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DES PLAINES PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President James Grady called the Regular Meeting of the Des Plaines Park District Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 pm. Commissioners answering present to the roll call in person were Commissioner Erin Doerr, Commissioner Eli Williams, Commissioner Jana Haas and President James Grady.

Staff in attendance were Executive Director, Donald Miletic; Director of Facilities and Recreation, Brian Panek; Director of Parks and Planning, Aurelio Marquez; Director of Business, Annette Curtis; Superintendent of Administration, Liz Vinakos.

One guest was in attendance, corporate counsel Andrew Paine of Tressler LLP.

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

A. None

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. None

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

A. James Carl: Directly questioned Executive Director regarding earned bonus, was redirected to speak to the Board. Discussed items including leasing payments and dance apparel. Commissioner Doerr and Commissioner Haas requested Mr. Carl to leave documents and photos of his concerns for their review after the meeting.

V. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – November 18, 2025
B. EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES – November 18, 2025
C. SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES –NONE

D. VOUCHER BILLS:

November 07, 2025	$ 226,082.45
November 20, 2025	$ 1,481,854.57

E. PAYROLL:

November 07, 2025	$ 234,828.79
November 20, 2025	$ 226,895.12

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the consent agenda for December 16, 2025 as listed.
Second by: Commissioner Doerr

Discussion: None

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, Aye;
Ayes: 4, **Nays:** 0, **Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

VI. M-NASR REPORT

A. Executive Director Don Miletic stated that he had a meeting today with M-NASR and it went well. The information is in the report. Asked if the Board had any questions.
- **Commissioner Comments**: None

VII. MONTHY REPORTS

A. **Executive Director:** Executive Director Don Miletic thanked staff for their hard work during the winter. Stated it was the most snow they've seen so far this season and that the ice rink are all up and running. He hopes there will be no vandalism like last year on the ice rinks. Stated he will be working with District 62

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and has also been working on personnel items. Stated he is happy to answer any questions the Board may have.

- **Commissioner Comments**: Commissioner Williams asked if there was an update on the Craig Manor turf. Executive Director Miletic stated that the turf will need to be overseeded and aerated next season, it is not in good shape.

B. **Facilities and Recreation:** Director Brian Panel stated the Board has seen the recreation report and he is happy to answer any questions they may have.

- **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Williams stated that he has been receiving questions regarding the wifi at Prairie Lakes. Director Brian Panek stated he will check with IT and take care of the concerns. Commissioner Doerr asked about the Chili open. Director Panek stated it is doing well and almost sold out. Commissioner Haas asked about Winter Wonderland. Director Panek stated that everything went smoothly.

C. **Parks and Planning:** Director Aurelio Marquez asked the Board if they had any questions on his report.

- **Commissioner Comments:** President Grady asked if everything was moving along [Prairie Lakes] and what happened to the wifi? Director Marquez stated that yes, everything at the Prairie Lakes renovation was moving along and they are reviewing completion dates. Stated two of the WOPs [wireless access points] needed to be taken down and replaced during construction and that may have caused the wifi issues.

D. **Business Services:** Director Annette Curtis stated that she didn't have anything additional to report.

- **Financial Reports:** Provided to the Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the Financial Reports for December 16, 2025, and place a copy on file for the audit.
Second by: Commissioner Doerr

Discussion: None

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Algonquin Road Bridge – Discussion Only

- Executive Director Don Miletic stated there is nothing new to add.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Action Item 9 – A:** Approval Proposed 2026 Outdoor Pool Pass Fees

Discussion: President Grady prefaced that the review of fees is done on a regular basis, every year, to keep up with increased costs. Director Panek stated that the staff are proposing small increases to give the best value possible. Commissioner Haas questioned the new weekend passes, are they for Saturday and Sunday? Director Panek stated yes. Commissioner Doerr asked how much a lifeguard makes at Mystic. Director Panek stated $18 an hour at Mystic, and $15 an hour for Arndt and Chippewa.

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the proposed 2026 outdoor pool pass fees.
Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

B. **Action Item 9 – B:** Approval of Proposed 2026 Membership Fees

Discussion: Director Panek read memo regarding the proposed fees. President Grady asked if there has been any refunds or rebates with the fitness center closure. Director Panek stated that fitness center members are currently not being charged and they have use of the ALC or RecPlex available to them. Commissioner Williams inquired if we can use RecPlex through January. Director Panek replied yes, as long as needed. Director Panek discussed that the indoor walking track will now be free for residents. Commissioner Williams requested ability to be able to monitor use through wristbands for access cards. Commissioner Haas stated that the memo should be changed to reflect $0 fee.

