

**SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2026
6:30 P.M.**



*SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
9300 WEBER PARK PLACE
SKOKIE, IL 60077-4200*





**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
WEBER LEISURE CENTER
9300 WEBER PARK PLACE, SKOKIE, IL 60077
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AND
ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**

AGENDA

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF REMOTE PARTICIPATION, IF REQUESTED
- V. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL
- VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - *A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 21, 2026
 - *B. Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of April 15, 2026
- *VIII. BILLS PAYABLE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL/MAY 2026
- IX. TREASURER'S ACTION ITEMS
- *X. TREASURER'S REPORT
- XI. ATTORNEY'S REPORT
- XII. STAFF REPORTS – ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Approval of Comprehensive Plan
- *XIII. STAFF REPORTS
 - *A. Parks Division Report
 - *B. Recreation Division Report
 - *C. Facilities Division Report
 - *D. Marketing and Sponsorship Report
 - *E. Information Technology
 - *F. Staff and Community Committee Report
- XIV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - A. Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

- B. Commissioner Comments
- C. Director Comments

- XV. OLD BUSINESS
- XVI. NEW BUSINESS
- XVII. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING
- * Consent Agenda

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND READING OF THE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
- II. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY SECRETARY
- III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
 - A. President
 - B. Vice President
- IV. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER
- V APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS
- VI APPOINTMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT OFFICER AND ALTERNATE
- VII. APPOINTMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OFFICERS
- VII. APPOINTMENT OF IMRF AUTHORIZED AGENT
- IX. APPOINTMENT OF M-NASR ALTERNATE BOARD MEMBER
- X. ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL MEETING TIME, DAY, AND LOCATION
- XI. ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES
- XII. ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES FOR BANKING PURPOSES
- XIII ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR LEGAL NOTICES
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
APRIL 21, 2026
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 & Facilities 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. and called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Susan Haggard, President of the Chicago Jewish Alliance, reported that community concerns have emerged following three separate antisemitic incidents in different parks over the past six months. She emphasized the importance of disseminating clear and accurate information regarding these events. In response, the Alliance has proposed several measures, including the installation of security cameras, improved direct access to law enforcement, and an increased security presence—particularly during periods when Jewish children may be more vulnerable, such as during Shabbat. The primary concern is that many Jewish families no longer feel safe in public spaces.

David Maer described the park upgrades over the past six years as remarkable and noted children have enjoyed them. In light of recent events, he suggested placing cameras, adding push buttons, and enhancing surveillance in parks.

Annie Benson uses the Dammrich Rowing Center and is interested in how the Park District is balancing recreational use of the canal with protecting the environment. Ms. Tuft explained that the District does not manage the waterway and suggested she reach out to MWRD with specific questions regarding the water quality. Mr. Guynn explained that the District has worked to lessen its effect on waterways by cutting down the

amount of salt used during winter, which lowers chloride levels. The District has significantly cut salt use by two thirds.

SHARK TANK PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Labus stated that in 2020, the Shark Tank project was launched for full-time staff, encouraging them to develop new programs or events for the park district. Its success led to its return this year, with seven teams participating. Each team presented their idea and two winners were selected. The winners are present to share their ideas with the board.

The first Shark Tank presentation featured Rec Rover, introduced by staff members Serena Tyler, Tom Hejnowski, Anjum Hava, Sonia Traverso, Rebecca Goldberg, and Raisa Martin. Rec Rover repurposes the former active adult bus to increase park attendance and community engagement by reaching those without park access and raising awareness of the park district.

Vice President Jaffe inquired about the projected start date, to which Corrie responded that it is likely scheduled for autumn due to the significant renovations required within the bus.

Nancy Portillo and Stephanie Guthrie presented "100 Years of Play" for the park district's centennial in 2028. The celebration will feature a pop-up exhibit traveling to each facility, highlighting the park district's century of service. The Museum will also take on a digitization and cataloging project for the many Park District pictures not currently in the system. If approved, a \$25,000 grant could fund the cataloging with minimal cost to the district.

Festivities would kick off February 13, 2028, with a free centennial skate, and the debut of the exhibit at the Skatium. The centennial can be much more than a celebration, it is a chance to honor our past, engage our present, and invest in our future.

President Aberman thanked everyone for their presentations.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj 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 March 16, 2026, minutes of the Public Hearing on Improvements at Emerson Park on March 17, 2026, bills payable for the month of March/April 2026, Treasurer's Report, and Staff Reports.

APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #26-002 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

Last week the board and staff met to discuss the proposed budget. Superintendent Schmidt explained that the ordinance reflects the information discussed at the meeting

and is requesting the approval of the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #26-002 Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

The Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #26-002 will be publicly displayed for 30 days at the Weber, Devonshire, and Oakton Centers, and on the website. There will also be public notice in the Skokie Review, and a public hearing will be held at the June board meeting.

Vice President Jaffe created a budget summary and distributed it to the board. He explained that it was a simplified view and felt it would be useful to the board.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #26-002 for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITING FIRM

In February, Treasurer Schmidt was informed of Miller Cooper Inc. LLC's decision to discontinue auditing government accounts. He subsequently issued a Request for Proposals to secure a new audit firm. Three firms responded and Lauterbach Amen submitted the most competitive bid. After consulting with other organizations that utilize their services, he received favorable feedback.

Vice President Jaffe asked what the current cost was and Mr. Schmidt said \$58,000. The cost for Lauterbach Amen will be \$33,600 for fiscal year 2026, \$34,900 for fiscal year 2027 and \$36,300 for fiscal year 2028.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve a three-year contract for audit services with Lauterbach Amen, beginning May 1, 2026, through fiscal year ending 2028. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF NATURAL GAS PURCHASE CONTRACT

Treasurer Schmidt requested approval of the natural gas purchase contract as the current agreement with IGS Energy expires on October 1, 2026.

EraNova Partners gathered quotes on fixed gas prices for the District's eleven facilities that use natural gas. Mansfield Energy submitted a fixed rate of \$0.4226 per dekatherm (dth) beginning in October 2026 and currently the cost has been \$0.441 per dth. Mr. Schmidt said Nicor delivers the gas.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve a three-year purchase contract for natural gas supply with Mansfield Energy beginning October 1, 2026, for all eleven facilities of the Skokie Park District at a fixed rate cost of \$0.4226 per dth. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR EMERSON PARK

Mr. Guynn requested approval to purchase playground equipment for Emerson Park. Funding is through a \$250,000 Community Block and Development Grant from the Village of Skokie. The project deadline is July 8, 2026.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to approve the purchase of Emerson Park playground equipment from Burke for \$151,047. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF EMERSON PARK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION

Mr. Guynn requested approval of the bid to remove and install playground equipment at Emerson Park. Two bids were received, with Innovation Landscaping presenting the lowest bid at \$66,547.70. After conducting reference checks, staff is comfortable recommending Innovation Landscaping.

Commissioner Fischer moved to approve the bid from Innovation Landscaping for the Emerson park playground removal and installation for \$66,547.70. 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 board meetings will be held Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Fischer said staff did a great job at Spring Greening.

President Aberman said the employee appreciation dinner was fun, and it looked like staff really enjoyed it. Commissioner Williams said it was nice to see the employee recognition.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Tuft reminded the board that Arbor Day planting is this Friday at 1:40 p.m. at Elizabeth Meyers School.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Tuft raised the possibility of including the purchase of the Bessie Rhodes School property in the referendum and asked if the board wished to pursue it. The next step is to contact the school district for pricing; if affordable, the purchase and renovation could be added to the referendum. The total cost is estimated at ten million dollars. Public input will be sought, and the referendum's term would extend from 20 to 25 years.

