needs. Technology moves fast; one day

you're throwing out your VCR.

5.2 BICYCLE/E-BIKE ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Interim Director Resnick prefaces the discussion. The park district has been contacted by residents all over the district asking about e-bike and mini bike rules. Staff is looking to craft an ordinance to support the enforcement of e-bike and mini bike usage on the park district's property. Superintendent Thomas states that our risk management agency has a recommendation they put out talking about the different types of e-bikes. The park district and/or Village must have an ordinance surrounding e-bikes in order for the police to enforce the ordinance.

Commissioner Goebel asks what the problem is that the district is trying to solve. Director Resnick responds that there are speed and safety issues. Commissioner Duffy asks if there is an ordinance about bicycles right now; there is, but we would need to expand the definition of bicycle in order to encompass e-bikes and e-scooters. Vice President Frazier suggests getting in touch with the school district in order to partner with them. Commissioner Duffy asks staff to focus on three main topics in the ordinance: speed, vehicle class and location.

5.3 NAMING RIGHTS POLICY DISCUSSION

With the Ouilmette Foundation beginning its efforts to raise money for the restoration of the Wallace Bowl, staff is looking for guidance from the board about whether they are willing to consider allowing the District to name assets (parks, facilities, etc.) after individuals and/or corporations, specifically considering the naming rights of Wallace Bowl and the elements inside the Bowl. A conversation is had regarding the board's opinion on renaming assets.

[At this point, Commissioner Murdock enters the meeting.]

6.0 ONGOING DISTRICT PROJECTS

6.1 GILLSON PARK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Paving is complete and striping is underway. The paving and striping went past the timeframe the contractor said it would, but staff did a great job working with patrons to make sure they had access to the lakefront. The electrician has been on site this week installing wiring and fiber to the beach access points. We will work with Gewalt Hamilton to develop a punch list of items that need to be completed to close out this project.

6.2 LANGDON SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

Construction fencing is scheduled to come down Friday, May 16. The turf pavers were installed, and the plugs will be going in after landscaping is installed which is scheduled for May 16-20. The decorative stone between the sidewalk and seawall will be installed Saturday as will the bike racks. Unfortunately, the delivery of the windows for the guard hut has been moved to June 6. Once the windows are installed, the siding will be put on and then the roof will be finished. Langdon will be functional on opening day, even though the hut is not complete.

6.3 SOLAR PANEL PROJECT AT CRC

Most of the equipment needed for the project has been delivered to the site. There is a fenced area for staging and some of the framing has already been placed on the roof. Commissioner Kosloskus asks for more signage so the public knows what's going on.

6.4 HIBBARD PARK OSLAD DEVELOPMENT

The low bidder, Innovation Landscaping was sent an award letter. We are setting up our first project meeting to set the construction schedule. Recreation and Parks staff are being asked for input so that we can take measures to alleviate, as much as possible, the impact on programming at the park. The District received 50% (\$300,000) from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the grant. After the project is complete, we can apply for the remaining funds.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

There being no further business to conduct, President Lahey moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole, to resume the Closed Session meeting for the discussion of 2(c)1 of the Open Meetings Act.

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

Minutes Approved on **July 14, 2025.**