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to approve the proposed 2026 membership fees, with the correction of $0 to resident rate for indoor walking track.
Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

C. **Action Item 9 – C:** Approval of Proposed 2026 Golf Operation Fees

Discussion: Director Panek read memo regarding the proposed fees. Stated there is a very small increase with specific Golf rounds.

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the proposed fees for 2026 at the Golf Center, Lake Park Golf Course & Marina, and the Mountain View Adventure Center as presented.

Second by: Commissioner Williams

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

D. **Action Item 9 – D:** Approval of Proposed 2026 Theater Fees

Discussion: Director Panek read memo regarding the proposed fees. President Grady asked if there were any comparables, Skokie? Director Panek stated Des Plaines theater, not very many in the area. Groups love the Prairie Lakes Theater because the cost is reasonable. Commissioner Doerr asked about the technician cost. Director Panek stated that there is a staff member who can be hired as sound and lighting for groups. Commissioner Haas asked about a sound system that can be fed into someone's hearing aid [assisted listening systems]. Director Panek stated he would look into the cost.

Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the Prairie Lakes Theater Rental fees as presented.

Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

E. **Action Item 9 – E:** Approval of Proposed 2026 Facility Rental Fees

Discussion: Director Curtis stated that there is a minimum increase on rentals (3%) both for resident and non-resident rates. Staff looked at comparables to confirm pricing. Pavilions remain popular. Described room changes after renovation. President Grady mentioned the pavilion at the Dog Park. Director Curtis confirmed Blackhawk park pavilion is no longer rented due to the use at the Dog Park. Commissioner Williams asked what the main rented room is. Director Curtis stated it has always been the field houses,

Arndt is one of the most popular. Mountain view rooms are in demand. Commissioner Haas asked if Optimus is filled, Director Curtis stated yes.

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the proposed rental fees as presented, effective January 1st, 2026.

Second by: Commissioner Doerr

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

F. **Action Item 9 – F:** Approval of Proposed 2026 Athletic Field Rental Fees

Discussion: Director Panek read memo regarding the proposed fees. President Grady asked about the cricket pitch. Director Panek said they will plan on keeping it due to its use.

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to approve the 2026 proposed fees for athletic fields as presented.

Second by: Commissioner Williams

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

G. **Action Item 9 – G:** Approval of Ordinance #25-10 For Levy and Assessment of Taxes

Discussion: Director Curtis provided a brief presentation for the tax levy. Commissioner Williams stated he is happy with only a 1% increase, thanked staff.

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the 2025 Tax Levy, Ordinance # 25-10, An Ordinance Levying And Assessing The Taxes For The General Corporate Fund, The Recreation Fund, The Audit Fund, The Tort Immunity Fund, The Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, The Social Security Fund, The Special Recreation Fund, The Debt Service Fund And The Museum Fund Purposes Of The Des Plaines Park District, Cook County, Illinois, Beginning May 1, 2025 And Ending April 30, 2026.

Second by: Commissioner Williams

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

H. **Action Item 9 – H:** Approval of Ordinance #25-11 For Tax Levy Reduction

Discussion: None.

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to approve Ordinance #25-11, an ordinance directing the manner of any potential reduction of the Des Plaines Park District's real estate tax levy for levy year 2025.

Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

I. **Action Item 9 – I:** Approval of Resolution #25-12 Appointment to Fill Park Board Vacancy

Discussion: Executive Director Don Miletic stated that after conducting a search to fill the vacant seat on the Des Plaines Park Board of Commissioners, that was advertised in the Journal & Topics Newspaper, Park District's website, and its social media, a recommendation is being presented for approval. At the regular meeting of the Park Board of Commissioners on October 21st, 2025, the Park Board adjourned Executive Session, returning to the Regular Board Meeting to provide direction to Executive Director Don Miletic. Executive Director Miletic further stated that the consensus of the Park Board was to direct the Executive Director to present candidate Alan Osinski with the offer of Park Board Commissioner and begin preparation for his appointment with official appointment in December 2025, should he accept. Adoption of Resolution #25-12 is being presented to the Park Board of Commissioners on December 16th, 2025 to confirm the appointment of Alan Osinski and grant him the title of Commissioner of the Des Plaines Park Board.