Vice President Jaffe asked when this would be approved and Ms. Tuft said the board would officially decide on pursuing the referendum at the July board meeting, with the

referendum in November 2026. The board consensus was to move forward with contacting the school district.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Fischer informed the commissioners of an IAPD training in Wilmette on September 17. Ms. Tuft will send the information to the board, and they should let her know if they are interested in attending.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Jaffe moved to adjourn the regular meeting at p.m. Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Susan Aberman
President

Michelle J. Tuft
Secretary

May 12, 2026



**Skokie Park District
FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday April 15, 2026**



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 Tuft
Superintendent of Business Services William G. Schmidt
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn
Superintendent of Recreation & Facilities Breanne Labus
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Mary Amato
Marketing and Communications Manager Jim Bottorff
Business Manager Laura Le
Human Resource Director Keli Stonitsch

President Aberman called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. and called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Budget Introduction

Director Tuft opened the meeting with an introduction and explained the highlights and challenges in preparing this year's budget. This year's budget is the initial implementation of the new budgeting system. The staff have done a remarkable job putting this together.

Mr. Schmidt highlighted the general assumptions including:

- A water rate increase from the Village.
- A large health insurance increase
- A \$90,000 charge from the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative (IPBC), the District's insurance provider to cover negative reserves caused by claims exceeding premiums.
- A 4% salary increase.
- Camps were removed from their previous facilities and reassigned to the camp department within their respective funds.

Budget Presentation by Fund

Mr. Schmidt started with a summary of the funds, operating, auxiliary, and capital, showing the addition or deletion to fund balances. This budget shows a small decrease to the total fund balance at the end of fiscal year 2027.

Mr. Schmidt highlighted the Corporate Fund10, the administration area, and answered questions.

Mr. Bottorff explained the Marketing and Sponsorship activities and described the fundraising process, the allocation of funds, increased use of social media for event advertising, and the development of a new SPD app by IT and marketing.

Mr. Guynn reviewed Park Services' budget, noting growth in touch-a-truck birthday parties and increased small equipment costs due to a shift to battery-powered tools. A full-time position remains unfilled, as part-time staff have effectively met the department's needs.

Mr. Guynn outlined the POOCH Park budget, noting that pass numbers stayed consistent even after a \$5 membership increase this fiscal year. The budget covers expenses for repaving both the parking lot and pathway system. The City of Evanston has pledged up to \$40,000 to help with these upgrades.

Mrs. Labus and Mrs. Amato presented the Recreation Fund, which covers Administration, Camps, Cultural Centers, Childcare, and Special Events. The Administration area is where property taxes are collected and administrative staff salaries are allocated. Camps are profitable. Devonshire, Oakton, and Childcare, Tot Learning Center (TLC) and SPACE, are improving financially, with TLC efforts ongoing and SPACE thriving. Special Events and Festivals are now in one combined fund.

Mrs. Labus reviewed the Sports Park East budget, noting that it is expected to remain stable thanks to steady demand for cricket rentals.

Mr. Guynn discussed the Dammrich Rowing Center, which is projected to be profitable. Fees for indoor and outdoor boat storage are increasing.

He also talked about golf operations at Sports Park and Weber Park Golf Course, with both venues expected to generate profits. \$304,500 from the Sports Park operating budget will go toward capital improvements. Three new golf instructors have been hired to offer a wide variety of lessons. Expanding the grass tee areas for year-round use and building a new permanent shelter are expected to boost revenues in fiscal year 2026-2027.

Mr. Guynn provided updates on Aquatics at Devonshire Aquatic Center, swim lessons, and Skokie Water Playground, mentioning that the 2025-2026 pool season was highly successful.

Mrs. Labus presented the Weber Leisure Center budget which includes Fitness First. Early Childhood and youth program revenues are projected to increase. Fitness First membership remains steady, and a fee increase will be implemented.

Ms. Labus presented the Skatium assumptions and budget. The Skatium budget is expected to produce a profit. However, camp budgets were reallocated to the Fund 40 camp area resulting in a reduction in net revenue. Enrollment in all areas is expected to increase. However, expenses will also increase.

Mrs. Labus provided an overview of Athletics Camps. Registration for Athletic and Skatium camps continues to increase and additional contractual camps have positively impacted revenue.

The Athletics budget has been cleaned up and is accurately reflecting programming. The new Rally Room should generate additional rental revenue. Pickleball revenues have declined significantly due to a proliferation of new facilities in the area.

Mrs. Labus discussed the Museum Fund which includes Emily Oaks Nature Center and the Skokie Heritage Museum. Emily Oaks and contractual camps managed by the museum staff have been moved into Fund 55 camp budget accounts. Camps do very well.

Emily Oaks has implemented fee increases and is expanding programming resulting in revenue growth. Expenses continue to increase with staffing levels budgeted at full capacity.

The Skokie Heritage Museum revenues increase slightly for added programs, tours, and workshops.

Mr. Schmidt covered the auxiliary funds; Special Recreation, IMRF, Liability, Social Security, Audit, and Debt Service. The major highlights were the fund balances.

Mr. Guynn presented the Capital budget and explained the large list of projects in three funds, 11, 12, and 20. Fund 20 will support \$778,500 in capital projects.

Ms. Tuft thanked the staff and Board for their time and described the procedural next steps for approval.

It was the consensus of the Finance Committee to prepare a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for approval at the April 21, 2026, meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners so it can be on public display for the thirty-day period required to meet the legal requirements.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by President Aberman at 8:55 p.m.

Susan Aberman
President
Board of Park Commissioners

Michelle Tuft
Executive Director, Secretary

May 12, 2026

**SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
TREASURERS REPORT
May 12, 2026**

The status of the cash balances and investments as of April 30, 2026, in the board packet.

As of April 28, 2026, \$6,451,206 of the 2025 first installment tax levy has been received.

A CD from Chase Bank NA came due on April 6, 2026. It was not renewed and \$245,000 was deposited into the checking account.

At the bottom of the Cash Balances and Investments list is the listing of tax collections per year.

The details of the accounts are available on request. If you have any questions, please let me know.

William G. Schmidt
Treasurer, Skokie Park District

**SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT
CASH BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS**

**May 12, 2026
(As of 04/30/2026)**

GENERAL FUND

<u>CASH CHECKING ACCOUNTS CHASE/BANK ONE: 1.70%</u>	\$14,128,200.24
<u>INVESTMENTS WITH JPMORGAN CHASE/BANK ONE</u>	
Savings:0.5%	209,347.33
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: Renewal due 5/26/26 - 4.25% MV	245,070.41
<u>INVESTMENT WITH NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY BANK & TRUST</u>	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: Due 1/23/27 – 3.45%	649,782.78
 <u>INVESTMENT WITH FIRST BANK CHICAGO</u>	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT RENEWAL DUE 6/20/26 4.10%	284,083.89
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT RENEWAL DUE 6/20/26 4.10%	271,166.40
 TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS:	 \$15,787,651.05

TAX COLLECTIONS BY TAX YEAR (AT 04/30/2026)

YEAR	\$ COLLECTED	% OF LEVY
2019	10,876,000.39	96.67%
2020	11,041,668.75	97.23%
2021	11,465,631.66	98.19%
2022	12,413,775.40	99.02%
2023	12,674,871.62	98.16%
2024	13,457,421.10	98.32
2025 thru 4/28	6,451,206.35	----



Skokie Park District **BOARD SUMMARY**



Date: March 16, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Comprehensive Plan Update

Summary: Hitchcock Design Group will attend the board meeting to present the final draft of the comprehensive plan. The draft report was provided as a separate file. After the board's review, the plan will be formally approved at the April board meeting.

