



OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

MEETING OF THE PARK BOARD

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026, AT 5:00 PM

COMMUNITY CENTER MEETING ROOM, 1050 N. ORANGE ST., RICHLAND CENTER, WI 53581

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by President Elliott, and a quorum was present; the meeting had been properly noticed.

ROLL CALL: Park Board members: Pat Elliott, Brad Wegner, Larry Hallett, County Board Rep- Chad Cosgrove, Director-Jodi Mieden. Absent: Kathryn Lewandowski, Allicia Woodhouse, City Council Rep- Doug Martyniuk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Edits were requested by Elliott. Motion by Hallett to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting(s) in lieu of printed copies and approve the same after edits, 2nd by Cosgrove. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

2. Update on the Rotary Lights in the Park 2025. Keith Behling attended with information on the breakdown of funds from the Rotary Lights as well as attendance, donations and sponsorships. Also noted are the many non-profits that benefit from funds and goods received. He stated that it was a successful event and could not have been done without the help of the Public Works crew and their creativity and hard work. 29/35 nights were open to a total of 9,564 visitors. Plans to leave bridge lighting and lanterns up throughout the winter season for park goers. Unfortunately, three speakers were stolen on January 1st and were the only downside to the event. Requested maintenance needs for next year: grading on trail coming from footbridge. Low spots are creating ponding and slippery situations for guests.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion by Wegner to approve the monthly bills. 2nd by Hallett. Motion carried unanimously.

MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT: Revenues for December 23-January 25, 2024-25 vs 2025-26 provided. More details requested in future reports.

RECREATION REPORT: Parks/Grounds: The skate shed and Meyer skate room have been emptied; skates and rink supplies are in cold storage to save for the future. The shed will be repurposed at the campsites to house free wood for campers. Wood will come from the river's edge cleanup project from the footbridge to the Highway. **Community Center:** The rec storage room has been getting organized. B&G team has removed old, long-broken items that are being replaced with better storage for rec items. Jena remains very busy with rentals as well as Shelter rentals as of Jan 2nd. Heater valves froze up and Wertz was able to fix quickly. **Recreation:** Kids Nite Out with the Lions Club hosted 40 kids, the biggest turnout yet. The Sunday Funday called dancing event welcomed close to 30 people this month. Our adult Basketball league has 5 teams currently and Week 1 went well with 2 games each night for 5 weeks and 2 weeks of tournament. We will host a free Twilight Hike February 13th at the Ocooch Mountain Recreation Trails and hope for a nice clear night. We are starting to plan the Spring/Summer recreation schedule for the brochure, using coaches' guidance from their planning efforts at the end of the 2025 season, as well as our Fall/Winter programs as it is due for print in August. **Pool:** School will be done May 29th, so we are looking to move things up a bit to try to open the weekend of June 6th instead of that Monday like we have in the past. I have reached out to Neuman to schedule their part for May 21-22. I plan to be open until August 31st to maximize the season. We sold 41 Family and 8 Individual passes during the holiday sale this year.

WSRC REPORT: Diamond Jo Casino trips scheduled in 2026. March 26th, May 7th, July 30th, September 10th, October 29th Warco has raised the cost so will now need to charge \$40.00 instead of \$35.00 per person. The pool table is being used almost every day with a group of men. They have a very enjoyable time talking and playing pool. Attendance has been down a little with the cold weather, and many have stayed at home because of illness. \$175.00 from Urban Scenic Travel for registering people for the Enchanted Island Trip.

PARK BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT: Nothing to report.

REPORTS, REQUESTS, CONCERNS: Hallett voiced concerns about the snowy/icy city maintained sidewalks and RCFD is fielding many complaints. Wegner mentioned a possible fitness trail donor and Mieden will follow up with ADPW.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: 4th Monday of the Month, February 23rd, 2026, at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to Adjourn by Hallett. 2nd by Cosgrove. Motion carried unanimously.