

Special Meeting Minutes

The purpose of the special meeting was to tour parks & facilities operated by the park district. The meeting began at Salt Creek Golf Club (701 Thorndale Road) and proceed to all the locations indicated, returning to Salt Creek Golf Club for adjournment.

1. Call the Meeting to Order

President Lange called the meeting to order at 4:09 pm.

2. Roll Call

At 4:09 pm roll call was taken:

Present: Commissioners Lange, Pokorny, Schroeder, Stimpson

Absent: Commissioner Sbertoli

Also Present: Matthew Ellmann - Executive Director; Ray Chaussey - Director of Parks & Facilities;
Karin Schindel – Director of Finance & Administration

3. Depart (via 15 passenger mini bus, Salt Creek Golf Club)

Commissioners and staff present boarded the park district mini bus to begin the tour leaving Salt Creek Golf Club's parking lot, heading to the golf courses maintenance facility.

4. Salt Creek Golf Club Maintenance Facility (699 Devon)

After arriving (4:20pm), the board was lead on a quick tour of the facility by the Greens Superintendent - Aaron Hearn. He showcased the new pesticide and chemical storage room/area that was built by park district staff. He showed the commissioners the newly leased or purchased equipment and addressed a few questions about their use and the benefits gained from their acquisition. The board thanked Aaron for the tour and his contributions with caring for the golf course.

5. Terrace Park (Corner of Spruce & Devon)

After arriving (4:53pm), all remained on the bus. The board inquired about the possibility of placing soccer fields at this site. Staff explained that the area was too small and impacted by topography and limited parking challenges.

6. Mohawk Park (North Street Dead End in Parking Lot)

After arriving (4:42pm), the board exited the bus and looked at the cell tower, posing a few questions. Discussions ensued about redesigning the park to maximize its active use with bigger athletic fields.

7. Central Park (Corner of Elmhurst & Hemlock)

After arriving (5:07pm), all remained on the bus, posing a few clarification questions about the park concept plan recently developed and approved for a grant application. Discussion took place about potentially using the park as a soccer field and what size it could accommodate.

8. Ash Woods Park (Corner of Edgewood & Dunlay)

After arriving (5:19pm), all remained on the bus observing the park from inside. Board members commented on the parks size limitations but inquired about the potential for park expansion some day. Director Ellmann commented that we could pursue a purchasing "right of first refusal" agreement with the homeowner, to accomplish expansion in the future. Board consensus was that this was a good idea.

9. Mini-Ha-Ha Park (365 Montrose)

After arriving (5:24pm), all remained on the bus examining the site from inside. The commissioners informally discussed the potential for adding passive features and making the site more attractive to the residents through added landscaping.

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10. Calvary Park (107 Montrose)

The bus just passed the park on route to the next site with no comments being made; however, Director Ellmann briefly explained the lease arrangement for the park with the church that owns the land.

11. White Oaks Dog Park & Trail (111 S. Wood Dale Road)

After arriving (5:32pm), the board exited the bus and walked around the outside of the Cabin facility. Some veteran commissioners explained the history of the facility with new board members. Positive comments were made about the new landscaping work that just recently was completed. Some discussion took place about the potential for rehabbing the facility in-line with the recommendations of the Master Plan.

The board was escorted into the Park Maintenance facility for a brief interior tour from Ray Chaussey, Director of Parks & Facilities. Director Ellmann showed the board the exterior area earmarked for improvement through a DECO grant that the agency was receiving.

12. Brookwood Park (159 Prospect)

After arriving (5:56pm) but remaining in the bus, staff pointed out the parking lot seal coating and stripping work and where some trees were recently removed. The property lines for the park where also pointed out and some brief discussion took place about the programming potential for this park.

13. Georgetown Park (Corner of Hoover & George Street)

After arriving (6:02pm), and remaining in the bus, staff mentioned that this site has the newest playground equipment. It was identified that the park district owns the playground equipment and has an agreement with Georgetown Homeowners Association.

14. Lionwood Park (190 Edgebrook)

After arriving (6:09pm), board members remained in the bus with staff pointing out the parks property lines. A brief discussion took place with comments on the parks flooding and the challenges associated with the site. Discussion took place about the regulations that exist with any type of park development because most of the site was in the floodway.

15. Franzen Grove Park (651 Wood Dale Road)

After arriving (6:14pm), all remained on the bus for a quick drive past, with the only comments being about the Movie in the Park series banner and event. Director Ellmann pointed out the adjacent property (Wood Dale Junior High) parking lot construction project.

16. Community Park (765 Wood Dale Road)

After arriving (6:18pm), all remained in the bus which parked in the north side parking lot. Director Ellmann explained the challenges we were having with the lease arrangement and that he and attorney Bersani were planning to work on having it altered.

17. Return to Salt Creek Golf Club

After arriving (6:22pm), the tour was completed and board members thanked the driver, Ray Chaussey for driving.

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18. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Schroeder, seconded by Commissioner Stimpson, to adjourn this Special Meeting at 6:24 pm.

After a voice vote, President Lange declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Board President

Secretary