Recommendation: Informational only.

Motion: Informational only.



Skokie Park District Parks Board Report May 2026



PARK SERVICES

Corrie Guynn

Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities

- Playground renovations at Gleiss and Lyon Parks: Gleiss has reopened, and Lyon is nearing completion. Staff installed drainage at both sites and added surfacing, benches, tables, and trash cans at Gleiss.
- The painting project continues at Sports Park with the contractors now working overnight to complete the work. The first floor is almost finished. The contractor will then move to the lower portions of the second floor before bringing in a lift for the higher portions.
- The Sports Park putting green demo and construction has begun and the main drain line has been connected. The drainage is almost complete, and excavation has started for the stone base.
- Pools
 - The flooring installation at Skokie Water Playground has been successfully completed.
 - Staff are updating all of the showers and replacing toilets and sinks as needed at both pools.
 - The concrete projects on both pool decks have been completed.
 - The new partitions at Skokie Water Playground have been installed.
 - The new bucket on the spray structure has been installed.
 - The water line break to the bucket has been repaired. While making that repair a second break was found in an adjacent water line elbow and was also repaired.
 - Bathing suit spinners/dryers have been installed in the locker rooms at both pools.
- New epoxy flooring has been installed at the Terminal and Central Park shelters. The partition replacements are on order and should be installed soon.
- Staff assisted with the Spring Greening setup, operation, and takedown.
- The landscape staff continue to work to keep up with the rapidly growing grass throughout the district. Seasonal hiring has been slower than anticipated so the large mower has been deployed, with mowing crews combining efforts to keep up.
- Athletic fields staff are managing rain-related water issues to keep fields lined and game-ready for matches.
- The horticulture crew has worked with several volunteer groups who have either adopted parks or organized cleanup efforts.
- The operations staff opened all shelters and turned on all water fountains.

**Skokie Park District
Recreation and Facilities Board Report
May 2026**

**Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities – Breanne Labus
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation - Mary Amato
Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities – Corrie Guynn**

Facility Rentals and Birthday Parties

Devonshire

	2025	2026
Room Rental	9	7
Birthday Parties	7	6

Emily Oaks Nature Center

	2025	2026
Room Rental	3	2
Birthday Parties	2	6

Oakton/Exploritorium

	2025	2026
Room Rental	23	20
Exploritorium Birthday Parties	40	48
Exploritorium Group Visits	2	7

Park Services

	2025	2026
Birthday Parties	3	12

Skatium

	2025	2026
Birthday Party Rental	23	24
Studio Rink Rentals	7	5
Main Rink rentals	5	2

Skokie Heritage Museum

	2025	2026
Room Rental	0	0

Weber Center

	2025	2026
Room Rental	6	8
Birthday Parties	3	5

Admissions and Visits

Exploritorium

	2025	2026
Daily Admissions	2,833	3,199
Explorer Pass Visits	412	724

Skokie Heritage Museum

	2025	2026
Visits	257	246

Skokie Sports Park

	2025	2026
Range	\$107,715	\$132,300
Simulator	\$5,090	\$4,965
Grass Tees	Closed	Closed
Mini Golf	\$14,613	\$16,096
Batting Cages	\$2,107	\$2,970
Concessions	\$1,173	\$2,077
Alcohol	\$2,113	\$3,192
Total	\$132,811	\$161,600

Weber/Athletics

	2025	2026
Open Gym	155	248
Late Night	248	297
Table Tennis	96	82
Open Pickleball	155	69
Men's 40 and Over Basketball	100	55 (had late start in April)
Private Tennis/Pickleball	13	6

Weber Golf Course

	2025	2026
Greens Fees	\$15,923	\$17,461
Rentals	\$568	\$444
Pro Shop Sales	\$252	\$288
Concessions	\$517	\$194

Alcohol	\$551	\$527
Total	\$17,811	\$18,914

Childcare Enrollment

Devonshire Preschool

	2025	2026
2's	15	14
3's	33	30
4's	30	35
Enrichment	36	41
Total	114	120

Emily Oak's Growing Sprouts

	2025	2026
Half and Full + Lunch Bunch	26	26 + 2

SPACE

	2025	2026
AM	181	206
PM	569	589
Total	750	795

Tot Learning Center

	2025	2026
Infants	8	12
Toddler 1	10	13
Toddler 2	15	15
2/3's	15	17
Preschool	20	19
Pre-K	20	20
Total	88	96

Athletics- Curt Evans

Updates and Highlights

	2025	2026
Tropang Basketball	8 Teams	10 Teams
Rally Room Rental	n/a	5

Aquatics – Scott Runkle

Devonshire Aquatic Center

- Major concrete repairs were completed on the pool deck.
- New toilets have been installed in both locker rooms.
- Hiring for staff is now complete.

Skokie Water Playground

- New bathroom partitions have been installed.
- Plumbing has been upgraded in the showers.
- The new bucket has been installed.
- The broken pipe that fills the bucket has been repaired in addition to a second break that was found.

Winter Indoor Programming

	2025	2026
Group Lessons	153	164
Private Lessons	7	8
Semi-Private Lessons	1	3
Open Swim	33	29

Devonshire Cultural Center – Robin Horwitz

Facility Updates and Highlights

- We are sad to bid farewell to Haley Carr, Early Childhood Supervisor, as she and her family prepare to move to their new home in Lemont, Illinois. Haley's last day is May 29.
- Registration for 2026-27 school year is ongoing with 40 children enrolled.
- Preschool Prom occurred on Friday, April 17 with 150 guests.
- Young Performers staged four performances of *Beetlejuice Jr.* for a total attendance of 1,034.
- The Devonshire Dance Ensemble held their spring showcase on April 19 with 21 audience members.
- Devonshire hosted the Devonshire Elementary School for two performances by Griffin Theatre on May 1. Over 400 were in attendance.
- Devonshire hosted a mobile DMV event in partnership with Illinois State Senator Villivalam to expand access to essential services for the Skokie community.
- Preschool staff tabled at an early childhood fair on Sunday, April 19.
- The theatre volunteer program for fiscal year 25-26 included 48 individuals whose efforts saved the park district an estimated \$9,500.
- Remaining productions in the 2025/2026 Theatre Season are Thin Ice Ensemble Theatre's Anastasia Jr. performances May 8 and 9 at 7:00 p.m. and May 10 at 3:00 p.m.
- The Script Reading Happy Hour was held with five in attendance.

Emily Oaks Nature Center – Lee Hansen

Facility Updates and Highlights

- Kayla from Park Services constructed and installed shelving units in two spaces in the visitor facility, including a back stairwell landing and an old HVAC closet. The additional storage space is appreciated!
- The spring break Fairy Hunt wrapped up on April 11, with 100's of participants and 130 kits sold for \$390 in revenue.
- Emily Oaks partnered with Go Green Skokie on the 2026 City Nature Challenge, a world-wide citizen science project to document native plants and animals in our urban areas.

