

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLEASANT DALE PARK DISTRICT
WALKER PARK RECREATION CENTER
7425 SOUTH WOLF ROAD, BURR RIDGE, ILLINOIS
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025 – 6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Call to Order/Roll Call: Present: Commissioners: Patrick Gierut, Jennifer Hennessy, David Gallagher, and Thomas Raschka. Absent: Todd Davis

Also present: Executive Director Matt Russian and Attorney Joseph Cainkar.

3. Consent Agenda items a, b, & c, Monthly Business **(Items a, b, & c 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 July 9, 2025 meeting

b. Minutes of the July 9, 2025 Executive Session

c. Financial Statements presented to the Board of Park Commissioners for July, 2025, in the amount of \$668,927.94 for accounts payable and \$101,896.84 for employee payroll.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve items a, b, & c. Seconded by Mr. Raschka. All Ayes. Motion passed.

4. Open Forum (Limited to 15 minutes, 5 minutes per speaker)

5. Presentation of Lake Carriage Way Park Improvement Proposals by Wight & Co.

Mr. Gage Berger appeared and presented Lake Carriage Way Park improvement proposals by Wight & Company. Previous meetings were held to receive input from residents in the area. Two concepts were proposed; one showing the OSLAD (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development) Concept and the Non-Grant Funded Concept. Mr. Berger believes that the OSLAD concept is strong and has potential to receive grant funding which will be quite competitive.

Regarding the Non-Grant Funded Concept, the proposal includes replacing the playground equipment and would make it thirty percent larger than the existing footprint with most of that increase going towards the lake. The length of the playground area would remain roughly the same so that trees could be saved around the playground. There is one tree in the middle of the playground (river birch) that will need to be removed but will be replaced. Mr. Berger explained the playground equipment shown was the winner from the feedback from the 2nd community input meeting as well as the online survey that was available. Additional benches and boulders would be added as part of the proposal. A new pathway to provide access to the two southern lookout stations is included in the proposal. The existing gazebo would remain, but would be renovated. Landscaping along the backside of the playground would also be included.

Regarding the OSLAD Grant concept, the proposal needs to address five elements to be grant-eligible. The playground equipment would be one element and the pathway to the southern lookout stations would be another element. A third element would be replacing the existing gazebo with one in the same style but a little larger. The improvements would include a larger pad around the gazebo and a seat wall which provides additional seating and a barrier to the new space. New native shoreline habitat would also be introduced as another element along with educational signage. Feedback regarding a water play element was received during

a community input meeting, so a multi-tiered water table which drains to a dry creek bed is included in the OSLAD proposal allowing for children to interact with the native area.

Mr. Berger confirmed that the OSLAD grant submission is due September 30. There are some back-end items that need to be completed over the next few weeks to complete the park district's application.

6. Open Forum

The Board heard comments from multiple citizens during the open forum (Speakers that signed in included Anne Stewart, Dennis Burke, Patti Jones, and Kevin Augustyn. Not all speakers identified themselves before speaking and not everyone that provided comment signed in).

Comments included:

A question was raised regarding an impact statement made prior to doing the plan as to how this was going to affect the community and what else needed to be done. People are leaving trash in this area, disregarding signs, and drinking and smoking in the area. Mr. Gallagher noted the input that was solicited at community meetings in a more informal manner.

Further comments related to children in the area being impacted by speeding cars and people disregarding designated parking areas. Concerns were raised about driveway issues, people leaving garbage in the area, more traffic, parking issues, and children using the area unsupervised.

Another question was raised about the improvements increasing foot traffic in the area, as well as traffic in general and increased park usage. Mr. Gallagher responded that it is the mission of the park district to increase the use of parks and recreational space.

There was concern expressed with expanded usage being an issue, specifically with cars parked along the roadway. Mr. Gallagher responded that if anyone notices illegal activities and they can document people breaking rules either with phone calls or photographs, or emails, and they can try to address these issues. It is the Board's mission to increase use of parks and recreation space so that people will come and use the parks.

A statement that the design and scale of the proposals does not reflect the input that was provided. There was a question raised as to whether that park was designed to be a regional park.

There was further comment regarding the green space area on the south part of the park which is an area where children play and the proposed five-foot walkway.

There was another comment about the aesthetics and scale of the proposed playground. There was concern about the playground area being too big.

The President of the townhome homeowner's association thanked the Board for their efforts and appreciates what they are trying to do. He noted that this is a small community and 25% of the townhomes will be affected by whatever is done with the project. He added that there were residents who are not in favor of the pathway. He feels that the sidewalk would upset the beauty of the park and is concerned about the potential for future additional pathway around the lake. He added that he sees people getting to the two lookout areas without difficulty. He mentioned a park in Downers Grove and noted concerns about e-bikes, scooters, and skateboarders on pathways.

Mr. Gierut stated that the Board appreciates all the input and thanked the residents for taking the time to come to the meeting. He added that the Board understands this is a close knit community, but this park isn't just for Lake Carriage Way, it's part of the Pleasant Dale Park District.

