

Wauconda Park District  
Board Meeting  
August 27, 2024  
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, Bianco, and Tallman were present along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. The following members of the public were in attendance: Lacey Lawrence from Hitchcock Design, JoAnn Freeman, and Charlie Buschick.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the regular session minutes from August 13, 2024, was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

**Comments from the Public**

Lacey Lawrence from Hitchcock Design discussed some of the comments from the Open House regarding the Bangs Lake Marina Master Plan.

**Communications**

Director Staton shared with the Board comments received on Facebook related to the Bangs Lake Marina Master Plan and the condition of the launch area at Beach Park.

**Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements from August 14, 2024 – August 27, 2024, in the amount of \$139,126.11 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.

**Committee Reports**

A. Recreation – Director Babicz provided the Board with an update on Phil’s Beach hours for the next two weekends. The Beach will officially close for the summer on Sunday, September 1. It will not be open on Monday, September 2. This time of year, it is difficult to fully staff lifeguards due to many of our guards returning to school.

Preschool staff is preparing for the upcoming school year beginning on September 3.

Recreation Supervisor Bonner and Director Babicz will be volunteering at the Street Dance to assist with the Bags Tournament.

B. Finance – Staton reviewed his written report with the Board, along with a new report prepared by Lauterbach and Amen and the financial recap for Wauconda Triathlons. Revenues are good in the Recreation Fund so far this year due in large part to increased enrollments in Camp, Preschool and Club. The Fitness Fund is doing well mainly due to increases in Open Gym (pickleball) and Triathlon participation numbers. Revenues are slightly down in the Beach Fund,

while expenses are currently down about 10%. The final recap is not finished for Wauconda Fest, but it looks like we had another great year based off preliminary estimates.

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department has been focusing on mulching trees and taking down several dead trees throughout the parks system. Mowing is also a priority as all our seasonal employees have gone back to school.

D. Wauconda Fest – A Wauconda Fest recap meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 pm.

E. Administration – Executive Director Staton reviewed his written report with the Board. Staff is reviewing a change order for the Osage Park Playground, while moving forward with the ADA Accessibility Plan.

Staton and Babicz met with a civil engineer recommended by PDRMA to review options to help alleviate the flooding problems at the As We Grow Preschool. The District received good feedback from this process and anticipates the final report within the next few weeks.

F. Comprehensive Plan – Updates to the Osage Park Redevelopment and ADA Accessibility Plan were discussed during the administration report.

### **New Business**

- A. Dram Shop Insurance Request – Wauconda Fire District Rental – The Wauconda Fire District traditionally reserves Phil's Beach for their appreciation picnic. They have requested permission to serve beer and wine at this event. The Board received a letter from Fire Marshall DaValle requesting the purchase of Dram Shop Insurance for this event to be allowed to serve beer and wine to their guests. A motion to approve the purchase of Dram Shop Insurance to be reimbursed by the Wauconda Fire District to provide beer and wine to their guests on September 7 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll Call: all aye.
- B. Approval – Change Order Osage Park - Discussion on this topic was tabled to a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 4.
- C. Approval – Osage Park Playground Surplus Equipment Ordinance – As part of the Osage Park redevelopment project the Board chose to move forward with the playground replacement to complete all park renovations in one phase. The playground equipment was beyond its useful life and held no value to the District based on age and condition. To dispose of the equipment, it must be deemed surplus. A motion to approve Ordinance 2024-06 an Ordinance declaring the playground equipment at Osage Park

Surplus with the District's intent to donate the equipment to a not-for-profit agency serving communities outside of the United States.

- D. Approval - Osage Park Playground Equipment Purchase - Discussion on this topic was tabled to a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 4
  
- E. Approval of Bangs Lake Marina OSLAD Grant Resolution – The District plans to apply for an OSLAD Grant for the redevelopment of the Bangs Lake Marina. This resolution states that if the District were to receive the Grant that the matching funds are available to satisfy the District's responsibility. A motion to approve the Bangs Lake Marina OSLAD Grant Resolution 2024-07 was made Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.
  
- F. Tree Stump at Phil's Beach – The District recently had an old oak tree removed at Phil's Beach. Eric from Midwest Tree Service has asked if the District would like to preserve the ten-foot stump to be carved into a welcome to Phil's Beach sign at his expense. The Board was receptive to this idea but would like to see a sketch of the design prior to approving the work. Staton will reach out to Eric to get a sketch of his idea. No action was taken on this item.

#### **Unfinished Business**

None

#### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Berrelez, along with all of the Commissioners wanted Director Staton to pass along to Zach Miller, Recreation Supervisor, how much he was appreciated by the Board.

#### **Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

#### **Issues to be voted on by the Board that were discussed in Executive Session**

None

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.