Drop-in Programming (Classes/Groups)	2025	2026
School Group Activities	20	12
Scout/Youth Group Activities	4	9
Scout/Youth Group Campouts	1	0

Volunteer Program (April)

Volunteer Workdays	Hours
Weekday Crafters	73
Land Management	21.5
Greenhouse Projects	8.75
Kawaga Garden Workday	7.5
Wildflower Workday	6
Facility Support	1
Special Event (Earth Day Celebration)	102.5
Service Project (Lane Tech 8 th Graders)	19.5
Total Hours	239.75

Community Special Events – Earth Day Celebration & Native Plant Sale

Event Participants	Volunteers	Sponsors	Native Plant Sale Customers/Receipts
414	20	4	163

Despite cool and occasionally rainy weather conditions, the Earth Day Celebration and Native Plant Sale were very well attended. The theme for the celebration event was “A Message of Hope” and highlighted the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Jane Goodall, with 10 participatory activity stations. The Jane Goodall Foundation was present at the event, and participants could take home a nature book provided by the Skokie Public Library.

Oakton Community Center – Aryn Fletcher

Facility Updates and Highlights

- Exploritorium Events
 - Kids Night out- 13 participants
 - Storybook Corner- 10 participants
 - Playdough Playtime- 49 participants
 - Parent/Tot Yoga- 33 participants
 - Paint & Play- 55 participants
- Breakfast with the Bunny- 50 guests
- Community Free Egg Hunt- estimated 500 participants
- Active Adult bus trip to White Fence Farm to see Motown & More- 42 participants

Skatium Ice Arena – Kurt von Helms

Facility Updates and Highlights

- During the month of April, the Skatium experienced several mechanical challenges within the refrigeration room. The rebuilt compressor has developed a slow refrigerant leak and will require replacement of its O-rings to restore proper function. The loss of refrigerant required mechanics to shut down the rebuilt compressor. Replacement refrigerant was delivered and loaded into the system. Staff will operate on only one compressor until the parts arrive. Anticipated delivery is 4-6 weeks.
- On April 28, a power surge caused by a ruptured electrical cable on Church Street near the Weber Center parking lot resulted in a full shutdown of both the refrigeration system and the air handler serving the main rink. Staff responded promptly and effectively and quickly assessed the situation to prevent ice loss. Once power was restored, all mechanical equipment was manually restarted, ensuring operations resumed with minimal disruption. ComEd has assured staff that no further disruptions to electrical service are expected while the ruptured cable is being replaced.
- Hockey Director interviewing and hiring is in its final stages.

Figure Skating

- In April, Symmetry Ice Theatre's Novice level team represented the United States at Nations' Cup in Lansing, Michigan. Competing against three French teams and three American teams, the Skatium's team came in 6th place out of 7 teams, achieving a team best score. In addition to skating in a challenging field of competitors, the team skaters made friends from across the country and world.

Skokie Heritage Museum– Emily England

Facility Updates and Highlights

- Museum staff participated in two events at the Skokie Public Library, Skokie Show-and-Tell on April 7 and the How-To Fest on April 19.
- The museum partnered with St. Peter's UCC, the Downtown Skokie Merchants Collaborative, and Violet Surprise Theatre to put on a historical play "The Revolutionists" at the church on April 18 for 59 attendees.

- Museum staff debuted a new walking tour, History of Old Orchard Mall, on April 22.
- The Village of Skokie's Human Relations Commission sponsored the museum's Cold War & Civil Rights in Skokie walking tour, making it free for 27 participants.
- Museum staff met with District 219's Bridges Adult Transition Center, whose mission is to help students with disabilities enhance their life and vocational skills. The museum will serve as a community partner site where Bridges students can volunteer and support a variety of collections care and documentation projects for the museum as part of their vocational training.
- Museum staff facilitated six research requests, including one site visit by a producer for WTTW working on a new Geoffrey Baer documentary about the North Shore suburbs and may feature materials from the collection to help tell Skokie's story.
- The museum received a large number of submissions to Skokie's next time capsule, which will be sealed at the library on June 7. Submissions include student projects from several school districts, photos and ephemera from local businesses (plus a Labubu from RJ Breaks downtown), materials relating to the new Village Seal, and more. Museum volunteers are now cataloging and archivally rehousing the submissions in preparation for the June 7 sealing.
- At least 11 museum volunteers contributed over 125 hours of service for April.
- The museum closed out FY2026 with 2,905 visitors (excluding camp and yoga visits; 6,483) and 45 volunteers contributing over 840 hours of service, compared to 2,280 visitors (excluding camp and yoga visits; 4,271) and 24 volunteers with 228.5+ hours for FY2025. Revenues (including museum camps) were also an all-time high, approximately 9x higher than the previous 20-year average.

Skokie Sports Park – Tom Hejnowski

Facility Updates and Highlights

- The putting green installation, roof replacement, and painting projects have started.
- New range balls are scheduled to arrive on May 6.
- 724,000 golf balls were hit on the driving range during the month of April.

Tot Learning Center – Fouzia Khan

Facility Updates and Highlights

- TLC hosted weeklong theme days to celebrate the nationally recognized Week Of the Young Child. This was followed by Earth Day, during which students planted various vegetable seedlings, etc.
- Staff are finalizing summer enrollment rosters, organizing Pre-K graduation, and scheduling field trips for children enrolled in the 2/3s, Preschool, and the Pre-K classrooms.

Weber Golf Course – Tom Hejnowski

Facility Updates and Highlights

- Spring Night Golf Scramble (Thursday, May 7) is at full capacity with 36 players signed up.
- Ladies "Wine and Nine" will be held on Thursday May 22 and has 14 players currently registered.

Weber Center/Fitness First – Ethan Bontly

Weber

Facility Updates and Highlights

- After more than 22 years at Weber Center, Lead Custodian Mike Rizzo has retired. We are currently interviewing candidates to fill the position.
- Kenji Thompson’s title has changed from Custodian Supervisor to Custodial and Operations Supervisor. All of the night and weekend Building Supervisors now report to him.

Fitness First

Facility Updates and Highlights:

- Kathy Corrigan retired after over 30 years of working as a group exercise and Pilates instructor. Staff are recruiting new instructors.
- Ten short-term memberships sold in 2026 compared to one in 2025.

Memberships

	2025	2026
Members	4,341	4,399
Visits	18,521	7,687 (FF turnstile gate was down)
Personal Training Tickets	201	224
Massage Tickets	52	69
Pilates Tickets	85	72

May Publications Profile

The C&M department creates more than 210 publications annually, including the current guides below and: 52 SPD weekly e-newsletters, 50 weekly email editions of both *TLC Today* and *Active Adult 60+ Weekly Happenings*, monthly e-newsletters for Fitness First, seasonal e-editions of Hockey, Figure Skating, Skokie Heritage Museum Summer Camp and Devonshire Theatre e-newsletters, as well as Summer Fun and School Year Fun Guides, and an Annual Report.

Two Summer Program Guides



The 100-page online Summer Guide was posted on May 1. An abbreviated 24-page printed Spotlight Guide arrived in homes on May 1. The two Fall Guides are now in pre-production.

Summer Fun Guide



The 8-page folded mini Summer Fun Guide hits 25,000 Skokie homes in early May, highlighting movies, concerts, festivals, and much more.

Summer Prime Times



The 8-page activity guide was mailed last month to more than 4,000 Skokie homes with residents age 60 and over.

Summer Camp Guide



The now 40-page Summer Camp Guide was mailed to and viewable online to all 25,000 Skokie homes for customer review for camp registration.

Monthly Happenings



The C&M department produces a digital monthly happenings guide, featuring new and unique ways to have fun, including special events, one day classes, workshops, outings and pop-up events.

District News Highlight



New stories are posted on the website and sent to local news organizations.

April 30 — Gleiss Park renovations are complete and the playground is now open! A portion of the project has been funded by a \$100,000 Illinois grant provided through the office of State Senator Laura Fine.

District E-News



The district e-news is sent every Friday to more than 18,000 mostly Skokie emails.