Another resident commented that the park is a beautiful oasis and she sees people enjoying the park all of the time. She requested that whatever changes are made to the park that the needs of the community are kept in mind.

A question was raised about the playground level, as it currently sits a bit depressed in the surrounding landscape. Mr. Berger replied that the intent is to keep it at the same level.

Another resident expressed that we are trying to collectively create something for the community but it's hard to do without all the information.

A question was asked regarding an increase in attendance at the park and where would cars park as there is no parking lot.

Mr. Gierut again thanked the attendees for their input and added that the Board will take the comments under advisement. A question was raised about next steps and Mr. Gallagher replied that the grant application had to be turned in by the end of September and that nothing had been decided and that the Board wants public input. Mr. Gallagher felt there were items where everyone is on the same page but that it is important to remember that this park is for the Pleasant Dale Park District community as a whole.

7. Old Business

7A - Update on potential sale of LTHS Willow Springs property

A written response to the letter received from LTHS 204 will be sent in the near future.

7B - Update on New Maintenance Building Progress

Mr. Russian reported that things are progressing but were recently slowed down slightly due to some inclement weather. Also, there was a tree within the construction zone that was going to be saved, but unfortunately it couldn't due to its shallow root structure adjacent to the water line installation.

8. New Business

8A - Board Action on Payment to Village of Burr Ridge for \$15,452.24 for District's Portion of Wolf Road Crossing Signal

Mr. Russian reported this was a project dating back to 2016. There was a three-way partnership between the Park District, the School District, and the Village. The Village took the lead on the project and was able to secure grant funding. The Park District and School District would split the cost of installation and an invoice for the 2024 installation was finally received.

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the Payment to Village of Burr Ridge for \$15,452.24 for the District's Portion of the Wolf Road Crossing Signal. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

8B - Board Action on Pay Application 8 from Wight & Co. for new maintenance building work in the amount of \$306,406.22

MOTION

Mr. Raschka made a motion to approve Pay Application 8 from Wight & Co. for new maintenance building work in the amount of \$306,406.22. Seconded by Mr. Gallagher. All Ayes. Motion passed.

8C - Board Action on Inline Rink Agreement with John Hagan

Mr. Russian mentioned Mr. Hagan appeared previously before the Board regarding the Inline Rink. Attorney Joseph Cainkar drafted an agreement which was sent to Mr. Hagan last week. There has been no response.

MOTION

Mr. Raschka approved the agreement as drafted regarding the Inline Rink. Seconded by Mr. Gierut. All Ayes. Motion passed.

8D - Board Action on a Contract to Beverly Companies for Restoration of Hole #1 Drainage Area at Flagg Creek Golf Course in the amount of \$37,174

MOTION

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the Contract to Beverly Companies for Restoration of Hole #1 Drainage Area at Flagg Creek Golf Course in the amount of \$37,174. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

8E - Board Review and Approval of Updated ADA Transition Plan

Mr. Russian stated this is an item for our Distinguished Agency Application. Over the years, items have color-coded as tasks have been completed. If not completed, a timeline potentially to get those repairs done is listed for each item.

MOTION

Mr. Gierut made a motion to approve the Updated ADA Transition Plan. Seconded by Ms. Hennessy. All Ayes. Motion passed.

8F - Board Action on Emergency Repairs to Install a 20T Dual Circuit AC Condenser by Chicagoland's Best in the amount of \$24,210

Mr. Russian reported that the work was done with pictures provided when it was completed.

MOTION

Mr. Raschka made a motion to approve Emergency Repairs to Install a 20T Dual Circuit AC Condenser by Chicagoland's Best in the amount of \$24,210. Seconded by Mr. Gallagher. All Ayes. Motion passed.

9. Flagg Creek Golf Course Report

Mr. Russian reported that he received an email from Patrick Jeter saying that he is on vacation. The only memo is for drainage on Hole Number 1 which was just approved. He included a rendering for the bar remodeling

project inside the clubhouse. He will have the project formally presented at the September drive-around meeting.

10. Pleasant Dale Parks District Foundation Report – Nothing heard

11. Staff Reports

a. (Staff reports are provided as information only)

The Board complimented the staff reports.

12. Additional Items

Attorney Joseph Cainkar stated he drafted an agreement for the Home Owner's Association next to Walker Park regarding a new fence along the property line by the new maintenance building. Mr. Russian stated that he received an initial email approval of the agreement from the HOA. Mr. Cainkar said it was too late to get added to the agenda for this meeting but they are waiting for us to approve and sign the agreement so we can get started on it. If the Board is willing, and subject to his approval, and if you don't have a problem with it, if you allow Mr. Davis and Ms. Hennessy to sign it, we can get moving. It will officially be on the agenda in September, as long as no one has any objection.

There was no objection from the Board.

13. Board Member Comments

There was a brief discussion regarding any damage done by the recent weather to the North end of the roof.

14. Executive Session: As Needed

15. Adjournment

MOTION

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

(Whereupon the Regular Meeting ended at approximately 7:05 pm)

Reported by Carmella Traverso

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to Carmella Traverso, written over a horizontal line.