

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
APRIL 22, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Board Members Present: President Susan Aberman
Vice President Ezra Jaffe
Commissioner Elsa Fischer
Commissioner Antonia Kasalo-Terihaj

Remote Attendance: Commissioner Courtney Williams

Others Present: Executive Director/Secretary Michelle J. Tuft
Superintendent of Business Services William G. Schmidt
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Mary Amato
Marketing and Communications Director Jim Bottorff
Executive Administrative Assistant Ann Perez

CALL TO ORDER

President Aberman called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners to order at 6:30 p.m. President Aberman called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION ACT

President Aberman called the Public Hearing on the Bond Issue Notification Act to order at 7:01p.m. She asked for any comments regarding the General Obligation Alternate Bond sale, Series 2025. There were no comments or questions. President Aberman closed the Public Hearing at 7:02p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of April 2, 2025, Regular Board Meeting of March 18, 2025, bills payable for the month of March/April 2025, Treasurer's Report, and Staff Reports.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #25-004
FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

Treasurer Schmidt requested the approval of the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #25-004 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The ordinance is the same as what was presented and reviewed in the Finance Committee Meeting. The ordinance will be on display for 30 days at Weber, Devonshire, and Oakton Centers and on the website.

Commissioner Fischer moved to approve the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #25-004 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 so it can be on public display for at least thirty days. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Staff has been working with aQity to develop a draft of the community wide survey for the board to review. Director Tuft introduced Mr. Jeff Andreasen from aQuity to provide an overview of the survey and he explained each question in detail. Commissioner Williams entered the meeting during the Community Survey presentation. The board had a few questions and suggested some changes. Mr. Andreasen will make the changes and follow up with staff. Ms. Tuft and the board thanked Mr. Andreasen for coming to the meeting and for his work preparing the survey.

No motion needed. Informational purposes only.

ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY

Mr. Guynn informed the board that an updated ADA audit was needed. Staff contacted several park districts for recommendations and received two contractor's names. Both companies submitted quotes with Accessibility Consultation and Training Services being the least expensive at \$33,350. \$38,000 is budgeted for this project and work is expected to begin this spring. The final completed report is expected in late summer or early fall.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the contract with Accessibility Consultation and Training Services for \$33,350. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SKOKIE WATER PLAYGROUND SOLAR PANEL
INSTALLATION BID

Mr. Guynn requested approval of the Skokie Water Playground Solar Panel Installation bid. This project will add solar panels on two buildings at Skokie Water Playground – the bathhouse and the concession stand. Mr. Guynn is hoping the work will be completed before the pool is open. If not, the panels would be installed once the pool closes after Labor Day. One bid was received from Windfree Solar for a cost of \$188,800. Windfree Solar has completed solar panel installations at Emily Oaks Nature Center, Devonshire Cultural Center, and Devonshire Aquatics Center.

Commissioner Fischer moved to approve the bid of Windfree Solar for \$188,800 for the Skokie Water Playground Solar Panel Installation bid. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The next regular and annual meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners is Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. The four Commissioners elected in the April 2025 election will be sworn in.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Fischer said the Spring Greening event was amazing. There were so many items collected.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Tuft and Mr. Guynn met with Holiday Inn staff about netting at Laramie Park. Ms. Tuft is working to improve communication when an incident with a baseball hitting/breaking a window occurs.

Ms. Tuft said the NRPA Conference registration is on May 12 for September 16 – 18 in Orlando Florida. Ms. Tuft asked the Commissioners to let her know if they will be attending.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Fischer moved to enter Executive Session to discuss executive session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the park district pursuant to Section 2(c)(1). Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

Commissioner Fischer moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 18, 2025. Commissioner Kasalo-Fischer seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

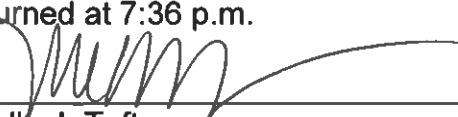
Commissioner Fischer moved to approve Ordinance #25-005, an ordinance amending and correcting Skokie Park District Ordinance 01-002. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fischer moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Kasalo- Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote all Commissioner voted aye. Motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.



Susan Aberman
President


Michelle J. Tuft
Secretary

May 20, 2025