

Wauconda Park District  
Board Meeting  
March 26, 2024  
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, Tallman, and Bianco were present along with Director Babicz, and Beth Christianson, Recreation Supervisor. JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator, and Island Lake resident was in attendance to observe the meeting. Executive Director Staton was absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the regular session minutes from March 12, 2024, with the correction of the spelling of Fremont school was motioned by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: Commissioners Tallman, Berrelez, Carr, and Bianco aye. Commissioner Starkey abstained.

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Communications**

None

**Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements from March 13, 2024 - March 26, 2024, in the amount of \$62,399.54 was motioned by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

**Committee Reports**

A. Recreation – Director Babicz informed the board that the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23, 2024, was held outside in the snow. There were 382 participants registered, the overall attendance with parents was over 500. There are two more special events for the current week; You’ve Been Egged, and the Flashlight Egg Hunt, 27 participants are registered for both events.

Director Babicz attended the PDRMA Aquatics Risk Management Institute on March 15, 2024. She will also host three different dates for staff to complete the mandatory Sexual Harassment training required by the state of Illinois. The first date is April 1, 2024. Days Off School are currently running this week with participants attending various field trips. Camp Wauconda registration is full, except for week 5. Each week has 175-180 participants. Executive Director Staton, Recreation Supervisors Yakimisky and Ffacek are currently on vacation. Director Babicz, Supervisors Christainson and Marconi along with Marketing Coordinator, JoAnn Freeman, are in the office this week.

B. Finance – Director Babicz, shared Executive Director Staton’s draft of the 2024-2025 budget with the commissioners and it will be discussed at the April 9, 2024, board meeting. There were no questions on the month end report.

C. Park Maintenance – None

D. Wauconda Fest – Director Babicz informed the Board of the next Wauconda Fest meeting on April 2, 2024, at 6:00 pm. There are plans to walk the fest grounds to determine any changes to the entrance gates, and continued discussion about security, particularly bag check areas at both gates. JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator, is currently working on the fest button. Volunteer fest t-shirts have been ordered. These shirts can be worn in the Memorial Day parade.

E. Administration – Director Babicz presented Executive Director Staton’s report. The commissioners should have received the Statement of Economic Interest, this needs to be completed by May 1, 2024.

The next Triathlon Committee Meeting will be on April 10, 2024, at 6:00pm. Executive Director Staton completed USAT’s Safe Sport training. Director Babicz and Executive Director Staton both completed Critical Injury training for the Triathlon.

On March 18, 2024, Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz attended the Village Special Events meeting with other governmental entities and special event planners from the Village of Wauconda to recap 2023 events.

Executive Director Staton and Director Drinkwine have begun interviewing for the Parkman position.

F. Comprehensive Plan – Osage park is in the works. Director Babicz will be working with recreation staff for the programing component and Executive Director Staton will be working on the project component. Projects are included in the next year fiscal year 2024-2025 budget.

### **New Business**

**A. Tree Trimming/Removal Memorial Park** – A quote from Midwest Tree Service to trim three trees by the flag poles and to remove and stump one maple tree at Memorial Park for a total cost of \$1875.00. Staff recommended the trimming of the dead limbs and the removal of the dead tree as they are hazards. A motion to approve the tree trimming and removal at Memorial Park as described by Midwest Tree Service at a cost of \$1875.00 was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

**B. Metal Detecting Phil’s Beach** –Director Babicz shared a request to metal detect at Phil’s Beach with the Board. The staff is willing to coordinate a couple of days for him to come out again. Commissioners Berrelez expressed concern with others wanting to do this as well and Commissioner Bianco questioned that he wanted to expand his search area and that she did not want it to be a drain on staff resources. A motion to approve the request to metal detect in the swimming area of Phils’ Beach submitted by Kyle Tobias during the off-season Spring Hours at times that are convenient for the Wauconda Park District was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Carr commented on the recent Daily Herald and what a positive story it was.

Commissioner Starkey would like relevant Facebook communications from the district Facebook page and other related social media pages/comments to be shared with the commissioners during the communication portion of the board meetings. Which could also prompt discussion if a FAQ would address the topic posted.

**Executive Session**

None

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

None

**Adjournment**

A motion at 6:28 pm was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.