

Wauconda Park District  
Board Meeting  
September 10, 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: JoAnn Freeman.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the regular session minutes from August 27, 2024, was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

A motion to approve the special session minutes from September 4, 2024, was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Communications**

Director Staton shared with the Board a letter from PDRMA letting the District know that we received a \$500 ladder safety reimbursement from PDRMA. Directors Babicz and Drinkwine submitted the application for this award.

**Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements from August 28, 2024 – September 10, 2024, in the amount of \$126,305.16 was motioned by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

**Committee Reports**

A. Recreation – Director Babicz reviewed her written report with the Board. Highlights included:

- Thirty (30) registrants participated in the first Cops and Bobbers event on September 7.
- The final Concert in the Park will take place on Sunday, September 15, featuring Better with Bacon.
- One hundred and seventeen (117) seniors registered for the picnic on September 11.
- JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator, is working on templates for common posts that other staff can use to update our social media and website when she is not available.
- The Safety Committee will be sending our safety manual to the attorney for review. This is the next step in our PDRMA Smart Goal for this year.
- Staff have also been complying with ladder safety inspections recently implemented as part of PDRMA's loss control review.

- Approximately forty (40) kids participated in the Moose Lodge fishing derby held at Bangs Lake Marina over Labor day weekend. Marina staff and the Parks Department did a great job getting the marina back in order after the recent storms. Boaters and fisherman were happy with their effort.

#### B. Finance – No Report

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department will be renting an aerator to aerate all of the parks grounds beginning with the athletic fields. Director Drinkwine also reported that he will need to purchase a new post driver, as our old unit has broken down for the last time. New batteries were installed in both buses. The property on Garland road has been cleaned up. We typically put a lot of our brush in this area throughout the year and go back in the fall to mulch all this material. The parks department spent most of last week cleaning up after the storm.

D. Wauconda Fest – The Fest recap meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 pm was postponed until Thursday, September 19 due to a majority of the committee not able to attend the originally scheduled meeting.

E. Administration – Executive Director Staton reviewed his written report with the Board. The change order for the Osage Park Playground addition has been signed and sent back to the contractor. Work at Osage Park resumed today with the excavating of the playground area. The Annual IAPD/IPRA conference will take place in Chicago January 23-25. Staton asked the Board to commit to attending the event.

The District also received confirmation from Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) that the District could dual stripe the tennis courts at Osage Park for tennis and pickleball without jeopardizing the grant funds provided by the OSLAD grant.

Director Staton, Director Babicz, Manager Ftacek, and Supervisor Christianson represented the District at the annual Zoo Golf Outing on September 6. The Lions Club and Moose Lodge have supported several park district improvements and initiatives over the years.

#### F. Comprehensive Plan – See New Business

### **New Business**

- A. Comprehensive Plan Review – Executive Director Staton provided the Board with a status update of projects included in the Comprehensive Plan for this fiscal year. Updates included Osage Park Redevelopment, ADA Transition Plan, Bangs Lake Marina Master Plan, Larkdale Park Improvements being pushed to next spring, and programming updates.

- B. Decennial Committee – Executive Director Staton reviewed the process for this committee with the Board and provided a sample report to the Board provided by IAPD. Most of the work will be collected by staff and reviewed by the committee. A final report will be tentatively approved at the November 26 meeting.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- A. Tree Carving at Phil’s Beach – Eric From Midwest Tree Service provided the Board with a mock-up of a design for the stump at Phil’s Beach. The Board preferred the original date of Phil’s Beach opening, asked for samples of the artist’s work, and wondered if it would look nicer left with a natural look versus being painted. Staton will gather more information for the Board.

#### **Commissioner Comments**

None

#### **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 6:51 pm was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.