Medinah Park District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 19, 2025 6:30PM
Connolly Recreation Center
22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Medinah Park District, DuPage County, Illinois was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at the Connolly Recreation Center, 22W130 Thorndale Avenue, Medinah, IL.

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by President Neitzke.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call
Commissioners Present:
Alyssa Neitzke, President
Irene Jarocinski, Vice President
Jaclyn Scafidi, Commissioner
Gokhan Cukurova, Commissioner (arrived 6:33PM)
Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present:
Steven Muenz, Executive Director, Board Secretary
Maria Piworski, Superintendent of Finance/HR
Vince DeGrado, Superintendent of Parks
Dan Touzios, Asst. Superintendent of Parks
Jim Huetson, Superintendent of Recreation

Public in Attendance
Matt McAlevy, Nicky Liotta, Robert Zoltek, Russel Bean, Tom Delre, Darlene Delre, Nick Grygiel, Erin Kovzich, Kevin Christensen, Wayne Donke, Bill Della, Kara Sachs

Quorum
Commissioner Neitzke recognized a quorum.

Approval of Agenda
President Neitzke asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions to the agenda. Director Muenz stated the agenda could move forward as presented. It was moved by President Neitzke, and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to approve the agenda as presented. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Aye: AN, IJ, JS, GC
Nay: None.
Absent: None.
Motion Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda
President Neitzke asked if there were any requests to remove items from the consent agenda. Hearing none, President Neitzke asked for a motion. It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Aye: IJ, JS, GC, AN
Nay: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried.

Staff Reports
A. **Financial Report –**
Commissioner Scafidi – Issues regarding reconciliation on MyRec report. Numbers match after change. There was a nation wide outage that affected one registration that had to be corrected.

B. **Recreation Report** –
Commissioner Cukurova $4020 for brochure. Look into application to do it in house.

Commissioner Scafidi – Basketball program. 1st & 2nd grade. Look into changing the level to 5v5. Soccer program teams are 3 players too large. President Neitzke discussed the issue and stated those players would not have been involved otherwise. She was ok with larger team as not everyone comes to all games and practices. Recreation Fund report $36,000 in the black. How are staff going to generate more revenue?

Commissioner Jarocinski – what she does on the side for programming. Discussion regarding Polish dance costumes. What can be done regarding programming? Which homes are sold and staff should make a trip to speak to new residents.

C. **Risk Management Report –** None

D. **Parks/Maintenance Report –**
Commissioner Cukurova – Water usage in 2024 was over budget. Manary Park walking path connection. Compliments to Vince on his career. Rename Connolly Recreation Center to Vince DeGrado Recreation Center.

Commissioner Scafidi – Butterfly Garden. The old playground was taken out and some people are upset about the butterfly garden.

Attorney's Report - None

Citizen Comments 7:10PM
Discussion regarding Maryann Grygiel. She was king of networking. Better person for knowing her.

Robert Zoltek – Grew up in Medinah in the 60's & 70's. Participated in a lot of programs. Happy to see new programs. Can he volunteer to help district to be better? Recreation department will create a committee. Commissioner Jarocinski spoke to him.

Anthony DeGrado – Spoke about Maryann Grygiel & about his father, Vince. Staff should embody the passion of Maryann Grygiel. Good plan in place for the future of the district.

Vince DeGrado Jr. – Medinah and working with the park district is a generational thing. 4th generation family members for family. Enrollment in programming is important to him and he will continue to volunteer. He currently works with RMSBO as a coach. He would like to see a project such as batting cages for younger generations. Keep up networking through outside organizations.

Justina DeGrado – Proud of her dad. He has always been up late plowing, doing a lot of work and taking care of ballfields. Vince always works to save money for district and the district is his love and life. Maryann Grygiel is a perfect example of what a volunteer should be.

Bill Delre – Came to celebrate Maryann and Vince. His Eagle Scout project was with the park district while he was with the Scouts.

Written/Verbal Communication from Public to Staff/Commissioners

The Roselle Chamber of Commerce annual holiday party is taking place on Friday, December 5 with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. It is being held at the Bloomingdale Golf Club and each seat is $115. Please let Ex. Dir. Muenz know if any Board members are interested in attending and he will RSVP. Deadline is November 28.

Commissioner Scafidi – Changing dates of special events. Have had quite a few residents say Thursday doesn't work. She stated a gym rental was turned down due to open gym. Staff must be creative and possibly split the gym to allow both open gym and the rental.

Director's Report – Notes

NEDSRA – The annual NEDSRA Member Partner holiday party is taking place on Thursday, December 4 at the White Pines Golf Club in Bensenville. This year's theme is casino night. The doors open at 4:30pm with appetizers at 5:00pm and the casino opening at 5:30pm. There is no charge for this event. A list of attendees to be sent to NEDSRA by November 21.

2026 IAPD/IPRA Conference – January 29-31, 2026 – Please let Ex. Dir. Muenz know as soon as possible if you plan on attending. No frill vs full package differences. Friday luncheon and Saturday closing social at House of Blues included in full. Please let Ex. Dir. Muenz if would you prefer an extra night stay at the hotel for Saturday night.

Items for Discussion

FY 2026 Budget #2 Review – Please let staff know if you have any questions regarding the 2nd draft of the budget. The 3rd draft for Board review at the December 17, 2025 meeting and the budget will be up for review and approval at the January 21, 2026 regular Board meeting.

Commissioner Cukurova – Would like to have portable restrooms included at all park locations, but particularly at Riha and Springhill Parks.

