

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLEASANT DALE PARK DISTRICT
WALKER PARK RECREATION CENTER
7425 SOUTH WOLF ROAD, BURR RIDGE, ILLINOIS
MARCH 11, 2026 – 6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order/Roll Call: Present: Commissioners: Todd Davis, Jennifer Hennessy, Patrick Gierut, David Gallagher, and Thomas Raschka
Also present: Executive Director Matt Russian and Attorney Joseph Cainkar.
3. Consent Agenda items a & b, Monthly Business (**Items a & b on the consent agenda will be approved with one motion; Board Members with questions should call Matt prior to the meeting.)**

- a. Minutes of the February 11, 2026 meeting
- b. Financial Statements presented to the Board of Park Commissioners for February, 2026, in the amount of \$123,928.96 for accounts payable and \$70,057.82 for employee payroll.

MOTION

Ms. Hennessy a motion to approve items a & b. Seconded by Mr. Raschka. All Ayes. Motion passed.

4. Open Forum (Limited to 15 minutes, 5 minutes per speaker)
 5. Old Business
- 5A - Update on potential sale of LTHS Willow Springs property

Mr. Davis stated that the Board sent a letter last month to District 107 regarding thoughts on some items that were inconsistent within the school's last plan. Mr. Davis noted there was a recent Patch article where Superintendent Palzet was interviewed regarding the letter that was sent and he stated that the park district has not called him in the past on this topic. Mr. Davis believes this is not true as a number of conversations had been held. Secondly, another comment was made by Superintendent Palzet stating there had been no discussion on the topic of the school's interest in extending Howard Street. Mr. Davis then referred to an email from February 26, 2024, where Superintendent Palzet had the following questions of the park district:

Number 1: Would the Park District sell White Buffalo Park to the school district?

Number 2: If the answer to the above question is "no" then would the Park District sell a portion of White Buffalo Park (specifically the portion that is adjacent to Howard Street)?

Number 3: If the answer to Number 2 is "no" would the Park District be willing to give an easement to the district so as an access road can be built from the school district property to Howard Street?

Mr. Davis concluded by stating that he feels Superintendent Palzet's statement to the Patch was incorrect.

6. New Business
- 6A - Board Discussion on July 3 Fireworks

Mr. Novak, Arc Pyrotechnics, appeared and explained that tariffs have increased the price of fireworks by 22%. Arc is going to cover about half of that increase so the district's actual cost would see a 12% increase. The cost to replicate last year's show went from \$26,500 to \$29,600. Mr. Novak noted conversations with Mr. Russian regarding the possibility of an improved show to celebrate the 250th birthday of the USA. Options for improving the show could be more product, a longer show, a larger finale, or even including a false finale.

Mr. Russian had inquired about what the cost would be to bump up the show a "level". Mr. Novak shared that getting to \$35,000 would be a significant level and warned that it's important to share with the public that this will be one-time special show due to the 250th anniversary.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Raschka agreed that an increased show to celebrate 250 years would be worthwhile.

Mr. Russian inquired about the options for an increased show if a majority of Arc's fireworks were already on a boat headed to the United States. Mr. Novak replied that it would not be a problem.

Mr. Russian asked the Board for a consensus as to what improvements would be made and a show lasting 20 to 21 minutes with a false finale was agreed upon.

Mr. Russian noted some initial interest of potential additional monetary support from the Village of Burr Ridge for the 250th celebration. Mr. Russian also noted that Indian Head Park had reached out about monetary support as well. There was discussion regarding reaching out to neighboring communities for support.

It was agreed that a show "up to \$40,000" would be the way to proceed.

Mr. Novak suggested staying away from all patriotic music, but rather offering a mix of music styles, and staying away from anything ultra-political and he also was open to suggestions from the Board.

6B - Board Review of Preliminary FY27 Budget

Mr. Russian inquired if there were any questions from the Board and wanted to review a handful of planned capital items. The first capital item was video cameras for inside the recreational center. A quote was just received this morning. The next item is removal of the sand pit by the 5-12 playground at Walker Park, filling that in with concrete, and putting in a new interactive piece of equipment that runs on solar power. A new spinner will be replacing the one in the playground that's broken. The purchase of a slit seeder for the maintenance department is planned. We currently rent one annually and the return on investment would be roughly three years. New ADA bleachers, a new mower to replace a 20-year old unit in use now, and then the playground equipment and accessories for the Lake Carriage Way project.

Regarding the recreation center gym floor, there was discussion regarding vinyl options and samples were provided to the board. The samples provided were from Direct Fitness Solutions and the quote was roughly \$160,000. Another flooring option we researched which had been quoted at approximately \$184,000 has been discontinued. Mr. Russian was having a hard time finding a good multi-purpose option that will meet our standards. He reached out to a number of other park districts and had a lot of suggestions to speak with Stalker Floors, which is a wood floor company. While there would be some annual maintenance, the verbal quote was roughly \$160,000. The Board agreed that, compared to the other costs, the best decision is to move forward with the wood floor option. Mr. Russian noted that the one-time negative is that the installation time will be six to seven weeks, versus two to three with a vinyl option.

Other capital items include siding on the old maintenance barn, roof repairs needed at the recreation center, landscaping at the new maintenance facility, a new Gator for the maintenance department, existing long-term maintenance contracts, and resurfacing the inline skate rink along with some wood base repairs.

The quote from Wight for the Lake Carriage Way project is broken down into equipment and land improvement line items.

Concrete repairs in front of the recreation center, and in conjunction with the Foundation's memorial brick selling, will be completed.

