

Waterloo Park District – Meeting Minutes August 13, 2025

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Waterloo City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 100 W. Fourth Street, Waterloo, Illinois, by President Gardner.

Roll call: Commissioner Davis, Vice-President Haentzler, and President Gardner were physically present. Commissioners Perotti and Pfund provided prior notification that they were unable to attend. Treasurer Bradley, Superintendent Prater, and Secretary-Attorney Schimpf were also present.

Meeting minutes and agenda: The agenda was posted at both 318 N. Library Street and 100 W. Fourth Street, Waterloo, Illinois in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. President Gardner requested modification of the agenda by switching the order of items 12 and 13. The modified agenda was approved by voice vote on a motion by Haentzler seconded by Davis. The Board approved the minutes of the July 9, 2025, regular meeting and Safety & Accident Committee meeting by unanimous consent.

President's report: President Gardner reported that she and Vice-President Haentzler met with representatives of the Remlok Subdivision Homeowners Association on August 4, 2025. She also reported that she intends to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Lions Club for Lions Park improvements. Lastly, President Gardner also spoke with the Whiteside Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) about their request to donate a tree to Zimmer Park.

Guests: See the attached list. No guests desired to speak.

Correspondence:

- In a letter postmarked July 19, 2025, Mr. Tony Grasso repeated his prior allegation of improprieties relating to the splash pad. Mr. Grasso claimed that the Illinois Constitution prohibits food vendors from accessing the splash pad parking lot (Secretary-Attorney Schimpf stated that he disagreed with this legal analysis). Finally, Mr. Grasso also suggested construction of a rail line to connect the Zimmer Park pavilions with the Waterloo Community Splash Pad.
- The Park District Facebook account received multiple messages asking when the Waterloo Community Splash Pad would close for the season. The Secretary-Attorney has responded that a mid-September closing is planned.
- Commissioner Pfund and Superintendent Prater received an email on August 8th from Jodi Holt with Rain Drop Products asking for payment as soon as possible on the outstanding invoice for \$64,660.

Treasurer's report: Prior to the meeting, Treasurer Bradley distributed financial documents to the Board via email. Upon a motion by Davis, seconded by Haentzler, the Board approved the Treasurer's report in a voice vote.

Annual Audit for Financial Year Ending April 30, 2025: Upon a motion by Haentzler, seconded by Davis, the Board approved the annual audit in a voice vote.

Submission & approval of bills: Treasurer Bradley initiated a discussion about the two Rain Drop Products invoices. Superintendent Prater recommended against payment until Rain Drop Products completes their repairs at the splash pad. He explained that repairs are needed because cracks are developing in the barn fixture slide that may develop into a hazardous condition. Commissioner Davis moved, seconded by Haentzler, to continue withholding payment and to have Secretary-Attorney Schimpf send an email to Rain Drop Products explaining our rationale. The motion passed by voice vote. Treasurer Bradley had distributed all other bills electronically prior to the meeting. A motion by Haentzler, seconded by Davis, passed by voice vote to pay all other remaining bills.

Superintendent's report:

- Sydenstricker-Nobbe Partners has delivered our new tractor.
- Superintendent Prater has upgraded the rubber mats at the splash pad's barn fixture. The mats that he had previously installed were dissolving.
- Forty pavers have been installed at the military memorial for the DAR.
- Superintendent Prater is working to resolve two problems at the Zimmer Park playground involving the slides.
- Superintendent Prater hopes that a new fitting will solve the problem of chlorine solidifying and blocking the line at the splash pad.
- Superintendent Prater described possible personnel changes to his team.

Attorney report:

- The MOA with the Lions Club clarifies that the Club will handle all permitting for the project and attempt to finish the improvements by November 1.
- Secretary-Attorney Schimpf restated that patrons assume the risk of injury when they utilize our parks and facilities. The Park District does, however, have a duty to preserve video evidence. Therefore, commissioners should immediately notify the Secretary-Attorney when injuries are reported at the splash pad or skate park.

Ordinance 263 (Park Use Ordinance): Secretary-Attorney Schimpf described the new and updated provisions of the ordinance. Commissioner Davis moved to approve Ordinance 263, seconded by Haentzler. Prior to the reading of the ordinance, Commissioner Haentzler, seconded by Davis, moved to waive the reading. The motion to waive the reading passed in a voice vote. In a roll-call vote, the District approved Ordinance 263 3-0 with all present voting YES. Perotti and Pfund were ABSENT.

Resolution 080125 (Authorization of Ice Cream Truck Vendor at the Splash Pad):

After comments by Superintendent Prater indicating that trash had not increased at the splash pad in the past month, Commissioner Davis moved to approve Resolution 080125. Commissioner Haentzler seconded the motion. Prior to its reading, Commissioner Haentzler moved to waive the reading, seconded by Davis. The motion to waive the reading passed in a voice vote. The Board approved Resolution 080125 3-0 in a roll-call vote with all present voting YES. Perotti and Pfund were ABSENT.

Koenigsmark/Optimist Skate Park: President Gardner noted the need for a new sign that correctly describes the public restroom status ("permanently closed").

Konarcik Park: The Waterloo Sports Association has begun utilizing the football field for practice and the nearby bathrooms are open.

Lakeview Park: Nothing to report.

Lions Park: Pursuant to the conditions of the MOA, the Lions Club is beginning its renovations. Superintendent Prater will advise them on the presence of a lift-station line. Waterloo Sports Association will again use the Lions Park field for soccer practices.

William Zimmer Park: The Remlok Homeowners Association is pleased that no trash or noise issues have been reported from the splash pad. The District and the Remlok HOA will continue discussing the landscaping that is referenced in the Zimmer Park purchase agreement.

New/other business: None.

Commissioner comments: None.

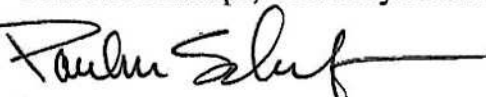
City Liaison comments: No city representative attended the meeting.

Final guest comments: Lisa Pecha questioned whether Resolution 080125 would cause food vendors to allege unfair treatment. She also asked how the Board would address the potential unsafe condition on the slide at the Waterloo Community Splash Pad. Secretary-Attorney Schimpf stated that the condition would be examined and a decision made prior to splash pad's Thursday opening.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the upstairs conference room at Waterloo City Hall.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned via unanimous consent at 7:55 p.m.

Paul M. Schimpf, Secretary/Attorney, Waterloo Park District


APPROVED 10 SEP 2025