National average open rate – 33%

SPD May open rate – 55%

Weekly e-news includes special events, and district news. Past month: Spring Greening, Earth Day, Beetle Juice, etc.



The district sends news releases to, and is covered by, the *Skokie Review*, *The Record North Shore*, *Patch* and the *Chicago Tribune*.

Photos

The social media coordinator is tasked with taking district photos, with help from the entire C&M staff, and with the occasional assistance of SPD staff and a freelance photographer. A few photos from the past month:



*Exploritorium play structure (bottom left) Arbor Day planting (top right)
Lite Brite fun at the Exploritorium (bottom right)*

Sponsorship

The sponsorship coordinator is currently working on sponsorships for spring and summer 2026. This past year she secured \$137,303 in sponsorships and \$37,247 in in-kind, budget-relieving donations, for a total of \$174,550.

Social Media — See following pages for a full social media report.

The C&M department executes the bulk of its advertising now through Facebook boosts, targeting unique demographics with each post, depending on the program, event or facility/park. The social media coordinator takes photos, creates posts and advertising boosts on Facebook, as well as posts on Instagram, X, TikTok and Bluesky. The coordinator also shoots and produces videos for the website, social media and staff use.



Projects

- SPD app campaign coming soon
- Oakton Park interpretive sign coming in July
- Skokie Festival of Cultures campaign
- Redevelopment of backlotbash.com coming in June
- Summer Event Pass campaign coming soon

Websites

Staff designed, built and maintain five websites, including five major special event sites. Skokieparks.org continues to evolve, recently featuring a new summer camp page. The site is also translatable to 250 languages.

April '26 skokieparks.org analytics

- Active Users – 34,009
- Total Page Views – 96,018
- User Interactions – 181,415

April Top 10 web pages by visits

(March ranking)

1. Homepage (1)
2. Skokie Sports Park (4)
3. Skokie Water Playground (7)
4. The Exploritorium (2)
5. Weber Leisure Center (5)
6. Fitness First (6)
7. Summer Camps (9)
8. Skatium Ice Arena (3)
9. Weber Park Golf Course (8)
10. Emily Oak Nature Center (–)



CELEBRATING SKOKIE'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY

May 16 & 17, 2026

11 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Oakton Park, Skokie

- Saturday 1 p.m.: Opening Ceremony • Sunday Finale 5 p.m.: Festival of Colors
 - Music & dance on stage • Food & beverage vendors
- Interactive cultural booths • Children's game and activity area
- Merchandise vendors • The festival's famous flag display

Facility Digital Advertising

In addition to a select few special event ads run in the Pioneer Press and dozens of Facebook ads, the district runs advertising on three outdoor lighted signs, including two double-sided signs, one at Weber and one at Oakton, and a sign facing the Edens Expressway at Park Services. (This one features major events and revenue facility promo only, as Skokie resident traffic is less than 15% of drive-by viewership.)

The district also places ads on indoor TV lobby monitors at the Skatium, Weber (2), Devonshire, Oakton, and TLC.



Weber and Oakton outdoor lighted sign message



SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

April 2026





NOTES & INSIGHTS

Social Media Follow Totals:

- Facebook: 223 new follows, 43 unfollows, 9904 total
- Instagram: 140 new follows, 24 unfollows, 4932 total
- X is up 3 followers. 2151 total followers.
- Bluesky has no change. 173 total followers.
- TikTok is up 5 followers. 876 total followers.

Higher Frequency Posts (FB): Night Golf Scramble Boost (3.66), Footgolf Boost (2.57), Neighborhood Basketball League Boost (2.43)

Frequency is how often one unique person saw a post.

High Engagement Posts (FB): Skokie's Spring Greening (254), Gleiss Park Renovation Complete (168), Spring Fling Gift Market / Flea Market (143)

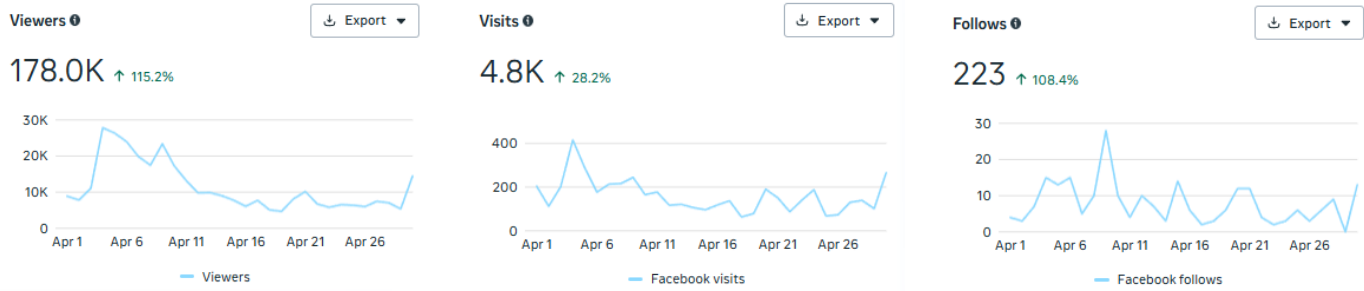
These are the sum of comments, reactions and shares.

FACEBOOK OVERVIEW

Facebook Reach & Viewers is the number of people who saw any Facebook content from your organic or paid distribution, including posts, stories and ads. It also includes reach from other sources, such as tags, check-ins and Page or profile visits. This number also includes reach from posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is estimated.

Instagram Reach is the number of people who saw any Instagram content from your organic or paid distribution, including posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is estimated.

Page visits are the number of times our page or profile was visited. Follows are the number of times accounts followed us in the selected time period.



- We hit 200+ new followers on Facebook and 100+ on Instagram!
- Coming in before the month's end was our Gleiss Park renovation update! This single post, with less than 24 hours since its publishing on Facebook, completely shifted our totals across the board!
- Gleiss Park's post increased visibility on all park district posts in the hundreds.
- As reported in past reports, district announcements do very well on Facebook. They work on Instagram as well, but people on Instagram prefer photos featuring close-ups of people.



Top 5

FACEBOOK POSTS

Impressions are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as “views”. Facebook now uses the terms “Viewers” & “Reach”, with similar definitions and totals.


Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.

Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.

Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.

Skokie Park District
Published by Skokie Park District
April 3 at 11:06 AM

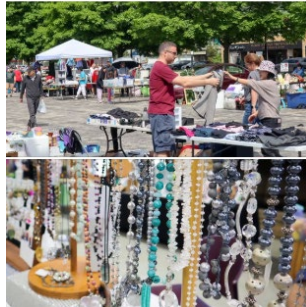
GET READY FOR SKOKIE'S GIANT RECYCLING EVENT!
This huge recycling event will include electronics, document shredding and other recycling stations, ranging from clothing... See more



Viewers: 89,324
Views: 112,652
Interactions: 207
Link Clicks: 682
Reactions: 115
Comments: 10
Shares: 60
Saves: 18

Skokie Park District
Published by Skokie Park District
April 9 at 11:43 AM

SPRING FLING GIFT MARKET + FLEA MARKET FRENZY
Join us on Saturday, May 2 for two great events happening at the Oakton Community Center! Both events are free to attend... See more



Viewers: 15,402
Views: 22,003
Interactions: 123
Link Clicks: 0
Reactions: 71
Comments: 8
Shares: 21
Saves: 22

Skokie Park District
Published by Jim Bottorff
22h

GLEISS PARK RENOVATIONS ARE COMPLETE!
Gleiss Park renovations are complete and the playground is now open! No trees were removed during this renovation. A portion of th... See more



