



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 13, 2025
7:30 p.m. – Village Hall Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commissioners: President Patrick Lahey, Vice President Allison Frazier, Patrick Duffy, Cecilia Clarke, Mike Murdock and Julia Goebel (Please note: there are only six active commissioners at this time.)

Secretary/Executive Director: Chris Lindgren

Visitors: Alan Golden, Mary Lawlor, Walter Keats, Chris Wieczorek, Evita Vulgaris

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

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

1.1 ROLL CALL

1.2 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF JULIE ADRIANOPOLI TO BOARD VACANCY
Vice President Frazier moves and Commissioner Murdock seconds a motion to approve the appointment of Julie Adrianopoli to the Wilmette Park Board of Commissioners, to fill the unexpired term of Kara Kosloskus, effective October 13, 2025 for a term ending April 30, 2027.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Duffy, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting No, none. Absent: none; **motion carried.**

1.2.1 ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Julie Adrianopoli takes the Oath of Office with Director Lindgren.

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Duffy moves and Vice President Frazier seconds the motion to approve the Consent Agenda of October 13, 2025.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Duffy, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting No, none. Abstain: Adrianopoli. Absent: none; **motion carried.**

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

President Lahey confirms that everything received prior to the packet being published is included in the packet.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

President Lahey explains public comment to the audience and states that the policy is located on page three of the packet.

Evita Vulgaris – Makes a comment on the pool invoicing to New Trier Aquatics.

Chris Wieczorek – Makes a comment about the pool invoicing and the contract with New Trier Aquatics.

5.0 STAFF REPORTS

5.1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Lindgren gives his report to the board.

Leases

We have two leases that we are bringing to the board tonight, which shows a great partnership with the Village of Wilmette. The Howard Park Lease extends park district utilization of this property to program sports. The Big Tree Lane lease to the Village allows the police station to stay local while they undergo construction of their new police station. We are happy to partner with the Village to provide & fill a need for the police to be able to operate within the community during this time, showcasing our strong intergovernmental relationship with the Village.

Community Coffees

We held open times on October 3rd at Village Hall and October 4th at the Paddle Hut for community members to come out to have coffee and meet with myself and discuss the past, present and future of the Wilmette Park District. We had a very strong showing of residents that came out to meet and be heard. This was a great opportunity to engage with the community, listen and learn. These coffees have led to more introductions and meetings with our community and I am looking forward to building relationships and helping shape the future of WPD. Thank you to some of our leadership staff for being there to represent the agency and answer questions.

2026 Budget Season

The 2026 budget season is underway with early capital conversations at last month's Committee Meeting. Many of the operating and general fund budgets had initial discussions tonight at the Finance COW Meeting with more to discussions on recreation and golf scheduled for October 27th. Staff have finished projections for all budgets for FY 2025 and are working hard to finalize the 2026 budget as a whole. This is a very busy time for staff and I am thankful for all the detail and hard work put in to develop a responsible and timely budget to set the goals and needs for next year.

5.2 PARKS AND PLANNING REPORT

Director Lindgren entertains any questions about the Parks and Planning report. Commissioner Clarke asks about the solar panel Comed shutdown, whether that completes the process. Director Lindgren explains that the shutdown allowed Comed to complete the service to get the equipment changed over. Superintendent Wallace confirms that the solar panels will be functional at the end of November or beginning of December.

5.3 GOLF REPORT

Director Lindgren also entertains questions about the Golf report. He explains that September was flat, in terms of rounds played and revenue. Revenues remain in-line.

Nick's Revenge

The golf course puts up challenges toward the end of the season where Nick Marfise, the Golf Course Superintendent, places challenges at each hole, including new tee boxes and pin locations. It's a fun event and a way for Nick to get back at golfers for tearing up the golf course all season long.

5.4 RECREATION REPORT

Superintendent Merrill presents the Rec report to the board.

September is another transition month for the Rec Department. Fall programming is in full swing.

Beach

September weather has been very warm and has presented some challenges for staff, as the season is over and staffing levels are low. With the public coming out in large numbers, this also presented some unique challenges including parking and trash. Staff is in conversation internally and with the Village to try and figure out how to better handle the post-season warmth. Commissioner Goebel expresses appreciation to staff who are supporting large numbers of visitors to our facilities post-season without the help of seasonal staff.

After School Programs

Almost all of our school-aged After School Rec programs have increased participation. The board expresses appreciation for the increased capacity to serve more families.

Superintendent Merrill thanks Superintendent Wallace for working with the Rec department to coordinate the crossover of the solar panels. The switch was done and almost unnoticeable to the public.

5.5 OPERATIONS REPORT

Superintendent Thomas gives the board highlights from the Operations Report.

Best of the Best Awards

We have been chosen to receive a Best of the Best Award for our partnership with Go Green Wilmette. This honor recognizes the Park District's longstanding partnership with Go Green Wilmette. Some of our staff and members of Go Green Wilmette will be attending the awards dinner later this month.

Blood Drive

We partnered with Representative Gong-Gershowitz and the New Trier Township to host a community blood drive at the CRC. The blood drive will take place on November 14th from 12-6pm.

Volunteer Opportunity for Staff

Staff participated in our second volunteer opportunity of the year at Evanston Grows on October 1.

Marketing

Finally, we continued to strengthen our branding and visual consistency by adding a branded tent, tablecloths, school ID cards, and new templates for staff use. Additionally, we have started to update staff photos on the web for a more consistent representation of our staff. We have been working on branding ourselves more consistently for the community to recognize us.

5.6 FINANCE REPORT

Superintendent Foy asks if the board has any questions about her report. Superintendent Foy comments that the supplemental tax levy was a part of the consent agenda and asks if anyone has any questions on that. Commissioner Duffy thanks Superintendent Foy for the Finance COW meeting we had immediately prior to this meeting. We went through eight of ten funds during that meeting.

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2025-R-6 – HOWARD PARK LEASE

Commissioner Murdock moves and Vice President Frazier seconds a motion to approve Resolution 2025-R-6, a resolution approving the terms and authorizing the execution of a lease agreement between Wilmette Park District and the Village of Wilmette for certain property commonly referred to as Howard Park.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Absent: none; **motion carried**.

7.2 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2025-R-7 – POLICE LEASE

Commissioner Goebel moves and Commissioner Murdock seconds a motion to approve Resolution 2025-R-7, a resolution approving the terms and authorizing the execution of a lease agreement between Wilmette Park District and the Village of Wilmette for certain property located at 3220 Big Tree Lane, in Wilmette, Illinois.

Commissioner Clarke explains that there was a lot of work between the Village and the Park District. She believes it ultimately got to a good place with clear terms. Commissioner Murdock thanks the Village for all the work back and forth to ultimately reconstruct the police station on the existing land while allowing the park district to still program Howard Park. Vice President Frazier points out this is the only field with lighting in Wilmette.

President Lahey highlights that neither party had ever done this type of lease before and he was glad both parties could come together to make this work for the community.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Absent: none; **motion carried**.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Clarke moves and Commissioner Duffy seconds a motion to adjourn to Closed Session for Section 2(c)5 and 2(c)6 of the Open Meetings Act.

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

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