Commissioner Scafidi – Contractual services are currently at 39.9% spent. Are we offering enough contractual programs? Rentals under 20-00-420100 seems low. Will the amount be reached? Superintendent Huetson stated there are still 2 months of indoor rentals and is confident that will be reached. Questioned why

Administration salaries are split between funds 10&20. Superintendent Piworski stated just the Ex. Dir. and her salary are split. Preschool 20-20-501700 is being increased 17%. Is that realistic? Recreation staff stated they will review and lower if necessary.

Commissioner Jarocinski – Questioned how Birthday Parties and rentals are broken out as they fall under the same GL code.

Commissioner Cukurova – Asked about the brochure and ads and sponsorships. Is there a plan to add more events? Asked about the increase in costs for IT and if it was necessary. Ex. Dir. Muenz stated the previous IT contractor provided no security or support and, while very inexpensive, only reacted to concerns. L6 is very proactive in their security and storage requirements.

Commissioner Scafidi – Contractual services 20-20-530668 – Should the district look at different contractors? Superintendent Huetson stated the district uses the most well-known contractors and continues to review. Asked if the Oak Room should be used for additional Fitness Room space. It could add more money for fitness revenues. Senior Citizen Programming – 20-20-583663 – Can revenue be added for additional programming. Unemployment Insurance – 40-00-519100 – look into increase for this line item. 40-00-52000 – Brought up a question regarding conference and training line item.

Commissioner Cukurova – Would like an update on Meacham Creek project. The Ex. Dir. and President Neitzke stated DuPage County has stated the initial steps for the project may take up to six months.

President Neitzke – Discussed the Thorndale tennis courts and the options for a future capital project.

A capital items project list will be provided at the next meeting.

Commissioners Comments:

President Neitzke – Job descriptions for staff to be reviewed. Continue to look into sponsorships. Could include a fundraiser night and dine & donate events with proceeds going to toward Park District programs.

Commissioner Jarocinski – Agree with Commissioner Cukurova. She ran for the Board initially because it took 2 years to get backboard at tennis court. She would like to see if the community would like Polish folk dancing and ballroom dancing as programs.

Commissioner Scafidi –

Commissioner Cukurova – Stated he printed all emails and questioned what they were. Questioned the ethics, transparency of Ex. Dir. Asked about an email sent to Michael Rivera. The park district won't move anywhere with this outlook. Stated the Ex. Dir. will have to take a large pay cut in his opinion.

Old Business/Action Items

A. Items Removed from consent agenda (if necessary)

B. FOIA Requests – Received a FOIA request from Gokhan Cukurova on November 5th for emails. Responded to the request on Friday, November 7th and received no additional communication. Received a FOIA request from Sheri Reid from a company named SmartProcure on Thursday November 8th. The request was responded to on November 13th and received an email confirming receipt of the report.

C. METRA Agreement – Ex. Dir. Muenz has communicated with the attorney from METRA to confirm they are still in the review process. He stated the process may take some time on their end and assured the district will be notified when a decision has been made.

New Business

A. Roselle Arts & Culture Foundation – Presentation on art piece in memory of Maryann Grygiel.
Gina and Beth – foundation feels the need to do something for Maryann.
Piece would be repurposed stone with rock inside. Sound feature included.
Powder coating. Requested the requirements for Park District. It will include a concrete base.
Discussion regarding pieces they have done in the past.

B. Ordinance 25-3: Tax Levy – The ordinance has not changed since last month's review. The ordinance is included in the packet.

It was moved by Commissioner Scafidi and seconded by President Neitzke to approve Ordinance 25-3: Tax Levy. President Neitzke asked for discussion. Commissioner Scafidi – Should Park District increase the levy? Superintendent Piworski said increase is small and necessary. Commissioner Scafidi asked when the levy needs to be approved? Superintendent Piworski stated Park District cannot wait until next month.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: JS, GC, AN, IJ
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

C. Ordinance 25-4: Surplus Equipment – The ordinance is included in the packet.

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Jarocinski to approve the Surplus Equipment ordinance. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: GC, AN, IJ, JS
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

D. 2026 IAPD/IPRA Conference – Board Delegate

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to appoint President Neitzke as the Medinah Park District delegate to the 2026 IAPD Annual Meeting and Commissioner Jarocinski as alternate delegate, respectively. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: AN, IJ, JS, GC
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

E. 2026 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Cukurova to approve the 2026 schedule of regular Board Meetings of the Medinah Park District as presented. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: IJ, JS, GC, AN
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

F. Resolution 25-17: Meacham Creek Park Stewardship

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to table this resolution until next months board meeting.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: JS, GC, AN, IJ
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion tabled

Executive Session

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to move to Executive Session regarding personnel at 9:16PM. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: GC, AN, IJ, JS
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to return the regular meeting at 10:31PM. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: AN, IJ, JS, GC
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

Other Business

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to terminate the contract of Steven Muenz, with expiration of December 31, 2026, allowing the Board to rewrite the contract. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLE CALL VOTE:
Aye: IJ, JS, GC, AN
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried

It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Cukurova to approve Matt McAlevy for appointment to the vacant Board of Commissioners seat. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Aye: JS, GC, IJ
Nay: None
Absent: None
Motion Carried
ABSTAIN: President Neitzke

Adjournment
It was moved by President Neitzke and seconded by Commissioner Scafidi to adjourn the regular meeting of November 19, 2025 at 10:45PM. President Neitzke asked for discussion. There was none.

VOICE VOTE
All in favor: Ayes (4) AN, IJ, JS, GC
Opposed: Nays (0)
Absent: (0)
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ _____
Steven Muenz, Board Secretary Alyssa Neitzke, Board President

Date: November 19, 2025