

Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting
Berwyn Park District
October 21st, 2025, at 6pm
Proksa Park Activity Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Berwyn Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order at 6:31pm by President Gretchen Kostelny.

Commissioners in attendance: Claire Clark, Ana Espinoza, Janel King, Gretchen Kostelny, and Zachary Taylor.

Absent: none

Staff in attendance: Cathy Fallon (Executive Director), and Cindy Hayes (Superintendent of Finance and HR).

Agenda: A motion made by Clark, seconded by Espinoza to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion made by Espinoza seconded by Clark to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2025, Board Meeting, and the September 7th, 2025 and October 7th Committee Meetings. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Sabine Krauss asked if we have considered other alternatives (i.e., Solar) for utilities due to the rising costs. Krauss talked about the Lantern Parade held in Proksa Park. About 400-500 people were in attendance. Krauss asked that the district keep Berwyn Public Arts Initiative (BPAI) in mind when discussing future projects for the property at 34th and Oak Park Avenue.

Correspondence: none.

Financial Report: A motion made by Clark, seconded by Taylor, to approve October's payables in the amount of \$41,872.29 and September's payroll \$81,246.00 for a total of \$123,118.29. Roll call: Clark-aye, Espinoza-aye, King-aye, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor-aye. Motion carried. The Schedule of Investments Report was reviewed. Total investments \$1,511,053.47. Director Fallon asked if there were any additional questions on the 2026 draft budget. She also said that the district will be exploring other options in 2026 for other health insurance options due to the rising costs.

Agency Report: The report is in the packet. Director Fallon discussed the various programs and the registration numbers. Our new Superintendent of Recreation, Mary Swade started on October 13. All outdoor drinking fountains have been turned off for the winter. Proksa Park tennis courts were upgraded. Pickle ball lines have been painted on all three of the courts. A winterized port-o-let will be Proksa and one at Freedom for the winter season. A tree planting event on October 25 will be from 10am -noon.

West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA): minutes from the September 9th meeting were included in the packet. WSSRA and the Forest Park school District are working on an intergovernmental agreement. WSSRA home offices could relocate to one of the buildings in the school district.

Proksa Park Redevelopment: no update.

Old Business: The board discussed the days and times for committee and regular board meetings. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Kostelny to approve the 2026 calendar dates of the committee and board meetings that were included in the packet. Motion carried. Staff will look into purchasing conference phones for when commissioners need to attend via phone.

A motion was made by Kostelny, seconded by Espinoza to approve the Morton Arboretum Tree Protection Plan that was included in the packet. Motion carried.

Proksa Pond-Director Fallon will talk with Hitchcock and Aquascape to coordinate timelines. Aquascape will start in mid-March (weather permitting). Commissioner Taylor would like to see a sidewalk crosswalk put in the north section of the park at Home Avenue.

New Business: Director Fallon is in contact with the school district regarding the revision of the title deeds of Freedom Park. A draft of the security incident response plan is included in the packet. CDS Technologies is also currently reviewing it. Any revisions will be brought to the next meeting.

Commissioners' Comments: Commissioner Clark enjoyed the puzzle palooza program. Commissioner Kostelny asked if any of the staff were going to the legal symposium in November. – Directo Fallon, Hayes, Swade and Roberts are attending. Commissioner Taylor asked what was next for the Freedom Pool since applying for the OSLAD grant is on hold until next year.- The play structure will be removed.

Executive Session: no session

Meeting Dates: November 4th , 2025-Committee Meeting at Freedom Park Administration Building at 4:30pm. November 18th , 2025- Regular Board Meeting at Proksa Park Activity Center at 6pm.

Adjournment: A motion made by Clark, seconded by King to adjourn at 7:42pm. Motion carried.

Attested to by:



President: Gretchen Kostelny



Recording Secretary: Cynthia Hayes