

MINUTES
Mundelein Park & Recreation District
Special Committee of the Whole
September 3, 2025

The Special Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Mundelein Park & Recreation District, Mundelein, Lake County, Illinois, was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

President KNUDSON directed Executive Assistant KAUFFMAN to call the roll. Present were Commissioners BURTON, FRASIER, McGRATH, ORTEGA and President KNUDSON.

Staff present: Executive Director SALSKI, Directors BERG, FOSTER, KARL, LAWRENCE and McINERNEY, Superintendent of Park Maintenance NEUWIRTH and Executive Assistant KAUFFMAN.

Visitors: None

Executive Director SALSKI thanked the Commissioners for attending and provided an outline of the goals for the special meeting. There was a review and discussion of the 2023 – 2028 Comprehensive Master Plan and specifically focused on the capital development projects. The Commissioners and Staff then boarded a mini-bus and toured several of the Mundelein Park & Recreation District facilities.

The tour commenced at the Steeplechase Golf Club and included onsite viewing of the bunkers, the pumphouse and the clubhouse. Director KARL was joined by Golf Course Superintendent KIVISTO and Head Golf Professional SWEENO and Director KARL described the maintenance issues and planned improvements.

The group then toured a potential site for acquisition in future years with staff suggesting developing a first right of refusal with the landowner. The group toured the central maintenance building at the Mundelein Community Center and Director FOSTER shared needed improvements including that the steel roof coating needs replacement at three outlying maintenance buildings. He told Commissioners that vehicles remain outside year-round as there is not enough garage space indoors for storing equipment and trucks. There was discussion about future rental of vacant commercial space to store equipment as an option to the need for more space.


Director BERG provided background information on record setting attendance at Barefoot Bay for the 2025 season. He also reminded the Commissioners that the facility is over 20 years old and the equipment, slides, pumps, sound system and buildings and equipment are aging and in need of pre-emptive maintenance and replacement. Staff and Commissioners toured the aquatic facilities and Superintendent of Recreation Facilities KOPP and Aquatics Manager DUFFY answered questions and provided details about the operating systems. The group then toured the Splash Pad site and discussed maintenance and operational challenges for the aging equipment as well as a long-term expansion option.

The tour included stops at the Dolan Recreation Center for discussion on a possible addition in the future and a discussion of dredging at Diamond Lake's West Channel. Staff recommended, and a consensus among the Commissioners confirmed, only moving forward with the West Channel dredging project if there is a three-way partnership between homeowners, West Shore Association and the District and including homeowners' replacement of their seawalls.

The tour concluded at the Diamond Lake Recreation Center with a review of the proposed plan for a renovated lakefront with programming opportunities and rental potential of the site. Executive Director SALSKE and Director BERG presented an operational plan with pricing structure tiers, a net operating summary and an implementation timeline.

Commissioners and staff engaged in conversation regarding phase one improvements at Steeple Chase Golf Club and Diamond Lake. There was discussion of funding of projects. It was agreed that conversation would continue at subsequent meetings in September and prior to finalizing the 2026 operating budget for the Park District.

There being no further business, Commissioner McGRATH moved to adjourn at 12:39 p.m., second by Commissioner BURTON. A voice vote was taken with all voting yes.


Secretary