

Mission: To create community

Vision: The "place to be" for exceptional experiences

Core Values: Innovation, Sustainability, Inclusion, and Exceptional Services

# Minutes of the Warrenville Park District Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners Held on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### Call to Order:

President DiCianni called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

# Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Commissioner Machowski – Present

Commissioner Wilkie – Absent Commissioner Coons – Absent Commissioner Thombury– Present President DiCianni – Present

#### Others Present:

Tim Reinbold, Executive Director/Board Secretary

Penny Thrawl, Executive Assistant/HR Manager/Assistant Board Secretary

Gregg Ireland, Superintendent of Parks & Facilities

Matt Odom, Superintendent of Recreation/Safety Coordinator

Linda Straka, Superintendent of Finance & Technology

Michelle Savage, Office Manager (5:19 pm)

Sheri Potter, Marketing & Community Engagement Manager

Kay McKeen, Scarce Executive Director & Founder

Erin Munizu. Scarce

Marina Strong, Scarce

Jim Zay, DuPage County Board Member

Sara Hunn, Director at DuPage County Stormwater Management & Environmental Conservation

Dorthy Deer, Johnson School Expansion of Community Garden & Tree Planting

Kristina Campione, Johnson School Expansion of Community Garden & Tree Planting

# Approval of September 11th, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda:

MOTION: Commissioner Machowski Moved to Approve October 16th, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda. Seconded by

Commissioner Thornbury.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Thombury - Aye Commissioner Wilkie - Aye President DiCianni - Aye

Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment: No public present.

# **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for September 11th, 2025:

MOTION: Commissioner Wilkie Moved to Approve October 16th, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Machowski.

Roll Call Vote:

President Thombury - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye Vice President DiCianni - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent MOTION CARRIED. Commissioner Wilkie - Aye Commissioner Machowski - Aye

# Financial Reports:

Approval of Financial Statement for the Period Ending September 30th, 2025:

MOTION: Commissioner Machowski Moved to Approve the Financial Statements for ending August 31st, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Wilkie.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Machowski - Aye President Thornbury - Aye

Commissioner DiCianni - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays,0-Absent MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Coons - Aye Commissioner Wilkie - Aye

Approval of Expenditure Report through September 30th, 2025 in the Amount of \$368,411.11:

MOTION: Commissioner Machowski Moved to Approve the Expenditure Report through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in the Amount of \$368,411.11. Seconded by Commissioner Thombury.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Wilkie - Aye President DiCianni - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Coons - Aye Commissioner Thornbury - Aye

# Presentation of Water Quality Flag DuPage County Stormwater – Kay McKeen, Scarce Executive Direction: DuPage County Stormwater:

Kay McKean, Executive Director of SCARCE, along with representatives from DuPage County Stormwater, attended the meeting to present the Water Quality Flag to the Warrenville Park District. Executive Director Tim Reinbold introduced Kay, who in turn provided brief remarks and introduced those accompanying her.

Kay expressed appreciation for the District's environmental efforts and noted the community's unique location near forest preserve land and the West Branch of the DuPage River. She invited staff to begin the formal presentation.

Michelle Savage, Office Manager and Chair of the Environmental Awareness Committee, provided an overview of the Park District's progress toward earning the Water Quality Flag.

# Environmental Awareness Committee Background:

- Formed in July 2013.
- Developed an environmental policy focused on environmentally sensitive purchasing, wise use of natural resources, safe waste handling, open space protection, and environmental education.

### Purpose of Pursuing the Water Quality Flag:

- Demonstrates the District's commitment to conserving and protecting local water resources.
- Recognizes the District as an environmentally responsible organization.
- Encourages sustainable practices among staff, residents, and community partners.

# **Initiatives Completed:**

# 1. Water Bottle Filling Stations:

Three stations installed throughout the Recreation Center to reduce single-use plastics and promote hydration and sustainability.

#### 2. Storm Drain Medallions:

Installed near facilities and within parks to remind the public that storm drains lead directly to local waterways and to discourage dumping.