We also plan to shrink East Field at Walker Park by adding grass along the radius and repurposing the existing ball mix which will be less work for the maintenance team. East Field will be done in FY27 and West Field in FY28. Sealing the two poured-in-place playgrounds needs to be done this summer.

MWRD came in to Walker Park and cleared out a lot of invasive trees, bushes, and debris along Flagg Creek. We will need to secure portions of the shoreline, specifically in the southeast corner of the park.

Special recreation funds will be allocated for surfacing, portions of Lake Carriage Way project, bleachers at Walker Park and other items identified in our accessibility audit.

Mr. Russian was asked last month to speak with Wight and Co. about potential building options and what might be developed for \$20M, \$25M, etc. He had a conversation with them, and they told him about another park district targeting a new building, similar to what we conceptualized a few years ago, for \$19M. The quote that the park district received for a new building was roughly \$32M but that also included the new maintenance facility. The other district's potential building included a big fitness area, a gym, two full-size basketball courts, a fitness studio, office suite, locker rooms, and a second-floor walking track above the gym. The difference is in the overall shape of the building. Theirs is in the shape of a box, which is where the economy of scale/shape comes into play. Our conceptual drawing was a rectangular building, but it also had an addition on the side with some multi-purpose rooms. This explains where some of the extra costs would come. We also discussed if there is anything that can be done here with our existing recreation center. A potential idea would be salvaging the space that is the existing gymnasium, but maybe not necessarily keeping it as a gymnasium. We could possibly knock everything down from the walkway up to the gym.

Mr. Russian feels this may be the only feasible path for a new building here, given our financial restrictions and the flood plain that incorporates so much of Walker Park. Discussion continued about gym floor replacement, potential for a new building, and financial obstacles. Consensus was that the gym floor replacement needs to happen no matter what. The goal would be to replace the gym floor starting towards the end of summer camp, around mid-August.

6C - Board Action on Intergovernmental Agreement with School District 107 for Extra Innings Program

MOTION

Mr. Raschka made a motion to approve Board Action on Intergovernmental Agreement with School District 107 for the Extra Innings Program. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

6D - Board Action on proposal from Wight & Co. for Design and Engineering Services for Lake Carriage Way Park Renovation in the amount of \$50,040

Mr. Russian reported they are moving forward with the playground renovation. The work Wight did previously was conceptual drawings and OSLAD application work. The proposal for the total fee was listed \$50,040. But the basic fee is \$38,500. The other parts are the topographical survey and we are still waiting on MWRD on a potential wetland delineation that may or may not be needed which is \$8,600.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the proposal from Wight & Co. for Design and Engineering Services for Lake Carriage Way Park Renovation in the amount of \$50,040. Seconded by Mr. Raschka. All yes. Motion passed.

6E - Board Action on proposal from Native Restorations for Landscaping Services for an amount not to exceed \$29,000

MOTION

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the proposal from Native Restorations for Landscaping Services for an amount not to exceed \$29,000. Seconded by Mr. Gallagher. All Ayes. Motion passed.

6F - Board Action on proposal from Turf Tank for 3-Year Rental of Autonomous Robot in the amount of \$36,000

Mr. Davis noted this has worked out very well and is a win, win.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the proposal from Turf Tank for 3-Year Rental of Autonomous Robot in the amount of \$36,000. Seconded by Mr. Gierut. All Ayes. Motion passed.

Mr. Raschka inquired about the cost of purchase versus renting. Mr. Russian will research and report back.

6G - Board Action on proposal from Novotny Engineering for Design and Construction Engineering for Flagg Creek Golf Course Parking Lot Lighting

Mr. Jeter reported this is for the lighting survey of the parking lot and planning for the project. The plan is to have the project completed before May. Eight towers will be added to the parking lot.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the proposal from Novotny Engineering for Design and Construction Engineering for Flagg Creek Golf Course Parking Lot Lighting. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

6H - Board Action on contract with Lyons & Pinner Electric for Flagg Creek Golf Course Parking Lot Lighting Project in the amount of \$158,500

Mr. Jeter mentioned the bid opening was on the 27th of February and Lyons & Pinner were the low bidders. They have previously worked at the golf course and are familiar with the property.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the contract with Lyons & Pinner Electric for Flagg Creek Golf Course Parking Lot Lighting Project in the amount of \$158,500. Seconded by Mr. Gierut. All Ayes. Motion passed.

7. Flagg Creek Golf Course Report

Mr. Davis mentioned he attended the grand opening for the new club house on Saturday and complimented the progress that was made.

Mr. Jeter mentioned the parade was on Saturday and opened up the golf course on Sunday. There were a lot of golfers on Sunday and Monday. There was a brief discussion regarding future capital improvement plans.

8. Pleasant Dale Parks Foundation Report

Mr. Davis reported there was good attendance and fun at the Bowling night.

9. Staff Reports

- a.** (Staff reports are provided as information only)

10. Additional items

11. Board Member Comments

12. Executive Session: As Needed

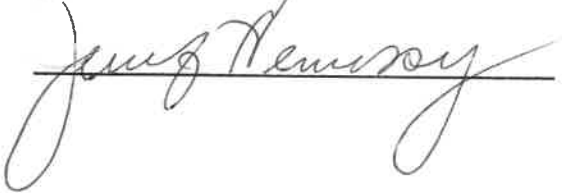
13. Adjournment

MOTION

Mr. Gierut made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

(Whereupon the Regular Meeting ended at approximately 6:42 pm)

Reported by Carmella Traverso

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carmella Traverso", is written over a horizontal line.