

WAUCONDA PARK DISTRICT  
Board Meeting  
June 14, 2022  
Community Center

At 7:00 pm, Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Bader, Carr, and Micelli were present, along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Regular Session Minutes from May 24, 2022, was motioned by Commissioner Bader and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

Comments from Public

Nathan Jansen, 2299 Trailside Lane, Wauconda and VP for the Pinto Division of Wauconda Baseball and Softball. Discussed with the Board the conditions of the ballfields particularly at Fieldbrook Park and Lagoon Park. He visits fields at other communities and feels the fields in Wauconda are subpar and need improvements. Mr. Jansen asked what plans were being made for improvements and if Wauconda Baseball and Softball could assist with this? He was also interested to know if advertising opportunities would be a viable option to fund improvements. Commissioner Starkey thanked Nathan for voicing his concerns and told him about our upcoming community survey. Executive Director Staton said that it would be nice to meet with the affiliate groups more often to discuss bigger projects. Staton also stated that he is working with Wauconda Baseball and Softball President Jeff Doud to set-up a meeting to begin discussing something in early July.

Communications

None

Approval of Disbursements

Approval of Disbursements from May 25 – June 14, 2022, in the amount of \$132,630.59 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 the Senior Luau, Concerts in the Park, Camp Wauconda, and Athletics. Commissioner Micelli commented that her and her husband went to Phil’s Beach, and it was great to see all of the kids playing and the grounds looked great.

B. Finance – Executive Director Staton shared with the Board the May Budget Report. He did not have time to review the report and make additional comments. From a quick look everything is in order financially. Recreation program registration is going well. May is an in-between time for us as Winter/Spring programs end and Summer is getting ready to begin.

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department is keeping up with mowing and beginning to set-up for the Fest. They have made improvements to the electrical grid on the Fest grounds and set-up fencing.

D. Risk Management – Facility Manager Ftacek has been spending a lot of time at the Bangs Lake Marina. Now that he has more staff hired, we are trying to get him back in the office more. Commissioner Starkey inquired about if there were any tenants in the apartment buildings at the Bangs Lake Marina. Executive Director Staton stated he thought the person would be out in the next few days.

E. W-Fest – Everything is moving forward for the Fest scheduled for June 23-26.

F. Administration – The Community Survey is going through its testing phase currently. The Recreation Staff will be meeting with Bobbi Nance from Recreation Results to review their Program Area Assessments later this week. Executive Director Staton has been working with Hitchcock Design on a parks inventory and we are looking to schedule stakeholders' meetings later in July.

Clarke Aquatics will be out tomorrow to apply the weed control application to the shoreline and lake bottom at Beach Park, Cook Park, Phil's Beach, and the Bangs Lake Marina.

Staton reminded the Board that we would need to have a Public Hearing on July 12, 2022, at 6:45 pm to discuss the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

We have had some campers and staff test positive for COVID. Staff is currently required to wear face coverings in the building for the next five days.

The District will be participating in the National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2.

Executive Director Staton will be on vacation from July 27-August 7.

FY 21-22 Audit is scheduled to begin on June 24, 2022.

### New Business

A. Heroes Memorial Path – The Board discussed a proposal by the Village of Wauconda to add a path connecting Memorial Park to the 9/11 Memorial. The Village has asked the Wauconda Parks Foundation if they could use the Foundation's 501(c)3 status to serve as a fundraising arm for the project. The Parks Foundation wanted to hear the thoughts of our Park Board before

committing to the project. Staton presented the proposal to the Board. The Board held discussion on this topic and while they recognize the merit of the project, at this time there are projects core to our mission that the District will need to address and have the Foundation assist with fundraising. After further discussions, the Board would recommend to the Foundation that they instead address projects and collection efforts for the District needs and not risk dividing resources or confusing the public with various causes. Staton will discuss this with Foundation President Bob Berrelez and reach out to the Village with a response.

#### Unfinished Business

None

Commissioners Comments – The Board would like Staton and Babicz to continue planning an appreciation night for staff at the end of the summer. Commissioner Berrelez asked for an update on the vandals at Cook Park Restrooms in May and if we could have an update on a security camera system.

Commissioner Bader stated that the Free Lunch Program seems to be going well.

Executive Session – None

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

None

#### Adjournment

At 8:08 pm a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Bader and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.