

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
MAY 20, 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
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
Superintendent of Recreation Breanne Labus
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.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Fischer moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 22, 2025, bills payable for the month of April/May 2025, Treasurer's Report, and Staff Reports.

APPROVAL OF 2025 ASPHALT IMPROVEMENTS BID

Superintendent Guynn requested approval for the 2025 Asphalt Improvements Bid. He explained that the proposed work includes the removal and replacement of tennis courts, as well as milling and paving of parking lots, pathways, and basketball courts. Projects will take place at Gleiss Park, Lorel Park, Oakton Park, Devonshire Park, Shabonee Park, Shawnee Park, and Terminal Park. Once completed, the majority of the district's asphalt work will be finished, with the exception of the Dammrich Rowing Center and Emily Oaks Nature Center.

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Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn
Superintendent of Recreation Breanne Labus
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Mary Amato
Marketing and Communications Manager Jim Bottorff
Executive Administrative Assistant Ann Perez

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Ms. Tuft read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**SWEARING IN OF BOARD MEMBERS – SUSAN ABERMAN, ELSA FISCHER,
ANTONIA KASALO-TERIHAIJ AND COURTNEY WILLIAMS**

Ms. Tuft performed the swearing in ceremonies of the elected Commissioners - Aberman, Fischer, Kasalo-Terihaj and Williams. Each Commissioner read their Oath.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY SECRETARY

Commissioner Aberman moved to appoint Michelle Tuft as the temporary Secretary to conduct the election of President of the Board of Park Commissioners for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Temporary Secretary Tuft entertained nominations for the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners. Commissioner Fischer nominated Commissioner Aberman for President. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj nominated Commissioner Jaffe for President. Commissioner Jaffe seconded the motion. Commissioner Jaffe addressed the board and explained his goals if he was elected President. No further nominations were made, and Secretary Tuft closed the nominations.

A roll call vote was conducted to approve Susan Aberman as President. Commissioner Fischer, Commissioner Williams, and Commissioner Aberman voted aye, Commissioners Kasalo-Terihaj and Commissioner Jaffe voted nay. Motion carried. Commissioner Aberman was elected president.

President Aberman then took over leading the meeting.

President Aberman asked for nominations for Vice President. Commissioner Fischer nominated Commissioner Jaffe. President Aberman seconded the motion. No other nominations were made. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Jaffe was elected Vice-President.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Commissioner Fischer moved to appoint Michelle Tuft as the Board Secretary. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fischer moved to appoint Bill Schmidt as the Board Treasurer. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioner voted aye. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ms. Tuft noted that the board generally does not hold many committee meetings and asked if the board wished to continue with them. She explained that committees are typically used for the parks public hearings and the annual finance committee meeting for approving the budget. She questioned whether these committees are still necessary.

Ms. Tuft also mentioned plans for a board retreat in the fall. One of the goals for the retreat is to revise the Board of Commissioners Procedural Manual, which will provide an opportunity to discuss the future role of these committees. The board agreed to select the committee chairs at today's meeting.

President Aberman asked the Board to review current committee chairs and to choose a committee. The committee chairs are as follows:

Vice President Jaffe – Finance
Commissioner Williams – Recreation
Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj -Parks
Commissioner Fischer – Marketing

No motion required.

APPOINTMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT OFFICER AND ALTERNATE

Commissioner Fischer moved to appoint Michelle Tuft as the open meetings act officer and Bill Schmidt as the alternate. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OFFICERS

Commissioner Fischer moved to appoint Michelle Tuft, Bill Schmidt, Corrie Guynn and Breanne Labus as Freedom of Information Act Officers. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF THE ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND (IMFR)
AUTHORIZED AGENT**

Vice President Jaffe moved to appoint Stephenie Gualano as the IMRF Authorized Agent. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION
(M-NASR) BOARD ALTERNATE**

Commissioner Williams moved to appoint Breanne Labus as the M-NASR board representative alternate. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL MEETING DAY, TIME, AND LOCATION

Vice President Jaffe moved to adopt the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Weber Leisure Center as the official meeting date, time, and location for the Skokie Park District Board of Park Commissioners for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

Commissioner Williams moved that Wintrust Financial, Chase Bank N.A, Wells Fargo Corporate Trust Services, First Bank Chicago, Illinois Institutional Investors Trust, Bank of New York, Zions Bank, Park Ridge Bank and Ehlers Bond Trust Services be approved as official depositories for the Skokie Park District for fiscal year 2025-2026. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye, except for Vice President Jaffe who abstained. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES FOR BANKING PURPOSES

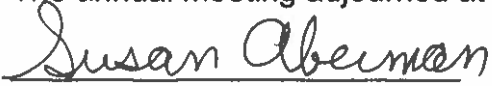
Vice President Jaffe moved that the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer be designated as official signatories of the Skokie Park District for banking purposes for fiscal year 2025-2026. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR LEGAL NOTICES

Commissioner Williams moved to designate the Pioneer Press - Skokie Review as the official publication of the Skokie Park District for the fiscal year of 2025-2026. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a voice vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fischer moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The annual meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.



Susan Aberman
President



Michelle Tuft
Secretary

June 17, 2025

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President Aberman then took over leading the meeting.

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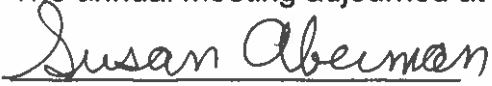
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