

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 27, 2025; 6:00 p.m.
Community Center
9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
MINUTES**

Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.

President Vonesh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Physically Present: Commissioner Susan E. O'Connell, Mark K. White, Michael Vonesh, AnneMarie Casas (arrived at 6:10 p.m.) and Joseph E. Zinga.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Executive Director; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Others Present: Jennifer Costa, Parks Services Assistant; Vito Menolascina, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager; and Krissy Swiontek, North Park Manager.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda

Director LoCascio added Parks Foundation to New Business.

Recess for Public Comment at 6:03 p.m.

President Vonesh recessed for Public Comment at 6:03 p.m.

Reconvene at 6:04 p.m.

President Vonesh reconvened at 6:04 p.m.

Presentation/Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated April 22, 2025

Motion #1 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated April 22, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated April 2025 for \$307,128.65

Motion #2 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to approve the April 2025 Manual Bill Listing for \$307,128.65.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Thank you card from Schiller Park District 81 second-grade students who learned about pollinators at North Park on May 22.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

Commissioner O'Connell works at School District 81, and the second-grade students were so excited when they came back to school after learning about the bees. Commissioner O'Connell enjoyed the Color Run and seeing everyone who came out. Commissioner O'Connell has received many positive comments about Marketing Manager Saponieri.

Commissioner Casas highlighted how great the Ice Show was and how we stand out from other ice arenas. The parents were very happy with the pictures and videos shared on social media. She thanked Manager Saponieri and Supervisor Matt Jakubowski for taking pictures. Commissioner Casas also thanked the district and staff for continuing to host the Hester Junior High Dinner Dance.

Commissioner White also enjoyed the Color Run and thanked the PTA for their help.

Commissioner Zinga enjoyed the Color Run and seeing the community out.

President Vonesh echoed everyone's comments on the Color Run and thanked the staff for all their hard work.

Proposed 2025-2026 Budget Presentation

Staff presented the Proposed 2025-2026. The Board reviewed the Budget. A discussion was held.

Motion #3 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas, to approve the 2025-2026 Budget as presented by staff.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Adjourn Final Meeting of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Sine Die (Sign-E-Die)

Motion #4 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell, to adjourn the final meeting of fiscal year 2024-2025 Sine Die (Sign-E-Die) at 7:31 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Joseph E. Zinga, Secretary

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
First Regular Meeting of Fiscal Year 2025-2026
Tuesday, May 27, 2025; 6:00 p.m.
Community Center
MINUTES**

Secretary Zinga called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Roll Call

Physically Present: Commissioner Susan E. O'Connell, Mark K. White, Michael Vonesh, AnneMarie Casas and Joseph E. Zinga.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Executive Director; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Others Present: Jennifer Costa, Parks Services Assistant; Vito Menolascina, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager; and Krissy Swiontek, North Park Manager.

Annual Business Meeting for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Election of Officers

Secretary Zinga called for the election of Officers for the Park District of Franklin Park Board of Park Commissioners for 2025-2026.

Motion #1 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell, to elect by acclamation, Commissioner White as President of the Park Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Motion carried.

Motion #2 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Casas, to elect by acclamation, Commissioner O'Connell as Vice-President of the Park Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Motion #3 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to elect by acclamation, Commissioner Casas as Secretary of the Park Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Motion #4 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to elect by acclamation, Commissioner Zinga as Treasurer of the Park Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Appointments for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Motion #5 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to authorize the following appointments for Fiscal Year 2025-2026: Aaron Gold, Speer Financial, as the Financial Advisor; Thomas G. Hoffman as the Attorney; and Sikich & Gardner as the Auditors.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Designation of Depositories and Signatures to District Accounts

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to adopt Resolution 25-26-1/R, a Resolution Designating Depositories for the Treasurer of the Park District of Franklin Park.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Motion #7 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to authorize the following accounts for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and that these accounts be placed with Busey Bank, Glenview, Illinois, and Partnership Financial, Franklin Park, Illinois: Corporate Account, Revenue Account, Payroll Account, and LPL Financial Investment Account.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to designate any two of the following: AnneMarie Casas, Susan E. O'Connell, Michael A. Vonesh, Mark K. White and Joseph E. Zinga as signatories, both original or by facsimile stamp, on all bank accounts of the District; and further to authorize Director Daniel LoCascio to use the facsimile stamp on all regular disbursements, and to authorize the Executive Director and the Superintendent of Finance & Technology to deposit and withdraw funds in the Investment Fund, as needed for regular disbursements.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

President White declared the end of the Annual Business Meeting Items for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated May, 2025 for \$127,022.03

Motion #9 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to approve the May 2025 System Bill Listing for \$127,022.03.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:*Director*

Senate Bill 1612 and House Bill 2853 have been approved by both houses of the legislature, now at the Governor's desk.