Viewers: 11,236
Views: 17,688
Interactions: 122
Link Clicks: 0
Reactions: 94
Comments: 13
Shares: 10
Saves: 5

Skokie Park District
Published by Skokie Park District
April 20 at 9:20 AM


FREE EVENT: DINKS & DRINKS SOCIAL AT OAKTON PICKLE COURTS
Grab your friends and help us kick-off the summer season with a fun afternoon of pickleball and socializing!... See more



Viewers: 7,639
Views: 10,755
Interactions: 54
Link Clicks: 0
Reactions: 43
Comments: 1
Shares: 2
Saves: 3

Skokie Park District
Published by Jim Bottorff
2d

SPONSOR A SUMMER EVENT!
If you would like to engage our vast Skokie community, consider tabling at a district event, putting your name on a Skatium Ice Arena dasher boa... See more



Viewers: 7,862
Views: 10,601
Interactions: 32
Link Clicks: 0
Reactions: 26
Comments: 4
Shares: 1
Saves: 1

Top 5

INSTAGRAM POSTS

Impressions (views) are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as “views”. Reach is still the same on Instagram.

Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.

Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.

Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.

skokieparks
Niles North High School

skokieparks NEXT WEEKEND: SKOKIE'S GIANT RECYCLING EVENT!... more

Reach: 658
Views: 1,461
Interactions: 25
Likes: 15
Comments: 0
Shares: 6
Saves: 2

skokieparks

Reach: 660
Views: 1,240
Interactions: 23
Likes: 9
Comments: 0
Shares: 10
Saves: 3

skokieparks

skokieparks SPRING FLING GIFT MARKET + FLEA MARKET FRENZY... more

Reach: 552
Views: 1,250
Interactions: 17
Likes: 9
Comments: 0
Shares: 4
Saves: 3

skokieparks
Weber Leisure Center

skokieparks READY TO RUN THE COURT? JOIN THE NBL... more

Reach: 605
Views: 1,077
Interactions: 20
Likes: 9
Comments: 0
Shares: 9
Saves: 0

skokieparks

skokieparks NIGHT GOLF SCRAMBLE AT THE WEBER PARK GOLF COURSE... more

Reach: 569
Views: 974
Interactions: 34
Likes: 17
Comments: 1
Shares: 14
Saves: 1

BOOSTED POSTS

Impressions are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as “views”. Reach is now known as “viewers”.

Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.

Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.

Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.



Viewers: 15,741
Views: 28,346
Interactions: 71
Likes: 40
Comments: 2
Shares: 18
Saves: 10
Link Clicks: 1,620



Viewers: 12,721
Views: 22,817
Interactions: 59
Likes: 40
Comments: 2
Shares: 11
Saves: 4
Link Clicks: 857



Viewers: 11,193
Views: 21,303
Interactions: 68
Likes: 42
Comments: 4
Shares: 18
Saves: 3
Link Clicks: 302



Viewers: 4,837
Views: 8,259
Interactions: 15
Likes: 10
Comments: 1
Shares: 3
Saves: 1
Link Clicks: 90

Reach: Number of unique people who saw your post. Counted Only Once.

Views: Number of times your post was seen.

Views / Reach = Frequency

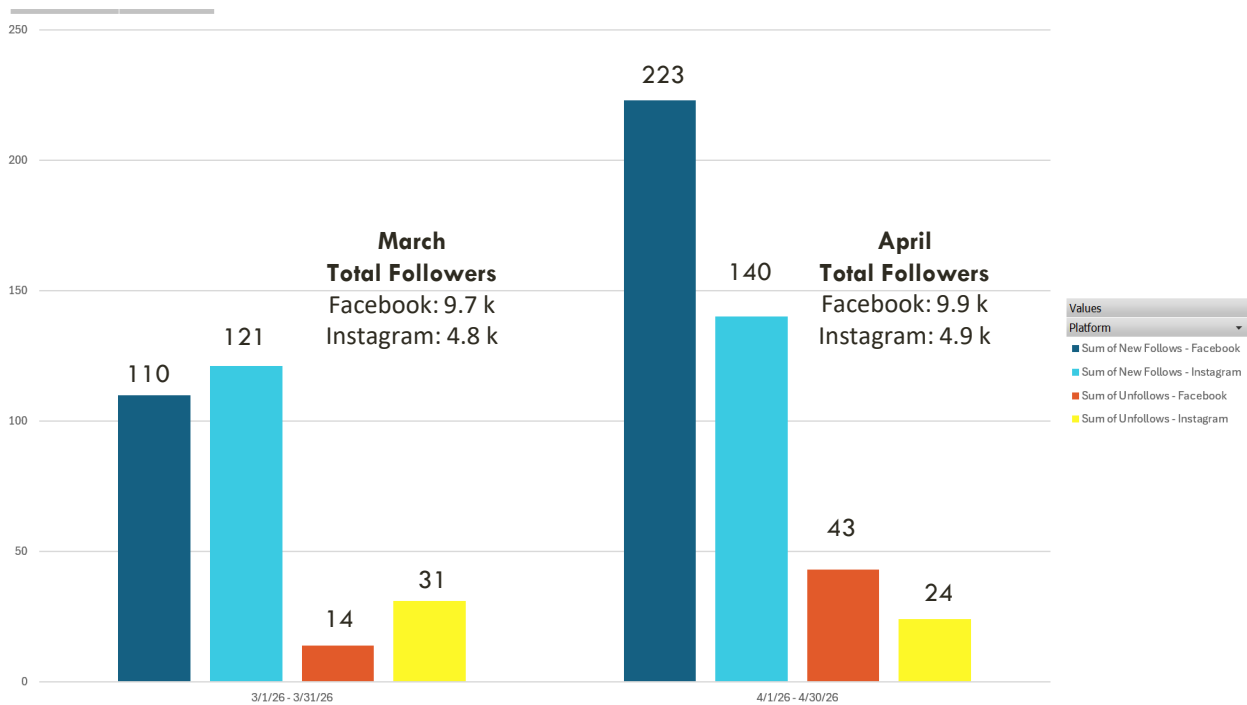
Frequency: How often a unique person saw a post.

Green: Performing well or exceeds, based on column averages.