#### 3. Rain Barrel Use:

Rain barrels support water conservation and are used for the "Camp Veggie Garden" and flower plantings. Produce grown from the garden has supported senior meals and staff/camp events.

# 4. Native Plantings:

Native vegetation throughout the District supports pollinators and wildlife, conserves water, improves soil health, reduces erosion, enhances air quality, and provides educational opportunities.

# 5. Bi-annual Clean-Up Events:

Staff and community volunteers participate in spring and fall cleanups, contributing to improved local environmental conditions.

#### 6. "Be Water Wise" Initiative:

Provided leak detection tablets and rain gauges (courtesy of SCARCE) to staff and patrons to promote water conservation.

Michelle concluded by thanking the Board and reaffirming the District's commitment to environmental stewardship. She also reminded attendees of the annual pumpkin drop-off event held the day before the Pumpkin Smash.

County Board Member Jim Zay, Chair of the Stormwater Committee, congratulated the District on receiving the Water Quality Flag and acknowledged the significance of its initiatives—from rain barrels and native plantings to storm drain medallions and filling stations. He noted the importance of water conservation efforts, particularly given the community's proximity to the West Branch of the DuPage River. He also expressed appreciation for SCARCE's leadership and partnership. Mr. Zay concluded his remarks by thanking the District.

#### Additional Remarks from SCARCE

Kay McKean thanked District staff for their engagement and enthusiasm, noting strong participation in training and follow-up questions from younger staff members. She emphasized the importance of local leadership in protecting water quality and expressed interest in coordinating future rain-barrel distribution events with the District.

Kay noted that while the Water Quality Flag recognizes significant accomplishments, there will always be more work to do in education and conservation. She thanked staff for their collaboration and commitment.

Executive Director Reinbold thanked SCARCE for its continued partnership, noting that Kay McKean's repeated participation in staff training and her support of the District's environmental initiatives. He also thanked all staff and attendees for their contributions to achieving the Water Quality Flag.

The Board agreed that following Item VII., to move to Item XII. l. Recreation Department Presentation – Ruth Brackmann; up to this spot while waiting for the arrival of Kristina Campione for IX. l. We Feed Community Garden Food Forest Expansion – Kristina Campione.

# **Recreation Department Presentation - Ruth Brackmann**

Recreation Supervisor Ruth Brackmann gave an overview of the many responsibilities that her position holds and all that it entails. She began her presentation by sharing that she recently received an unexpected Certificate of Recognition from the Illinois House of Representatives, presented by her Tuesday program group and expressed appreciation for the honor.

Ruth provided an overview of Recreation Department highlights:

# Camp Programs

- Camps operate year-round, including "Day Off School" and holiday camps. Recent attendance included twenty-four (24) participants on a Friday session and twenty-two (22) on the following Monday.
- Summer camp served 261 families, with regular attendance of 15–30 campers.
- Strong growth is attributed to improved field trip offerings and the shift to full-week registration.
- Travel Camp has expanded from six participants to thirty (30).
- Weekly newsletters are provided to families, with strict compliance required for waivers and partner agency requirements.
- Budget growth: from approximately \$116,000 five years ago to over \$350,000, which Ruth attributed to strong staffing, training, and service quality.

# **Dance Programs**

- Youth dance continues to grow post-pandemic, supported by competitive pricing and grant funding.
- High-quality, professional costumes are purchased at discounted rates.
- Dance bags are provided to students, improving organization and consistency.
- Instructors are highly qualified, with professional studio and competition backgrounds.
- Plans are underway to begin a noncompetitive performing arts program, with potential for future competitive expansion.

#### Adult Dance:

- Tuesday evening couples' classes continue to draw 20–28 participants year-round, with strong instructor credentials.
- Approximately 90% of participants are nonresidents, many of whom follow instructors from other studios.
- Private lessons for special events (e.g., weddings) are also offered.

