



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
June 9, 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

Greg Sammons, Vice-President

Susan Gould

Joe Petricca

Jennifer Rogers

Commissioners Absent

Staff Present

Benjamin Rea, Executive Director

Andrea Fisher, Park Board Treasurer/Director of Finance

Lisa Allie, Park Board Secretary/Executive Assistant

Sonia Austin, Superintendent of Finance

Michelle Eckelberry, Director of District Services

Dayell Houzenga, Superintendent of District Services

Jim Holder, Director of Parks & Planning

Amy Vito, Superintendent of Parks

Colleen Palmer, Director of Recreation & Facilities

Josh Ludolph, Supt. of Recreation Facilities

Katie Waszak, Supt. of Recreation Programming

Kelly Johnston, Gymnastics Coordinator

Visitors and Citizens Present

Frank Skorski, Resident

Steve Gillmann, Resident

Lacey Lawrence, Hitchcock Design Group

Steve Konters, Hitchcock Design Group

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded that the agenda be approved. By a roll call vote, the agenda for the regular meeting of June 9, 2025, was approved. The result of the roll call vote follows:

AYE: Greg Sammons, Joe Petricca, Susan Gould, Jennifer Rogers, 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 Sammons moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded that the consent agenda be approved as presented. By a roll call vote, the following items on the consent agenda were approved: Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025 - amended, and Warrant #5. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Visitors and Citizens' Comments

Steve Gilmann introduced himself as President of the Auburn Woods Homeowners Association and shared community concerns regarding loud music at the tennis courts and after-hours activities in the parking lot. The music at the tennis court can be quite distracting when he's trying to work from home, and he is hoping that they can be asked not to play music on the courts. He also shared that the signs posted in the parking area indicate the park closes at 10 pm. However, there is a lot of activity taking place after 10 pm and often as late as midnight. Many people are congregating there; they set off fireworks, make a lot of conversational noise, and do donuts with their cars, in addition to other things Mr. Gilmann mentioned. He's concerned that there might be more serious activities going on and has called the police, but by the time they arrive, the people are gone. There's not a lot of light over there, so they don't know what's going on, but they feel there's some danger to the community, and he's hoping to get help with this issue.

Frank Skorski asked Why the hell don't you guys have an American Flag on the stand? Everybody else has an American Flag. Maybe Ben Rea can find \$25 or \$30 in the budget to buy a flag? Menards has them on sale right now because Saturday is Flag Day. I would also like to commend you on ruining another Father's Day for the fathers of the children who ride horses in Palatine, who used to ride horses in Palatine. You guys shut it down for no damn reason and that is reprehensible. I would also like to ask why Ben feels that we need a Palatine Police officer here. I don't want to deprive him of the time and a half, but on the same token, what the hell are you worried about, Ben? I think it's cowardice to have police at every meeting. Maybe you're afraid of an 81-year-old senior citizen? Are you worried about me? I've got more intelligence than that. Anyway, that's about it for today. See you in a couple of weeks.

Superintendent of Recreation Programming Katie Waszak introduced the new Gymnastics Coordinator, Kelly Johnston, and shared that she came to us from the Park District of Oak Park, where she was a Gymnastics Program and Operations Supervisor. The Board welcomed Kelly to the Palatine Park District.

Presentation

Executive Director Ben Rea introduced Steve Konters and Lacey Lawrence from Hitchcock Design Group. Steve shared an update on the current stage of the master plan process, and that the focus for tonight's meeting is to gather the Board's input on what is important for the next five to ten years as they envision the park district. Lacey provided the Board with instructions to brainstorm, categorize their ideas, and vote for their top two priorities on the list they created. Voting priorities revealed more administrative space, senior facilities, and recreation facilities.

Commissioner Rogers mentioned that a larger banquet facility at the golf course is frequently requested. Commissioner Gould added that a resident provided her with plans to increase space at the clubhouse. Steve outlined the next steps, which included summarizing surveys, analyzing data, and developing strategies. In response to Commissioner questions, Steve explained that they have a financial consultant who will help develop strategies and actions that align with the District's financial resources, and Lacey confirmed that they received 325 responses from the statistically valid survey.

New Business

None

Executive Director Reports

None

Commissioner Reports/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Gould mentioned that a woman who uses the golf course and has a civic design background provided some ideas to make the Clubhouse more user-friendly and possibly more profitable. She spent a lot of time on these designs, so she wanted to share them with Director Holder and Director Rea.

Adjournment

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

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Allie
Park Board Secretary

Attest:



Lisa Allie
Secretary

Approved:



Terry Ruff
President

2025 Park Board Meetings	
June 23, 2025	September 22, 2025
July 14, 2025	October 13, 2025
July 28, 2025	October 27, 2025
August 11, 2025	November 10, 2025
August 25, 2025	November 24, 2025
September 8, 2025	December 8, 2025