

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 28, 2026; 7:00 p.m.
Community Center
9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
MINUTES**

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.

President White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Zinga acted as Secretary in Commissioner Casas absence.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas.

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

Also Present: Jen Costa, Parks Services Assistant; Martha Trotter, Sikich; Angela Inocenti, Scholarship Recipient.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions, corrections or deletions to the Agenda.

Recess for Public Comment at 7:01 p.m.

President White recessed for Public Comment at 7:01 p.m.

Commissioner O'Connell introduced Angela Inocenti, Scholarship Recipient.

Reconvene at 7:04 p.m.

President White reconvened at 7:04 p.m.

Presentation of 2024-25 Audit by Martha Trotter from Sikich

Martha Trotter presented the 2024-25 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report to the Board. The Board thanked Martha.

Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated March 24, 2026

Motion #1 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approve the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated March 24, 2026.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O’Connell, yes; Vonesh, no; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated March 2026 for \$165,683.82

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the March 2026 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$165,683.82.

The Manual Bill Listings was reviewed.

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

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated April 2026 for \$44,715.11

Motion #3 by Commissioner O’Connell, second by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the April 2026 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$44,715.11.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

O’Connell thanked everyone for their hard work on Earth Day. She apologized for missing the Color Run.

Commissioner Vonesh commented the Color Run was a good event. Complimented staff on all the parks and the tulips, flowers congrats and thank you.

Commissioner Zinga commented Earth Day was a nice event. The Color Run was great to see so many people come out.

President White Earth Day and Color Run. Also commented that the flowers do look gorgeous.

Staff Reports:

Director

Director LoCascio’s items are later on the agenda. He thanked the staff for a great job in his absence.

Marketing & Communications Manager

Manager Saponieri is making sure everything is transitioned well and meeting with staff, and that everyone is all set to go. She thanked the Board for their trust in everything she did and the staff. The Park District is where she started and where her growth began. The Board thanked her.

Superintendent of Finance & Technology

Superintendent Bersani is working on budgets. Cook County property taxes are coming in. Funds are close to the budgeted amount.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Wick reported staff is busy cutting grass. Supervisor Menolascina is cleaning the pool and cross-training Robert Blonski. Will start filling the pool on Friday. Getting water fountains repaired. Received board for HVAC.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen reported that the Special Events went well. Getting ready for Day Camps and Pool. She has been busy working on updating policies.

May is going to be a busy month for North Park.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak reported working on Ice Show. Spring Hockey is wrapping up. Staff will be getting ready for summer camps.

WSSRA

Director LoCascio and Superintendent Visteen will be attending the Derby Gala on Saturday at Robert's West Side in Forest Park.

Unfinished Business

Service Center Renovations

We will be working with Williams and W.B. Olson to design, plan and budget the renovations for Phase 2 and 3. The study is scheduled to be completed by Labor Day and Phase 2 work begin in the fall.

Dog Park

We are out to bid. Bid opening will be held in a couple of weeks. Waiting on soil testing. A discussion was held about making the space ADA accessible.

Director LoCascio confirmed with the Board that the park's name will be Pawcific Dog Park.

NRPA Conference - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: September 28 – October 2, 2026

Let Director LoCascio know by the end of next week if they will be attending.

New Business:

Purchase Refurbished Zamboni

Motion # 4 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the purchase of 2012 Zamboni 552 from R&R Specialties in Somerset, Wisconsin for an amount not to exceed \$85,000.

Manager Deak reviewed the benefits of having a backup Zamboni. A discussion was held.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, no; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried

Pool VGB Grate Replacement

Motion #5 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the proposal from WT Group for Engineering Fees for the VGB Grate Replacement in the amount of \$4,000.

Director LoCascio reported that during the pool pump replacement, it was suggested that the VGB Grates be replaced as well. A discussion was held.

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

Safety Policy Update

Superintendent Visteen reviewed the Safety Policy updates. A discussion was held.

IAPD Legislative Updates

Director LoCascio reported that Senate Bill 3907 has not included IAPD's language to continue the exemption that eliminates the state's ability to regulate periodic recreation events with permits.

Legislative Conference and Parks Day next week and has meetings with Reps. Hernandez and Stephens.

Suggested Motions

No Suggested Motions.

Required Signatures

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Closed Session

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to enter into Closed Session at 8:08 p.m. to discuss Personnel 2(c)1 and Filling a Vacancy of a Public Office and/or the Selection of a Person to Fill a Public Office 2(c)3.

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

Rise Out of Closed Session

Motion #7 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Zinga, to rise out of Closed Session at 8:52 p.m.

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

Adjourn at 8:53 p.m.

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, no; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried

Joseph Zinga, Acting Secretary