#### Prime Timers/Active Adults

- Tuesday lunches are held weekly, with 24–30 participants depending on programming.
- Day trips occur 1–2 times per month; trip selection is carefully managed based on participant age ranges (70–90+).
- Group rates (e.g., Paramount Theatre) are used to keep costs accessible.
- Program fees apply to lunches, trips, and drop-in programs.
- Mahjong participation remains strong, with lessons added due to demand.
- Additional card programs (pinochle, bridge) will begin in the upcoming brochure cycle.
- Collaboration with Winfield Township is expanding; recent newsletter exposure led to new Tuesday lunch participants.
- Safety concerns regarding AED availability on the bus were raised and will be addressed further.

# Visual Arts

- Instructor Amy (identified through Art on the Prairie) continues to lead successful adult and youth programs, including acrylic and glass painting, custom wood boards, and fiber arts.
- Back-to-back scheduling helps ensure class viability.

#### General Recreation

- STEM/LEGO programs continue through Chasewood.
- Homeschool programming has grown significantly, with twenty-four participants in the first month and flexible registration options.

# Early Childhood

- The former preschool room has been converted for staff-led programs, with new instructors and expanded offerings.
- Special events include Little Goblins and the upcoming Mrs. Claus & Cookies program.
- Positive feedback continues, and the environment is described as creative and engaging.

#### Special Events

- A new "Healthy Heroes Family Fair" (children's health fair) is launching, with three sponsors secured and approximately twelve (12) exhibitors; capacity is expected to be reached soon.
- "Light Up the Night Family Event" will return following last year's success.
- Ruth noted her continued enjoyment of her role, marking thirty-three (33) years with the District.

The Board thanked Ruth for her thorough presentation and longstanding service.

# We Feed Community Garden Food Forest Expansion – Kristina Campione

Christina Campioni, founder of *We Feed, Inc.*, provided an overview of the organization's partnership with Johnson Elementary School, Community Unit School District 200, the Warrenville Park District, and larger partners including The Morton Arboretum. She explained that Johnson Elementary is a Tier 1, mixed-income, and diverse school community where many students experience limited access to fresh and nutritious foods. Following the end of the universal free breakfast and lunch programs after COVID-19, the school observed increased gaps in students' access to produce.

To address this need, We Feed, Inc. established a nutritious snack initiative, working with local churches that deliver approximately 150 pieces of fresh produce weekly to Johnson Elementary. The produce is placed in communal bins that provide equitable access to healthy snacks for all students. The program also includes nutrition education, including garden-based lessons on soil health and nutrient cycles. Campioni noted positive feedback from families and increased vegetable consumption among students following these lessons.

She described the development of a 40' x 40' community garden on school property, approved by the District and located near the school library. The garden grows a variety of culturally relevant and popular produce, and functions as a no-cost "free farmers market" for families. Harvests are distributed through coordinated school communications. The garden expansion has been supported by a Whole Foods "Whole Kids" grant, which funded the purchase of a greenhouse.

We Feed has also established a partnership with The Morton Arboretum's education team and the Chicago Regional Tree Initiative (CRTI), which donated approximately fifteen (15) trees for the garden area, including both native and fruit-bearing species (pawpaws, serviceberries, hazelnuts). The Arboretum has expressed strong support for the food equity mission and has provided continued educational and volunteer resources.

It was stated that the program is reaching capacity on school property and requested permission from the Park District to plant an additional 5–10 fruit-bearing trees on the Park District parcel adjacent to Summerlakes, located across from the Johnson Elementary blacktop. We Feed would provide volunteers for ongoing maintenance, including a weekly youth volunteer crew from the Arboretum during summer months. The organization is also working with local vermicomposting partners to manage any fallen or unusable fruit to minimize insects and site impacts.

