

**Bensenville Park District  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 6, 2024**

1. Call to Order

President Johnson called the Meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Roll call was taken:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gibbs		X
Johnson	X	
Karg	X	
Snyder	X	
Hernandez	X	

Staff in attendance: Director Joseph Vallez and Mary E. Dickson, Park District Attorney.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Snyder, seconded by Commissioner Hernandez to approve the Agenda.

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs		X	
Snyder	X		
Hernandez	X		

Motion carried.

3. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

4. Park District Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficient Act

1. Call to Order

President Johnson called the meeting of the Committee to Order at 5:34 p.m.

On a roll call vote, the following members were present:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	x	
Karg	x	

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Gibbs		x
Snyder	x	
Hernandez	x	
Panos	x	
Gakovic	x	
Vallez	x	

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

3. Approval of Minutes - November 6, 2024

Member Hernandez moved, seconded by Member Snyder to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2024 meeting.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	x		
Karg	x		
Gibbs			x
Snyder	x		
Hernandez	x		
Panos	x		
Gakovic	x		
Vallez	x		

Motion carried.

4. Public Comment (3 minutes per person)

There was no public comment.

5. Survey of Residents in Attendance- Input On Matters Discussed

a. Email Addresses

Member Panos commented on the current state of the fitness classes, stating that the leader of the fitness program who was very good has left which she believes has led to a degradation of the classes. She does not believe that she is receiving value in programming equal to what she is paying to participate. She also notes a drop in membership, which commenced during COVID, as most programs were canceled, and people have not come back. Member Gakovic noted that there are two new gyms which have opened as well which are drawing customers

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away. He asked whether the District could partner with other Park Districts on programming so if people want to follow a particular instructor they have the opportunity to do so. Member Karg agreed with the comments made.

In response Director Vallez stated that programming is currently going through a restructuring. The District needs to consolidate its programming, which may result in fewer classes by better content. The struggle is finding instructors who are committed to teaching who want to work for the Park District.

There were no residents in attendance

6. Approval of Decennial Committee Report

Member Vallez stated the Decennial Report will be provided in draft form for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

7. Adjournment

Member Hernandez moved, seconded by Member Snyder to adjourn.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	x		
Karg	x		
Gibbs			x
Snyder	x		
Hernandez	x		
Panos	x		
Gakovic	x		
Vallez	x		

Motion carried.

The meeting stands adjourned.

5. Staff Reports

Director Vallez discussed items on the report attached to the Agenda.

- Mohawk Property: Mr. Vallez is meeting with an architect to discuss the possibility of submitting a Land Conservation Grant application to secure funds to acquire and develop the property.

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- White Pines Water Well: staff recently learned that there is an ejector pump on site which is powered by a line in a pvc pipe in the sewer. There might not be an existing fix to this issue.
- The sewer pipe under the main at the bridge into White Pines is collapsing. It is possible the District may have to do some excavation to shore this up. A structural engineer will look at it. If the work is needed, the golf course would have to be closed for a few weeks.
- In response to a question concerning the new lighting from Commissioner Hernandez, Mr. Vallez stated that the lights installed are in compliance with the Village's lighting ordinance.
- The new light poles were to be installed with the GFI 15 feet in the air so that lighting cords need not be used for lighting items near the top of the poles. Mr. Vallez reported that the Engineer "dropped the ball" in not noticing that the poles were installed without the required GFI, and now all poles will have to be replaced and the District will be looking to the responsible party for payment of this obligation.
- There is no response to the Redmond Lots counter-offer at this time.
- Mr. Vallez sought Board approval to place public art in the parks depicting children at play, or with butterflies featured.

6. New Business

Commissioner Karg stated that the Board is required to review Mr. Vallez' performance. This will be discussed at the December Board meeting.

7. Closed Session

There was no Closed Session.

8. Adjourn

Commissioner Hernandez moved, seconded by Commissioner Snyder, to adjourn.

On a voice vote, all Commissioners present voted "aye." The motion carried.

The meeting stands adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Approved:

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President Rich Johnson

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Secretary