Facebook Reach vs. Impressions

Row Labels	Sum of Views	Sum of Reach	Sum of Reactions, Comments and Shares	Frequency
GET READY FOR SKOKIE'S GIANT RECYCLING EVENT! This huge recycling event will include electronics, document shredding and other recycling stations, ranging from...	122652	89005	254	1.38
👉 BIG SUMMER SAVINGS START HERE! Discounted Season Pool Passes are on sale now! Purchase online below or at the Devonshire Community Center, Oakton Co...	27130	15434	47	1.76
(blank)	22799	15285	133	1.49
SPRING FLING GIFT MARKET + FLEA MARKET FRENZY! Join us on Saturday, May 2 for two great events happening at the Oakton Community Center! Both events are free...	22003	14735	143	1.49
🏀 READY TO RUN THE COURT? JOIN THE NBL! Summer hoops are back! Gather your squad and compete in our Men's Neighborhood Basketball League at Weber. C...	21754	8960	40	2.43
NIGHT GOLF SCRAMBLE AT THE WEBER PARK GOLF COURSE Teams of two compete in a scramble-format tournament played at Weber Park Golf Course lined by LE...	20343	5564	35	3.66
GLEISS PARK RENOVATIONS ARE COMPLETE! Gleiss Park renovations are complete and the playground is now open! No trees were removed during this renovation. A...	18077	11509	168	1.57
A FREE EVENT: DINKS & DRINKS SOCIAL AT OAKTON PICKLE COURTS Grab your friends and help us kick-off the summer season with a fun afternoon of pickleball and so...	10758	7176	56	1.50
SPONSOR A SUMMER EVENT! If you would like to engage our vast Skokie community, consider tabling at a district event, putting your name on a Skatium Ice Arena das...	10622	7773	32	1.37
DILATES INSTRUCTOR RETIRING! After 30 incredible years with the Skokie Park District, Kathy Corrigan is retiring. It's hard to put into words the impact Kathy has had o...	8322	6216	55	1.34
PLAY FOOTGOLF AT THE WEBER LEISURE CENTER! 🏌️🏌️ Grab a ball and take on the course in a whole new way! Kick a soccer ball from the tee box, down each fair...	7553	2937	5	2.57
SPRING FLING GIFT MARKET + FLEA MARKET FRENZY! Join us this weekend on Saturday, May 2 for two great events happening at the Oakton Community Center! Both e...	5177	3798	26	1.36
PARENT-TOT YOGA AT THE EXPLORATORIUM Come stretch, move and play with your little one! This fun and easy class introduces basic yoga through simple poses an...	3352	2441	13	1.37
FREE EVENT: BIKE SAFETY DAY AT THE OAKTON COMMUNITY CENTER! Join the Skokie Police Department for Bike Safety Day in the parking lot at the Oakton Commu...	3107	2237	23	1.39
SPRING STROLLS THROUGH SKOKIE 🌳 What started as a walk to Weissburg Park turned into something more. Magnolias are blooming, neighbors are out and about...	2887	1897	23	1.52
KIDS NIGHT OUT APRIL! Kid's deserve a night out too! Drop your child off for an evening of supervised fun, crafts, Exploratorium playtime and a movie. Snacks will be pro...	2652	1621	5	1.64
EXPLORE NEW EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & OUTINGS IN MAY! If you are looking for new and unique ways to have fun in May—in addition to its hundreds of classes—the Sk...	2635	1514	11	1.74
The Skokie Park District is aware of the two youth incidents in the parks over the weekend, both of which included physical altercations and antisemitic language. In c...	2554	1424	15	1.79
👉 SIGN UP FOR THE SKOKIE S'MORES WALK 2026! The Skokie Community Foundation is hosting a morning of fun activities exploring Emily Oaks Nature Center and wrap...	2238	1562	11	1.43
CELEBRATING ARBOR DAY AT MEYER SCHOOL 🌳 We're honored to support Elizabeth Meyer School Arbor Day Celebration! Skokie Park District staff helped plant th...	1810	1189	16	1.52
CHECK OUT SPRING CLASSES AT WEBER! Get ready for a spring season full of fun, movement, and new skills! 🏌️ We're offering a variety of programs including athlete...	1801	1212	7	1.49
👉 LAST CALL TO REGISTER! Registration is open through tomorrow, April 14, for our Little Stars and Mini-Playmakers classes at the Devonshire Cultural Center! Fr...	1482	1005	4	1.47
Take part in the Oakton Park Clean & Green Day with State Representative Kevin Olickal and State Senator Ram Villivalam on April 25 from 10 a.m. to noon! 🌳 Click f...	1465	1024	12	1.43
SUMMER CAMP REMINDER Parents, don't forget to complete your ePact forms! Check your inbox and fill out your camper's emergency contact information today.	1124	817	4	1.38
THIN ICE ENSEMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS ANASTASIA: THE MUSICAL From Tony winners Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, creators of such Broad...	1096	792	12	1.38
ATTENTION SUMMER CAMP PARENTS: ePact forms have arrived! Be sure to check your inbox and fill out your camper's emergency contact information.	993	692	4	1.43
PAINT & PLAY AT THE EXPLORATORIUM This sensory art class will allow you and your little artist to explore and create together. Process-based art projects and creativ...	930	661	2	1.41
SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR VARSITY SPORTS CAMP 🏆 Still looking for a summer packed with sports, swim days and field trips? Varsity Sports Camp has spots left for age...	912	625	3	1.46
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES Advertise your business and become an integral part of the Skokie Park District family by purchasing a sign or advertising in our facilit...	901	583	0	1.55
ATTENTION SUMMER CAMP PARENTS! The Skokie Park District is now using a new software solution to securely collect health and emergency contact information — tl...	897	561	1	1.60
NOW OPEN: SKOKIE SPORTS PARK'S BATTING CAGES! Baseball and softball seasons are here so bring your favorite bat and step into one of Skokie Sports Park's sever...	855	572	1	1.49
LADIES WINE & NINE GOLF OUTING 🍷 Enjoy a relaxed social round of nine holes perfect for golfers of all skill levels. Registration includes your first glass of wine,	808	561	2	1.44
KIDS' NIGHT OUT - MAY! Kids deserve a night out too! Drop your child off for an evening of supervised fun, crafts, Exploratorium playtime and a movie. Snacks will be pro...	637	425	1	1.50
🌳 TAKE PART IN THE CITY NATURE CHALLENGE THIS WEEKEND! Love nature? Here's your chance to make a real impact right here in Skokie. Help us document loca...	613	383	4	1.60
SERVE UP SOME COMPETITION THIS SUMMER 🏓 Join us on Saturday, June 6 at Oakton Park for our Summer Pickleball Tournament featuring youth and adult division...	613	426	1	1.44
Performances start this weekend! Purchase your tickets here: https://bit.ly/4uGNGY7	606	368	3	1.65
ACT PREP COURSE 📖 Get ready for test day with a comprehensive virtual prep course covering English, Math, Reading and Science in the same order as the ACT. Ag...	491	347	1	1.41
Last weekend to see Beetlejuice Jr. at the Devonshire Playhouse! Purchase your tickets here: https://bit.ly/4uGNGY7	480	319	0	1.50
THIS WEEKEND: SPRING KICKBALL TOURNAMENT 🏈 Teams will compete in a round-robin format followed by playoff games, and each team is guaranteed at least tv...	463	343	2	1.35
Spring Fling Gift Market & Flea Market Frenzy				
Spring Kickball Tournament				
Grand Total	335592	213993	1175	
Averages	8604.92	5487.00	30.13	1.60

Follows vs. Unfollows: Mar. – Apr.





Skokie Park District Information Technology Board Report May 2026



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Firewall Upgrade

One Firewall has been deployed. The second firewall will be deployed by the end of the month.

Part Time Cybersecurity

Staff have launched a more organized way to implement cybersecurity training for part-time staff.

Epact

Staff assisted the recreation staff with implementation of Epact (Emergency and health forms automation) for camp.

Emergency Communications

Staff have been working with the Safety Coordinator on automating emergency alerts for all staff.

SPACE Registration

Staff worked with the SPACE Manager on setting up SPACE registration online for their May 6 registration.

Skokie Parks App

Staff have been working with the Marketing Department on implementing a Skokie Parks app for patrons.



Skokie Park District Staff and Community Committee Reports May 2026



<p>Backlot Bash Committee Breanne Labus</p> <p>The Kick-off meeting will be held on May 12 at 3 p.m.</p>
<p>Community Schools Steering Committee Breanne Labus</p> <p>No report.</p>
<p>DEI Committee Mary Amato</p> <p>No report.</p>
<p>Environmental Action Team Lee Hansen</p> <p>The team met on April 21 to prepare a recycling slide show for the all staff meeting in May. Other agenda items included the City Nature Challenge, Lakeshore Recycling tour, camp training, recycling signage, and selecting a date for the September meeting.</p>
<p>4th of July Parade Committee Jim Hallm</p> <p>Planning meetings start weekly beginning May 4.</p>
<p>Festival of Cultures Committee Aryn Fletcher</p> <p>The kick-off dinner on April 15 had 83 participants from 21 cultures. The Festival of Cultures event is scheduled for May 16 and 17.</p>
<p>Juneteenth Mary Amato</p> <p>The event is planned for June at Oakton Park.</p>
<p>Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation Michelle Tuft</p> <p>The April board meeting had only one agenda item, which was approving the revised organizational chart.</p>

Niles Township Youth Coalition

Breanne Labus

The last meeting was held at Skokie Police Headquarters on May 5.