She addressed questions from the Board regarding long-term maintenance, disease susceptibility, winter care, and liability. She stated that We Feed would assume maintenance responsibilities and that CRTI has historically replaced failing trees and provided guidance on ongoing care. She also offered options for volunteer waivers

through Park District Program Registration if needed. She noted that fruit-bearing timelines are long term (e.g., apple trees may take five years to bear), and emphasized the project's sustainability plan, including Arboretum support to ensure continuity even if leadership changes.

Board members discussed the need for proper education on fruit tree care, the importance of species selection appropriate for children, and interest in an educational presentation from CRTI for staff or volunteers. It was confirmed that the Arboretum could provide virtual or in-person training as needed.

It was also shared that We Feed hopes to expand community food access initiatives throughout the District and referenced opportunities for community gardens or orchard development at other sites.

The Board thanked Campioni for her presentation, commending the mission, the partnerships established, and the impact on local food equity. Further discussion will continue at the Board level regarding the land use request.

#### **Old Business**

<u>Cerny Park OSLAD Update: Phase I & Phase II:</u> The Executive Director reported that Phase I of the Cerny Park OSLAD project is nearing completion. The roof has been installed on the final shelter. Staff (Gregg, Jamie, and the Executive Director) are working with Hitchcock Design Group to address several construction concerns, including exposed screws, before closing out Phase I. Although Phase I was scheduled to be completed already, the goal is to finalize all remaining items as soon as possible.

Regarding Phase II, staff noted ongoing discussions related to the splash pad component. This topic will be brought forward at an upcoming City Park Task Force meeting. Phase II construction is planned to begin after July 4th of next year, with bidding and preparatory work to occur in advance so that the project can begin immediately following the holiday.

<u>Summer Daze Report</u>: Staff presented the final Summer Daze report, prepared by the Superintendent of Finance & Technology Linda Straka and Finance Supervisor Kathy Mrzlak. The event was highly successful and more profitable than in previous years, due in part to ideal weather conditions throughout the weekend. Attendance continued to be strong, particularly for the band *Seventh Heaven*, which remains a reliable draw. Beer sales increased, certain expenses were reduced, and overall, the event performed very well financially. The Board expressed appreciation for the significant staff efforts required to produce the event.

Before moving on to Old Business, Commissioner Machowski asked regarding the Discussion of the Employee Survey as it was not on the Agenda. President DiCianni stated that this topic was moved to the November Board Meeting due to the number of items on this months Agenda.

#### **New Business:**

Review and Approval of Annual Statement of Receipts and Disbursements:

MOTION: Commissioner Thombury Moved to Approve the Annual Statement of Receipts and Disbursements. Seconded by Commissioner Machowski.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Wilkie - Aye Commissioner Machowski - Aye President DiCianni - Aye

Commissioner Thombury - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of 2026 Health Plan Selection:

MOTION: Commissioner Thornbury Moved to Approve 2026 Health Plan Selection as recommended and presented. Seconded by Commissioner Wilkie.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Wilkie – Aye President DiCianni – Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye Commissioner Thombury - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Lauterbach & Amen - Three-Year Audit Services:

MOTION: Commissioner Thornbury Moved to Approve three (3) year Audit Services with Lauterbach & Amen. Seconded by Commissioner Machowski.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Thombury - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye Commissioner Wilkie - Aye

President DiCianni – Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

Review of Second Quarter Executive Director Goals & Objectives: A question was raised regarding the status of Sesquicentennial Park enhancements listed as "completed," specifically the removal and reseeding of trees along the Plymouth Tube property.

The Superintendent of Parks & Facilities clarified that while the tree removal and stump grinding are complete, the area has not yet been reseeded. A bioswale with native plantings will be installed in that location to accommodate stormwater runoff from the new pickleball courts, which required removal of the previous permeable surface.

Concerns about potential pickleball noise affecting Plymouth Tube were discussed; staff reported that Plymouth Tube was informed about the project, expressed no concerns, and was in fact supportive.

Regarding the sand removal from the former volleyball court, staff noted that most of the sand will be taken to the City's dump site. The condition and depth of the sand are uncertain until excavation begins.

No additional questions were raised.