Director LoCascio shared with the Board that Representative Norma Hernandez will be hosting an event at North Park before our June Board Meeting, which he will attend. He will send the Board a reminder.

School District 84's Early Childhood Program was very appreciative of being able to move indoors for their end-of-year gathering.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent of Parks reported that the staff are preparing for summer. Seasonal staff started today.

Assistant Costa shared that sustainability will play an educational role in our youth camps this summer. Discovery Camp will kick off a new initiative by participating in BioBlitz during Pollinator Week (June 16–22). BioBlitz, hosted by *iNaturalist*, is a community science project that helps collect valuable data on pollinators across different regions. Camp counselors will use Park District-issued devices with the iNaturalist app installed to capture photos of pollinators during daily walks to the pool or parks. The app helps identify each species and provides information about that pollinator.

In addition to BioBlitz, Discovery Camp, Hockey, and Skate Camps, participants will be involved in a Reusable Water Bottle Challenge. During designated periods, camps will promote the use of water bottle fill stations located at drinking fountains. These stations include sensors that track the number of plastic bottles saved. Each camp will be given a sustainability goal based on the number of kids. If they meet their goal, they'll earn a foam party as a reward for their efforts.

Marketing & Communication Manager

Manager Saponieri shared that the Park Passport Adventure begins on June 9. QR code stickers will be placed at the five parks included in the adventure this week. New this year, every participant who completes all five adventures will receive a summer bag of giveaways.

She shared the digital brochure survey results and plans to educate and communicate the transition with the residents.

The Marketing intern starts next week.

Superintendent of Finance/Technology

Superintendent Bersani discussed the Fund Summary being a good tool to check for budget-to-actual variances, as it displays a full year through April.

She reported that she will be getting back to financial software options, budget/actual meetings with Department heads and their staff to assess summer programming and related expenses and fiscal year 2024-2025 audit prep.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen officially welcomed Krissy Swiontek, the North Park Manager, to the full-time staff today.

She highlighted that most of our seasonal part-time staff are from Franklin Park. Commissioner Zinga reminded staff to watch the kids.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak highlighted the Ice Show, shared that it was a fantastic weekend, and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Summer classes start this week and next week.

WSSRA

Director LoCascio shared that WSSRA's Derby Gala was a success.

Unfinished Business

Solar Project

Director LoCascio reported that we have a walkthrough on Friday. After researching, we will be able to qualify for the rebate. Superintendent Bersani is working with accountants.

Service Center Renovations

Motion #10 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to approve the proposal from Williams Architects for Professional Basic Architectural and Engineering Services for the Service Center Roof Replacement for \$80,000 and to authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver same.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Motion #11 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas to authorize the Executive Director to execute and deliver the May 22, 2025 Proposal from W.B. Olson, Inc. forthwith, and to direct the Executive Director to execute and deliver the AIA A-133 2019 at risk Construction Manager agreement with WB Olson, Inc. at such time as it has been approved by the park district attorney, all in connection with the Service Center Renovations Project.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Director LoCascio and Superintendent Wick reviewed plans for safety wall on the roof. A discussion was held. Williams Architect will present plans to the Board next month.

Ice Arena / Bathroom Renovation Project

Motion #12 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to approve Payout #2 to WB Olson, Inc., for \$2,259, leaving a balance, plus retainage of \$1,185,304 to finish the Ice Arena Interior Restoration project.

Director LoCascio updated the Board on the process.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Dog Park

Director LoCascio shared an informative packet and survey that will be shared with the residents. A community meeting will be held on June 11, and flyers will be passed out to the neighbors.

North Park Service Driveway Replacement

Working with Novotny for planning and may push the project bid back to next January 2026.

New Business:

Ordinance #25-26-1/O – An Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the Sale of Certain Used Property

Motion #13 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to adopt Ordinance #25-26-1/O, An Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the Sale of Certain Used Property.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Parks Foundation

Parks Foundation meeting is June 3 at North Park.

Required Signatures

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Closed Session

Motion #14 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Casas, to enter Closed Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss Personnel 2(c)1 and Land Acquisition 2(c)5.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Rise Out of Closed Session

Motion #15 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to Rise Out of Closed Session at 9:06 p.m. to discuss Personnel 2(c)1 and Land Acquisition 2(c)5.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session

Motion #16 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approval of the purchase of 2920 Maple Street, Franklin Park, Illinois for \$700,000 and to direct the Executive Director to execute and deliver the Real Estate Sale Contract, as presented, in connection therewith and to take all such actions as he may deem necessary or convenient to effectuate same.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes. O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Adjourn at 9:09 p.m.

Motion #17 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner Casas, to adjourn at 9:09 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; White, yes; Vonesh, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Anne Marie Casas, Secretary