Safety Committee

Amanda Green

The Committee will meet on May 6. The Safety Task Force met internally on February 6 and with community partners on April 30 to collaborate on park safety.

Skokie Chamber of Commerce

Michelle Tuft

No report.

Skokie Pride

Cassie Schaeffer

The Committee met on May 5, and the event is scheduled for June 28.

Skokie's Spring Greening

Lee Hansen

After the most highly attended event to date (see April report), the planning committee met on April 27 to review the event, make recommendations for 2027, and discuss a date for next year.

Staff Appreciation Committee

Keli Stonitsch

The Staff Appreciation Committee met to evaluate the April Staff Recognition Party, reviewing the event's outcome, feedback, and overall success. The committee also selected a date for next year's event and is contacting venues regarding availability. The tentative date is July 10, depending on availability. Additionally, members discussed plans and logistics for the July Staff and Family Pool Night.

Wellness Committee

Jennie Bever

The Wellness Committee's inaugural meeting on March 25 established that the wellness committee will operate as a collaborative team, with all members contributing ideas to shape future initiatives. There was a shared understanding that wellness should take a holistic approach, encompassing physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

Key next steps include identifying wellness goals, targeting 80% participation from full-time staff, hosting two in-person activities annually, and developing resources such as a list of healthy catering options. The group will also work toward launching an annual leaderboard program to drive engagement, alongside creating an annual wellness calendar, drafting a formal wellness policy, and building a preliminary budget.

Plans for Mental Wellness May were adjusted to focus on smaller, more manageable events throughout the summer, including introducing the Wellness Committee at May staff announcements with the Boba Tea truck.



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer

Summary: The Board annually appoints the Secretary and Treasurer. Michelle Tuft will be reappointed as Secretary and Bill Schmidt will be reappointed as Treasurer.

Motions: Move to appoint Michelle Tuft as Board Secretary.
Move to appoint Bill Schmidt as Board Treasurer.



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of Committee Chairs

Summary: Chairs for the standing committees and advisory committees of the Board need to be appointed for 2026-27. The current committee chair assignments are:

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

Board members will need to determine committee chairs for the upcoming year and the Board President will make the assignments.

Motion: None required.



Skokie Park District **BOARD SUMMARY**



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of Open Meetings Act Officer and Alternate

Summary: To comply with the Open Meetings Act (OMA) ordinance, an official must be designated to successfully complete the training developed and administered by the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor. Michelle Tuft serves as the OMA officer and Bill Schmidt serves as the alternate.

Motion: Move to appoint Michelle Tuft as the open meetings act officer and Bill Schmidt as the alternate.



Skokie Park District **BOARD SUMMARY**



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of Freedom of Information Officers

Summary: To comply with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) an official must be designated as a FOIA officer.

The Park District has four FOIA officers, Michelle Tuft, Bill Schmidt, Corrie Guynn, and Breanne Labus.

Motion: Move to appoint Michelle Tuft, Bill Schmidt, Corrie Guynn, and Breanne Labus as Freedom of Information Act officers.



Skokie Park District **BOARD SUMMARY**



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Authorized Agent

Summary: The Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) requires that a sole authorized agent be appointed by the Board. Laura Le has been serving in this capacity.

Motion: Move to appoint Laura Le as the IMRF Authorized Agent.



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Appointment of Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation (M-NASR) Board Alternate

Summary: The Park Board approved updated articles of agreement with M-NASR at the December 17, 2024, board meeting. The updated articles of agreement request that each district name an alternate board member to attend and vote at meetings when the Executive Director (me) cannot attend.

Motion: Move to appoint Breanne Labus as the M-NASR board representative alternate.



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Michelle Tuft, Executive Director

RE: Adoption of Official Meeting Day, Time, and Location

Summary: The official meeting day, time, and location for meetings of the Skokie Park District Board of Park Commissioners for the coming year will be the third Tuesday of the month at the Weber Leisure Center.

The list of meeting days is attached.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the adoption of 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 coming year.

Motion: Move 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 2026-27.

PUBLIC NOTICE



**THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING MAY 1, 2026
ENDING APRIL 30, 2027**



The following is a list of the regularly scheduled Skokie Park District Board Meetings for fiscal year 2026-2027. All meetings are held at the Weber Leisure Center, 9300 Weber Park Place, Skokie, Illinois 60077 and begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>
May	Tuesday	5/12/26
June	Tuesday	6/16/26
July	Tuesday	7/21/26
August	Tuesday	8/18/26
September	Tuesday	9/15/26
October	Tuesday	10/20/26
November	Tuesday	11/17/26
December	Tuesday	12/15/26
January	Tuesday	1/19/27
February	Tuesday	2/16/27
March	Tuesday	3/16/27
April	Tuesday	4/20/27



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: William G. Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services

RE: Adoption of Official Depositories

Summary: The official depositories for the ensuing year are:

Wintrust Financial
7800 N. Lincoln Ave.
Skokie, IL 60077

Chase Bank N.A.
9409 Skokie, Blvd
Skokie, IL 60077

Zions Bank
111 West Washington Street
Suite 1860
Chicago, IL 60602

Illinois Institutional
Investors Trust (IIIT)
222 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 91
Chicago, IL 60601

Bank of New York
Trust Billing Department
P O Box 392013
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-9013

Ehlers Bond Trust Services
3060 Center Point Drive
Suite 110
Roseville, MN 55113-1105

Byline Bank
3200 West Touhy Avenue
Skokie, IL 60076

First Bank Chicago
8833 Gross Point Road #202
Skokie, IL 60077

Wells Fargo Corporate Trust
230 W. Monroe Suite 2900
Chicago, IL 60606

Recommendation: Staff recommends the above list of financial institutions as Official Depositories of the Skokie Park District.

Motion: Move that Wintrust Financial, Chase Bank NA, Wells Fargo Corporate Trust Services, First Bank Chicago, Illinois Institutional Investors Trust, Bank of New York, Zions Bank, Byline Bank and Ehlers Bond Trust Services be approved as official depositories of the Skokie Park District for fiscal year 2026-2027.



Skokie Park District **BOARD SUMMARY**



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: William G. Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services

RE: Adoption of Official Signatories for Banking Purposes

Summary: The official signatories for the Skokie Park District for banking purposes are the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the adoption of the above list of officers as the official signatories of the Skokie Park District for banking purposes.

Motion: Move that the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer be designated as the official signatories of the Skokie Park District for banking purposes for fiscal year 2026-2027.



Skokie Park District BOARD SUMMARY



Date: May 12, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: William G. Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services

RE: Adoption of Official Publication for Legal Notices

Summary: The official publication for posting legal notices for the Skokie Park District has been the Pioneer Press - Skokie Review for many years.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the adoption of the *Skokie Review* as the official publication for legal notices of the Skokie Park District for the ensuing year.

Motion: Move to designate the Pioneer Press - Skokie Review as the Official Publication of the Skokie Park District for fiscal year 2026-2027.