Annual Staff Celebration Thursday, January 8th, 2026: The Executive Director stated that an invitation email will go out to all employees and Board Members with the information. This year's celebration will be held at the Round House located on Route 25 in Aurora.

CUSD Local Government Breakfast, Friday, October 24th, 2025: Executive Director explained that District 200 holds their annual strategic plan update breakfast with the different agencies. President DiCianni and Commissioner Wilkie stated that they are interested in attending. If other Commissioners are wanting to attend, please let him know.

<u>City Park Task Force Meeting</u>: The Executive Director stated that a City Park Task Force Meeting has been scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:00 pm at the City of Warrenville. Both President DiCianni and Commissioner Thombury are on the City Park Task Force and once the Agenda is received, the Executive Director will forward. If there are any additional items to be added to the Agenda, please let him know.

Recreation Center Gym Update: Staff reported that installation of the new gym floor is progressing well and remains ahead of schedule. The Stalker Sports Flooring crew completed the floor installation late yesterday. Sanding is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, followed by application of sealant, painted lines, and final lacquer, after which the floor will require a curing period. While no firm completion date has been provided, early November is anticipated. The new flooring is designed to be fully waterproof, though curing time may be influenced by weather and building heating needs.

#### Fall Fest Adjustments

Because the gym will not be available, Fall Fest activities traditionally held in the gym (e.g., inflatables) will be moved outdoors near the entertainment tent, with food and music relocated to the lower parking lot. Indoor activities—including crafts, the sensory room, and face painting—will remain accessible inside the building. Staff will post signage directing individuals with mobility or vision impairment to use the elevator and will add supplemental lighting near the exterior stairway.

#### Ventilation and Odor Concerns

Air scrubbers will be used during the finishing process, though some odor is expected. Staff will monitor the situation and communicate updates.

# Ongoing Maintenance

Per the installer, the new floor will require additional polyurethane coats annually over the next two years due to the characteristics of new wood. Minor paint touch-ups may also be needed after seasonal expansion and contraction.

#### Program Relocation & Communication

The Recreation staff and School District 200 have successfully coordinated alternative locations for programs, including Puzzle Palooza. Weekly project updates continue to be sent to the district-wide email list. Member disruption has been minimal, with temporary options offered to walking track users.

#### Board Acknowledgment

The Board expressed appreciation for staff efforts to manage the project and relocations, the improved confidence in long-term health and safety now that the damaged floor was fully removed and replaced. Staff also noted that moisture levels in the concrete were dried to an exceptionally low level before installation, exceeding expectations.

Review and Approval of Ordinance 2025-13; An Ordinance Authorizing the Granting of a Perpetual Non-Exclusive Stormwater Management Easement at Sesquicentennial Park and Directing the Execution and Delivery of a Stormwater Management Agreement in Conjunction Therewith:

MOTION: Commissioner Wilkie Moved to Approve Ordinance 2025-13; An Ordinance Authorizing the Granting of a Perpetual Non-Exclusive Stormwater Management Easement at Sesquicentennial Park and Directing the Execution and Delivery of a Stormwater Management Agreement in Conjunction Therewith. Seconded by Commissioner Thornbury.

The Board reviewed Ordinance 2025-13, authorizing the granting of a perpetual, non-exclusive stormwater management easement at Sesquicentennial Park and approving execution of the associated stormwater management agreement.

During discussion, a question was raised regarding Section 5 – Enforcement, specifically language stating that the City may pursue "all remedies at law or equity...including remedies for the abatement of a nuisance." Staff clarified that the City drafted the agreement and the Park District's legal counsel, Attorney Hoffman, reviewed and was comfortable with the language. Staff will seek clarification from the City regarding the specific meaning of the "nuisance" reference, though it is understood to pertain to the Park District's obligation to maintain the easement area. No further concerns were raised.

#### Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Wilkie - Aye Commissioner Thornbury - Aye President DiCianni -Aye Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

<u>Distinguished Accreditation Review</u>: The Executive Director reported that the District recently completed the Distinguished Agency Accreditation Review. Commissioners who attended were thanked, and staff was praised for their extensive preparation. The Review Team, led by Tracy Crawford, was very impressed giving the District an excellent score of 95.97 out of 100 (or 495.97 out of 500).

The report identified both strengths and a few areas for improvement, including updating procedures to reflect a newly passed law on minimum bidding requirements. Overall, the review day went very well, and the organization will officially receive its accreditation in January at the IPRA/IAPD Soaring to New Heights Conference. Commissioners expressed pride and gratitude to the staff for their hard work, noting that the high score is outstanding.

Review and Approval of IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights 2026 Conference Attendance for Commissioners: Commissioner Machowski noted that he will be attending the Conference but as a vendor.

MOTION: Commissioner Machowski Moved to Approve President DiCianni, Commissioner Wilkie, and Commissioner Coons to attend the Conference. Seconded by Commissioner Wilkie.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Thombury - Aye Commissioner Machowski - Aye Commissioner Coons - Aye Commissioner Wilkie - Aye

President DiCianni - Aye

5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

<u>Recreation Department Presentation – Ruth Brackmann</u>: President DiCianni took a moment to once again to thank the Recreation Supervisor Ruth Brackmann for all the hard work and many years she's put into our District and for a wonderful presentation and explained more of what goes on "behind the scenes".

<u>Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report</u>: The Executive Director explained that the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report has been handed out to all Commissioners as this was not included in the Commissioners Board Packets.

This report has been done now for several years, and it is a Distinguished Accreditation requirement. It gives everyone a snapshot of where we are at and what has been done over the course of the year.

### Officials & Staff Reports

President:

<u>President DiCianni</u> reflected on a busy September marked by some planned absences and missed events, such as Art on the Prairie, which is praised for its quality and strong reputation of shared pride in the community's work and the positive feedback received from visitors.

President DiCianni also commends staff for their exceptional performance during the recent Distinguished Accreditation visit, noting the evaluators' enthusiastic "wows" about the tours, financial organization, and staff contributions. The Accreditation Team emphasizes that the organization is seen as a "little diamond in the rough." President DiCianni expressed gratitude and pride in the team's collective effort in achieving credibility and excellence.

Commissioners:

<u>Commissioner Thornberry</u> noted continued heavy travel plans, with 2026 expected to be even busier than 2025.

She asked regarding whether there was a need to add the discussion of WeFeed's request to the November Board Meeting Agenda.

It was the consensus of the Board to add the discussion of WeFeed's request to expand Johnson Schools' Community Garden and incorporated fruit bearing trees. Staff will need to verify the exact property boundaries before the next November meeting.

Commissioner Machowski expressed regret about missing the accreditation event due to knee surgery & recovery, follow-up appointments, and physical therapy, although he appreciated the hard work staff put into preparing for it. It was also noted that he visited various District activities, including a golf ball tournament, the improvements at Cerny Park, especially the well-used pickleball courts while the gym is unavailable.

Commissioner Machowski thanked everyone for their quick action on gym-related issues, communicating effectively with the community, and managing the daily challenges involved in relocating programs.

Commissioner Wilkie thanked staff for acting quickly on gym-related issues. He also noted that he would have liked to attend the Districts Accreditation Review but was filling in at the School Association for Special Education in DuPage County. He stated that he saw an actual beep ball tournament, which he stated, "was kind of cool" and shared that this was his first time missing Art on the Prairie.

He stated that Cerny Parks pickleball courts look amazing and is being used a lot, because of not having the Recreation Center Gym.

Although Commissioner Wilkie was not present at the September Board Meeting and was happy to be able to listen to the minutes to understand more of what happened. He praised the quick action in managing the issue so quickly, getting information out to everybody, and going forward with all the hard work of moving things around and the struggles that had to be dealt with.

