SKOKIE
PARK DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT LOCKWOOD PARK
August 19, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present:	President Elsa Fischer Vice-President Ezra Jaffe Commissioner Courtney Williams Commissioner Susan Aberman
Others Present:	Executive Director Michelle J. Tuft Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker

CALL TO ORDER

Executive Director Michelle Tuft called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Lockwood Park to order at 6:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced herself.
President Elsa Fischer introduced herself.
Vice-President Ezra Jaffe introduced himself.
Commissioner Courtney Williams introduced herself.
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn introduced himself.
Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm introduced himself.
Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker introduced himself.
Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava introduced herself.

LOCKWOOD PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Executive Director Michelle Tuft began the presentation by showing a rendering of the proposed new playground at Lockwood Park. She then invited Superintendent Corrie Guynn to present the Lockwood Park renovation project.

Mr. Guynn explained that the existing playground equipment is approximately 20 years old and needs replacement. He noted that several other improvements to the park have already been completed, including the renovation of the basketball courts, replacement of the baseball backstops, installation of grass sidelines on the baseball field, and replacement of the water fountain. These improvements were completed over the past four years, making the playground renovation the final major component of the park improvements.

Mr. Guynn then presented the proposed design for the new Lockwood Park playground and

amenities. The improvements will include new playground equipment with updated climbing features, picnic tables, benches, garbage receptacles, and concrete work surrounding the playground area.

The new playground will feature two separate play structures: one designed for children ages 2–5 and another designed for children ages 5–12. The structures will include a variety of climbing features and slides. The playground will also include a swing set with one belt swing, one enclosed tot swing, one ADA plastic molded swing, and a new parent-and-tot swing.

All the demo work will be done in-house. Staff will remove the equipment in late Fall, early Winter 2026. The contractor will install the equipment in late Spring of 2027 as soon as the weather permits.

The expected opening of the new playground would be late Spring, early Summer of 2027.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A resident inquired if the basketball court could have new rims and backboards. Mr. Guynn said they will be replaced.

A resident acknowledged the park district for the amazing parks in Skokie and how wonderful of a job the park district does to maintain them.

A resident inquired whether a splash pad could be included as part of the Lockwood Park renovation. Mr. Guynn explained that a splash pad is not being contemplated at Lockwood Park. He noted that there is a splash pad available at Central Park in Skokie. The resident acknowledged the explanation and said they were simply curious about the possibility.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft asked all attendees to make sure they have signed in and included their email address to receive updates and information on the renovation of Terminal Park.

ADJOURNMENT

Executive Director Michelle Tuft thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Elsa Fischer
President

Michelle Tuft
Executive Director

Vision Statement
The Skokie Park District envisions a community where all of its residents enjoy a high quality of life through leisure time pursuits, beautiful open spaces, and first-rate facilities.
Mission Statement
The Skokie Park District will realize its vision through teamwork, community partnerships, sound fiscal management, and creativity in every area of its operation.
Core Values
The Skokie Park District will fulfill its mission through:
•Commitment• Integrity• Innovation• Service •Openness •Environmental Stewardship •Inclusiveness