Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting
Berwyn Park District
September 15th, 2026, at 6pm
Proksa Park Activity Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Berwyn Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order at 6:04pm by President Gretchen Kostelny.
Commissioners in attendance: Claire Clark, Ana Espinoza, Janel King (arrived at 6:06pm), Gretchen Kostelny, and Zachary Taylor (via phone).
Absent:
Staff in attendance: Cathy Fallon (Executive Director), and Cindy Hayes (Superintendent of Finance and HR).

A motion made by Kostelny, seconded by Clark to approve Commissioner Taylor attend via phone. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-absent, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried.

Agenda: A motion made by Clark, seconded by Espinoza to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-absent, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion made by Clark seconded by Kostelny to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2026 Board Meeting, and the September 1, 2026 Committee Meeting. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-absent, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried.
(Commissioner King arrived at 6:06pm)

Public Comments: A park patron asked why the paths have been torn up for two months. Director Fallon explained the issues of the paths and the solutions that are being implemented. Harsh weather has also been an issue. Another park patron asked about the water feature on the east side of the park. She also wanted to know if additional signage will be set up.

Correspondence: none.

Financial Report: A motion made by Clark, seconded by King, to approve August's payroll/payroll liabilities and September's payables for $309,470.92. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-aye, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried. Director Fallon discussed the 2027 draft budget. The budget hearing will be October 20th at 6pm.

Agency Report: The report is in the packet. Director Fallon discussed the various programs and the registration numbers. Commissioner Kostelny asked if the Berwyn Development Corporation would be able to advertise Brewfest for the park district. Commissioner Espinoza asked if the park district is participating in the police open house. Director Fallon said no staff were available to work at this event. Commissioner Espinoza commented that the recreation staff needs to plan their schedules to participate in City of Berwyn events. Director Fallon asked if the commissioners could represent the park district at some of these events. Commissioner Espinoza feels the staff needs to work more weekends. Commissioner Espinoza asked Commissioner Taylor to further explain his comment of having seating by the east pond.

West Suburban Special Recreation Association (WSSRA): minutes are included in the packet.

Proksa Park Redevelopment: Director Fallon provided an update on capital expenditure. Updates to the construction progress are included in the packet.

City of Berwyn Pool Committee: Deadline for the companies to submit RFP's is September 15, 2026. The committee is still planning to have the referendum on the spring ballot.

Unfinished Business: Oak Park and 34th Street- Commissioners Kostelny and Espinoza are opposed to the $500-per-day fee to the city if the construction company is still using the property past July 2028. They were upset that the other commissioners agreed to have this language included in the agreement. Commissioner Taylor moved to pursue a cease-and-desist action against the city unless it provides a release of liability, a certificate of insurance, a list of equipment and materials stored on the property, and payment of a $500-per-day fee for use beyond the end date. This motion was not seconded. Commissioner Kostelny feels the cease-and-desist action is extremely aggressive.
A motion was made by Kostelny, seconded by Clark to have a special meeting with attorney Mike Roth present to seek legal advice on the issues that the district is having with the city. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-aye, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried.

New Business: none.

Commissioners' Comments: Commissioner King commented that information regarding park district events is appearing on the website calendar. Commissioner King will represent the park district at the police open house.

Executive Session: none.

Meeting Dates: October 6, 2026 -Committee Meeting at Freedom Park Administration Building at 4:30pm. October 20, 2026- Regular Board Meeting at Proksa Park Activity Center at 6pm.

Adjournment: A motion made by King, seconded by Clark to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Roll call: Clark- aye, Espinoza-aye, King-aye, Kostelny-aye, and Taylor- aye. Motion carried. Motion carried.

Attested to by:

President: Gretchen Kostelny
Or Vice President: Ana Espinoza
Or Secretary: Claire Clark

Recording Secretary: Cynthia Hayes