



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF PALATINE PARK DISTRICT
Village of Palatine, 200 East Wood Street in Palatine
Second Floor- Village Room B
March 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

These minutes are not a verbatim record of what was said during the meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Ruff

Commissioners Present

Terry Ruff, President
Jennifer Rogers, Vice-President
Susan Gould
Joe Petricca
Greg Sammons

Commissioners Absent

Staff Present

Benjamin Rea, Executive Director	Amy Vito, Superintendent of Parks
Andrea Fisher, Park Board Treasurer/Director of Finance	Colleen Palmer, Director of Recreation & Facilities
Lisa Allie, Park Board Secretary/Executive Assistant	Josh Ludolph, Supt. of Recreation Facilities
Sonia Austin, Superintendent of Finance	Cheryl Lufitz, Communications & Marketing Mgr.
Michelle Eckelberry, Director of District Services	Keith Schmerer, BW & CC Manager
Dayell Houzenga, Superintendent of District Services	Dan Hernandez, Athletic Coordinator
Jim Holder, Director of Parks & Planning	Ann Patti, Marketing Coordinator
Chris Cronkhite, Superintendent of Trades	Alex Rivera Grant, Marketing Coordinator

Visitors and Citizens Present

Frank Skorski, Resident
William Van Giesen, Resident
MacKenzie Drake, Guest

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Sammons seconded that the agenda be approved. By a roll call vote, the agenda for the regular meeting of March 10, 2025, was approved. The result of the roll call vote follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the previously distributed items posted on the consent agenda. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded that the consent agenda be approved as presented. Commissioner Gould questioned a charge on the Warrant for Comcast service at the Stables; Director Eckelberry explained that the charges are for the apartment. By a roll call vote, the following items on the consent agenda were approved: Regular Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2025, and Warrant #2. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Visitors and Citizens' Comments

Commissioner Ruff told Mr. Skorski that he had 3 minutes to speak and asked him not to make any personal comments.

Frank Skorski: That's all I need. I don't have too much to say other than the fact that I hope you guys realize how much you are hurting the girls of Palatine by keeping them away from their horses. A beautiful day like this is what little kids dream of: getting on their horse and riding in the beautiful Spring weather that the lord gave us. Instead, they got some clouds on the Park District that has taken away their stables, their horses, and their joy. They don't know what the heck they are going to do, but Ben came up with an idea: I am going to ask the residents what they would like to do. I am going to spend some money and get a survey to document what people say. You've already got a survey, 6,000 signatures said to keep them. You got over 300 emails that said to keep the stables, don't close them or tear them down. Have you got an in-law or out-law in the construction business that is going to get a little piece of the action you are going to throw their way, like what you did in Arlington Heights? I don't know why you were ever hired, because you are a despicable Executive Director. You work for us. Not for your own small-minded agenda. I know Cary doesn't have any stables, and Arlington Heights doesn't have any stables, so why should Palatine? Because we have had them for 40-some odd years and we enjoyed them for 40 years. You have taken away the joy, and I hope you are happy. I hope you go to bed at night and dream about the children because they are sure having nightmares over you.

