MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLEASANT DALE PARK DISTRICT
WALKER PARK RECREATION CENTER
7425 SOUTH WOLF ROAD, BURR RIDGE, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 12, 2026 – 6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Call to Order/Roll Call: Present: Commissioners: Patrick Gierut, Jennifer Hennessy, and Thomas Raschka.
Also present: Executive Director Matt Russian and Attorney Joseph Cainkar.
Absent: Todd Davis and David Gallagher

3. Consent Agenda items a - d. Monthly Business **(Items a - d 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 June 10, 2026 meeting
- **b.** Minutes of the June 10, 2026 Executive Session
- **c.** Financial Statements presented to the Board of Park Commissioners for June, 2026, in the amount of $195,984.83 for accounts payable and $95,480.37 for employee payroll.
- **d.** Financial Statements presented to the Board of Park Commissioners for July, 2026, in the amount of $264,937.74 for accounts payable and $110,330.92 for employee payroll.

MOTION
Mr. Raschka made a motion to approve items a - d. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. 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. Gierut reported that the school board presented a timeline for the sale of property and were planning on accepting a bid by November of 2026.
Mr. Russian stated that bid opening would be November 9, 2026, with intentions to award the contract on November 16, 2026.
The Pleasant Dale Park District Board will continue to follow this process because of the seven acres which is approximately in the middle of that property, and White Buffalo Park adjacent on the West side next to the elementary school. Willow Springs will also be following this process.

5B - Board Discussion on potential for new recreation center building

Mr. Russian stated that he would like to keep this topic on the agenda. He had conversations with Paul Hanley and others from Wight & Company. Mr. Hanley is from Beyond your Base and is an expert on elections. He noted that the tax sensitivity is high right now with the increased cost of everything these days. He suggested that we need to address the multi-use space of the building and figure out how to present the information properly to the residents in order to generate excitement. We are working with Mr. Bob Ijams, Director of Parks and Recreation with Wight & Company, to try to put together a timeline and figure out what we need to accomplish to get to that point. We need to have a plan and preliminary budgets in place by July of 2027.
Mr. Russian noted the need for a new building as the current recreation center leaks whenever there's a bad rain, issues with the air conditioning, and required roof repairs.
There was a brief discussion regarding the air conditioning issue.

6. New Business

6A - Board Action on contract with CPR Roofing for Walker Park Recreation Center roof and siding repairs in the amount of $76,500

Mr. Russian stated that this repair went out for bids on the July 28, 2026. CPR Roofing provided the lowest bid, and their references were checked. CPR Roofing will probably be able to start repairs on Monday, August 17, 2026.

MOTION
Mr. Raschka made a motion to approve the contract with CPR Roofing for Walker Park Recreation Center roof and siding repairs in the amount of $76,500. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion approved.

6B - Board Action on contract with FBi Buildings for maintenance barn reskin in the amount of $53,479
Mr. Russian stated that the bid was also opened on July 28, 2026. This reskin is to make sure that the maintenance building we will be using for storage doesn't deteriorate and leak water. It will provide good, usable space.

MOTION
Ms. Hennessy made a motion to approve the contract with FBi Buildings for maintenance barn reskin in the amount of $53,479. Seconded by Mr. Raschka. All Ayes. Motion passed.

6C - Board Action on contract with Pro-Techs Surfacing for Walker Park playground surfacing repairs and top coating in the amount of $27,921
Mr. Russian reported that Pro-Techs Company did the installation of surfacing at Soehrman Park and did a great job. Some of this work that is to be done is preventative. There is the 5-12 playground area that needs to get replaced with some repairs around it. It will also have a sealant that preserves it, which should be done every few years to preserve the life of the product. Tony Cavazos will be ordering more product which can be used for the challenge course.
There was a brief discussion regarding the location of the spinner and the new piece of equipment which will be installed on new concrete in the existing sand area.

MOTION
Ms. Hennessy made a motion to approve the contract with Pro-Techs Surfacing for Walker Park playground surfacing repairs and top coating in the amount of $27,921. Seconded by Mr. Gierut. All Ayes. Motion passed.

6D - Board Action on Ordinance 2026-2: An ordinance regulating fishing on park district property
Mr. Russian reported this action is stemming due to complaints received from residents of Lake Carriage Way. The complaints were about a person fishing and taking the fish home with him. Most people will typically catch and release any fish that are caught. We contacted Attorney Joseph Cainkar and he provided an updated ordinance to address this issue. Mr. Russian noted that some agencies simply ask for compliance. Mr. Russian felt we should mandate that it's catch and release only.
What we have on file right now states:
"Every person shall carefully and immediately return to the water from which it was taken any fish that does not conform to size or species restrictions imposed by any applicable federal, state, local or District laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations, or that the person chooses not to keep." Mr. Russian added that the average fisher will not have the IDNR rules and regulations as far as what fish, size, etc. might be eligible to keep. Therefore, it would be cleaner and more concise to simply mandate catch and release.

Mr. Russian stated that updated signs will have to be installed. He also stated that the new ordinance will prohibit the removal of any animal that is in their natural habitat in any of our parks. There was a brief discussion with signs presently in certain locations.

MOTION
Mr. Gierut made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-2: An ordinance regulating fishing on park district property. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion approved.

7. Flagg Creek Golf Course Report
Mr. Russian reported that Flagg Creek Golf Course has been out of power for two days now. Mr. Patrick Jeter reported to Mr. Russian that he was unable to attend tonight's meeting. There was nothing major to report. The course is still open. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Flagg Creek Advisory Board Meeting and ride-a-long at the golf course in September.

8. Pleasant Dale Parks Foundation Report
Mr. Russian reported that he received an emailed report from Melissa as CJ, Melissa, and Lucy are all working the Back-to-School event at Soehrman Park tonight.
The two upcoming events are the Senior Hayride and Social on Friday, September 18, 2026, and Santa's Merry Tree Lighting on Wednesday, December 2, 2026.
They will start working and planning with Laurie for the Santa's Merry Tree Lighting.
Mr. Russian indicated that Laurie mentioned that they are not doing the Santa breakfast. They are planning on providing more of a community event with tree lighting, some singing, and Santa will be there.
Last year for Giving Tuesday, the foundation was able to sponsor two families in the local community with gifts for Christmas. This year we are hoping to get a few more, and we will start promoting that soon.
Save the Date for the Second Annual PDPF Candlelight Bowling Fundraiser on Friday, February 26, 2027.
Mr. Russian stated that the bricks near the flagpole have been finished.

9. Staff Reports

a. (Staff reports are provided as information only) – The Board complimented the staff reports

10. Additional items

11. Board Member Comments – There was a brief discussion of how well the situation regarding the July 3rd Fireworks was handled due to the earlier start and weather issues.

12. Executive Session: As Needed

13. Adjournment

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

(Whereupon the Regular Meeting ended at approximately 6:20 pm)

Reported by Carmella Traverso