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to approve Resolution #25-12 For the Appointment of Alan Osinski to Fill the Park Board Vacancy.

Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye**; Doerr,** Aye**; Grady,** Aye**; Williams,** Aye.
Ayes: 4**, Nays:** 0**, Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 4-0-0

X. OATH OF OFFICE

A. Executive Director Don Miletic completed the swearing in of Alan Osinski to office of Commissioner with the Des Plaines Park District. Commissioner Osinski recited the oath and then took his seat at the Board table.
   - *I, Alan Osinski, Do solemnly swear, That I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, And that I will faithfully discharge, The duties of the office of Des Plaines Park District Commissioner, According to the best of my ability.*

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Letter from the Des Plaines Garden Club thanking the Park District for a raffle donation.

XII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Doerr: Stated she knows that staff are working hard during the winter. Would like to ensure Park District buildings remain welcoming places for people to stop in and get warm. Stated that Des Plaines is a great place to raise a family and welcomed Alan and his family. Stated that there is so much good out there, and that everyone cares about family and the kids.

Commissioner Haas: Welcomed Alan. Stated that she believes the number of years present at the table [Board table] is a testament to caring, that plans are made years in advance, and being on the Board is a privilege. Thanked staff and wished everyone a happy holiday. Mentioned the silks open house is tonight.

Commissioner Williams: Stated he can't believe that this is the last meeting of the year. Welcomed Alan and believes his history is a great addition to the Board. Stated no one likes fees but understands that prices keep going up and it is something we are getting used to. Thankful to staff for the modest increase. Happy that there aren't any raises for fees at PLCC. Stated it is better to have smaller increases, than large catch up increases. Mentioned the Winter Garden Ball held by the chamber of commerce is February 20th. Merry Christmas, looking forward to a good year.

Commissioner Osinski: Thanked the Board, family, parents, wife, Larry (boss and long-time resident). Stated he is aware of the rich Des Plaines history. Looks forward to growing in the community. Grateful for the community members he already met in the programs. Brings experience with the Park District's programs. Shout out to the basketball program. It has been very cold out, but has gotten his daughter out of the house.

President Grady: Stated that in the past, at one point fees weren't raised for a long time. However it became necessary to have a larger increase to catch up. Wants to stay ahead. Is thrilled to have Alan on the Board. Stated Staff at the Des Plaines Park District is second to none, they continue their education and learning and is grateful to have talented staff. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to go into executive session to consider matters related to Real Estate, Personnel, Litigation, Review of Closed Session Minutes or the setting of a price for lease of property owned by the Des Plaines Park District at 7:00 pm. Commissioner Doerr requested a 5-minute break.

Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye; **Doerr,** Aye; **Grady,** Aye; **Williams,** Aye, **Osinski**, Aye.
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, **Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 5-0-0

XIV. CLOSE AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

Motion by Commissioner Haas to close the Executive Session and return to open session at: 7:39 pm.

Second by: Commissioner Williams
All in Favor, Opposed
Ayes: 5, **Nays:** 0, **Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 5-0-0

A. **Action Item 14 – A:** Approval of Resolution #25-13 Authorizing Release of Closed Session Minutes

Discussion: None

Motion by Commissioner Haas to approve the release of certain closed session minutes, as listed in Exhibit A.
Second by: Commissioner Osinski

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye; **Doerr,** Aye; **Grady,** Aye; **Williams,** Aye, **Osinski**, Aye.
Ayes: 5, **Nays:** 0, **Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 5-0-0

A.1 **Action Item 14 – A.1:** Approval of Resolution #25-14 for the Destruction of Certain Verbatim Closed Session Recordings as Listed in Exhibit B.

Discussion: None

Motion by Commissioner Doerr to approve the Destruction of Certain Verbatim Closed Session Recordings as Listed in Exhibit B
Second by: Commissioner Haas

Roll call: Commissioners Haas, Aye; **Doerr,** Aye; **Grady,** Aye; **Williams,** Aye, **Osinski**, Aye.
Ayes: 5, **Nays:** 0, **Absent:** 0
Motion Carried: 5-0-0

B. **Action Item 14 – B:** Approval of Items Discussed in Executive Session
   a. None

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Williams to adjourn the Park Board Meeting at 7:41pm

Second by: Commissioner Doerr
All in Favor, Opposed
Ayes: 5, **Nays:** 0, **Absent:**0
Motion Carried: 5-0-0

APPROVED

President

Secretary