New Business

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to Award of Bid for the 2025 Wood Floor Maintenance project. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Sammons seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve, the lowest responsible bidder Veterans Floors of Rockford, IL, in the amount not to exceed \$25,125 for the 2025 Wood Floor Maintenance Project. Commissioner Gould commented that she is glad we went to bid. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to Award of bid for Contractual Mowing Services. Commissioner Sammons moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion That the Board of Park Commissioners reject the lowest bidder, The Autus Group/Property First and award the lowest qualified bidder, Apex of Hawthorn Woods, IL, in the amount of \$173,723.20 for the 2025 Contractual Mowing Services. Commissioner Sammons asked if we contracted this out last year. Director Holder explained that we have a renewable term for three years. This contract is the same with a fixed price for the next two terms; last year was the final season for that contract. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to the Approval of Affiliate Agreements. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Sammons seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the affiliate agreements between Palatine Park District and Celtic Soccer, the Park District and Palatine Community Baseball and Softball (PCBS), and the Park District and Palatine Amateur Football Association (PAFA). Commissioner Gould stated that each agreement is identical for each affiliate, specifically on page 13, letter D, which seems to address baseball but is the same for soccer and football. These include items to be furnished to the affiliate and asked why a pitching mound would be in the agreement for soccer and football. Commissioner Gould said that there must be things that apply to football but not baseball, and they are not listed here. Discussion continued about the differences between the agreements. Commissioner Gould said that she doesn't have a problem with the format, but they need to be more particular to each affiliate and asked if there is anything in the soccer agreement to address their use of the golf carts. Director Rea stated that it's a safety matter and acknowledged the incident she was referring to. Commissioner Gould corrected him, saying that it was four incidents, and a board member could have been charged with 33 felonies, according to the police officer that she spoke to. Commissioner Gould continued with details of the incident and said that she thinks that should be addressed somewhere; maybe soccer needs to see it in writing that the kids are not allowed to be on the golf carts. President Ruff asked if they wanted to vote on it subject to the changes that were discussed. Commissioner Gould said that she is OK with that. President Ruff amended the motion: subject to changes that were discussed. The amended motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Dan Hernandez, Athletic Coordinator, introduced MacKenzie Drake, a student-athlete at Fremd, where they won their first state title for girls' flag football. She is also a park district alumnus, having participated in multiple programs growing up, and was recognized by the Chicago Bears this year as a player of the week for the State Championship game. MacKenzie had her choice of youth programs to donate \$500 from the Chicago Bears, and she chose our girls' youth flag football program. We wanted to recognize her and her positive influence on our program. MacKenzie said she remembers her first flag football game in high school when the park district girls came to cheer them on, and it really inspired her when she saw them. She wanted to donate to the girls' park district team so they can have the same experience she had.

Executive Director Reports

Director Rea reported that he met with the MWRD last week regarding the renewal of our three reservoir properties. It was a good meeting, and they are interested in continuing our relationship moving forward, potentially with 50-year term agreements. Director Rea spoke with Attorney Paine about these agreements; he is comfortable with the time frame; this would lock us in for 50 years without further restrictions. We will have to have the properties surveyed if we do not have a current survey for the property since there are some infrastructure initiatives that have come in since the '70's and we will also need a Phase 1 environmental done for each of the properties. We hope to have the agreements wrapped up by fall and will bring them to the respective meetings for Board approval.

Commissioner Reports/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Gould thought we had some good activities last week and that it was good to see everyone at the part-time party. It was a good party, and a lot of fun playing trivia.

Commissioner Sammons said that he attended the Legislative Breakfast, which was informational and interesting.

Commissioner Rogers said it looked like the 80's theme employee appreciation week went really well with a lot of great events for staff.

President Ruff also attended the Legislative Breakfast, stopped by the part-time staff party, and stopped by staff luncheon.

Executive Session

President Ruff requested a motion to close the public portion of the meeting and convene in Executive Session for Section 2(c)(5) Open Meetings Act: discussion of the acquisition or lease of real property for the use of the District. Commissioner Rogers moved and Commissioner Sammons seconded that the Board of Park Commissioners go into closed session for discussion of Executive Session; Section 2(c)(5) Open Meetings Act for discussion of the acquisition or lease of real property for the use of the District. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried at 6:20 p.m.

Return to Open Session

President Ruff entertained a motion to come out of closed session and resume the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried at 6:33 p.m.

Action on Matters Considered in Closed Session

Regarding the Closed Session Section 2(c)(5) Open Meetings Act for discussion of the acquisition or lease of real property for the use of the District. There was no action at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Park Board on this date, Commissioner Sammons moved that the regular meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by a voice vote as follows:

AYE: Greg Sammons, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Allie
Park Board Secretary

Attest:



Lisa Allie
Secretary

Approved:



Terry Ruff
President

<u>2025 Park Board Meetings</u>	
April 14, 2025	May 12, 2025
April 28, 2025	May 27, 2025