Commissioner Coons reported that she attended the Distinguished Agency Review along with President DiCianni and was impressed by the decorated tables, welcome gifts, and the positive reactions from visitors. They expressed pride in the Park District staff and appreciation for how well the team represented the community.

She is looking forward to upcoming events—one of her favorite times of year—and apologized for missing part of a long-attended program, Art on the Prairie although she has heard positive feedback about the event.

Commissioner Coons also noted the new protective cages that will be installed around the gym sprinklers, and how great they look. Staff explained that all the cages have arrived, and once the new scissor lift can be used on the finished floor, they will be installed promptly.

Executive Director: The Executive Director also stated for the record that the gym has also been fully painted, which staff were able to complete efficiently while the floor was still out and turned very well.

> He reiterated that he is extremely proud of staff for all that was done with the accreditation. He explained that he sits on the Distinguished Agency Review Team and grades other districts going through the process, how other districts operate, what is provided as documentation, He explained the level of organization, the extensive documentation and attention to detail that we have in place, makes him so proud to be a part of this District.

> Additionally, Attorney Hoffman will attend next month's meeting, so anyone with legal or related concerns should be prepared to bring them up.

Department Heads: The Office Manager also expressed the incredible reaction time with the gym flooring. Registration was very busy, but Supervisors did an amazing job of communicating with the families, working with staff, and making sure that everybody stays informed and has the same information. Families have been working with us as well, only a handful of members requested to put their membership on pause, she believes this may also be due to taking advantage of the great weather.

Not only was staff dealing with the flooring but also successfully achieving the Distinguished Agency Accreditation.

The <u>Marketing & Community Engagement Manager</u> explained that the Family Puzzle Palooza is this Saturday, which will be held here in the District, as there were only five (5) teams registered. As a precaution, the November program will be held at Johnson School as Hubble school had already been booked and due to the program being too close to the opening of the gym, along with the need to have 100 putts and chairs on the floor for three (3) hours, it was decided not to have this in the Recreation Center Gym.

Staff have already completed the first draft of the Winter Brochure.

The <u>Superintendent of Parks & Facilities</u> stated that Park Supervisor Gary Jordan took down the hanging baskets, which lasted impressively into mid-October and were even complimented on during the parks tour.

The Superintendent of Parks & Facilities reported that the District also received its new pickup truck, which is currently getting a liftgate, toolboxes, and side steps installed.

A discussion followed about equipping District vehicles-particularly buses and field vehicles-with AEDs. The cost of an AED is approximately \$2,000 each. The District currently uses Zoll G3 units that guide users automatically. Some AEDs are already rotated to Summer Lakes during the summer. Board Members agreed it would be beneficial to add AEDs gradually, possibly one or two per year, and look into grants or township funding.

It was explained that cold-weather storage needs will need to be considered because AEDs cannot remain in vehicles overnight during winter. The Board discussed incorporating AED purchases into the upcoming budget and maintaining a replacement plan. The Board and staff agree that having an AED in District vehicles is important, even if they hopefully never need to be used.

The <u>Superintendent of Recreation/Safety Coordinator</u> stated that next weekend, Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> & Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup>, Art on the Prairie will be held. Other upcoming events include the Healthy Hero Kids Fair on Saturday, November 1st—created in response to community feedback—and Dave's Turkey Trot Softball Classic, which is expected to have eight teams.

A question was raised about a spike in June's personal training revenue. The Superintendent of Recreation/Safety Coordinator explained this was due to a major promotion ("buy six, get one free" and "buy twelve, get two free"), which is run twice a year, including again on Black Friday. The dates are not advertised in advance, but patrons know it is coming sometime, in summer, along with Black Friday and wait to buy multiple packages.

Any Other Business That May Properly Come before the Board for Discussion Only:

Adjournment: Commissioner Wilkie to Adjourn. Second, by Commissioner Machowski.

Voice Vote: 5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Absent. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 6:44 PM

Approval:

Denise Diffranni, Warrenville Park District President

Tim Reinbold, Warrenville Park District Executive Director/Board Secretary

Seal