

**ELLISVILLE PARKS & RECREATION
PARK BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 28, 2025**

Chairperson Zuzack called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Park Board Members Present:

PBM P. Gay, PBM G. Sackett, PBM C. Slota, PBM T. Elwell, PBM J. Mueller, PBM J. Powell

City Residents Present: N/A

Park Board Members Absent:

PBM P. Councilor, PBM E. Laboube

CHANGES TO AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a vote to approve the Agenda. PBM G. Sackett 1st – PBM C. Slota 2nd – All “AYE” by voice

CHANGES TO MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairperson G. Zuzack called for approval of the Monday, October 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes. PBM G. Sackett 1st – PBM P. Gay 2nd - All “AYE” by voice.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: N/A

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Park’s Director S. Grobelny shared updates on recent and upcoming activities at Bluebird Park. She reported that recent events—including the Lucky Leprechaun Hunt, youth and adult Egg Hunts, the Arbor Day Celebration, and the American Red Cross Blood Drive—went very well.

She noted that our summer camp is already full. Upcoming programs include T-ball, Pickleball, Tennis, Swim Lessons, Yoga in the Park, Swim Team, and the AARP Driver Safety Course. She also mentioned that all three of our swim coaches will be returning this season.

Director Grobelny confirmed that all entertainment for the summer is booked. Family Movie Nights are coming up soon, and PBM G. Sackett suggested inviting the School of Rock to perform before concerts and movie nights.

Old Business:

- A. Park Director S. Grobelny gave an update on Mockingbird Park. She said the project is finished and people are really enjoying it. The park now has a big parking area with a turnaround. The grill will be replaced soon. She also mentioned that Public Works contributed about \$25,000 worth of work to the project.
- B. Park Director S. Grobelny also shared that the sculpture *Rusty Melody* was purchased for \$4,000. She noted that it is placed in a perfect location near the concert area, as the guitar-themed sculpture ties in nicely with the park's live music events.
- C. Director Grobelny also reported that turf is being added to the small dog park at a cost of \$90,000. She mentioned that the original quote for adding turf to both the small and large dog parks was \$300,000.

New Business:

- A. Director Grobelny provided an update on pool repairs. She stated that all necessary repairs are underway. The inside of the pool, which had chipping, is being repaired. The pool deck will also be sanded down due to complaints that it was too slippery. Although sand was previously added to improve traction, it was applied incorrectly and ended up being too rough. Sanding the deck back down to concrete is expected to fix both issues. The repair work should take a couple of weeks to complete. The total cost for the pool repairs is approximately \$100,000.
- B. Director Grobelny also announced that a new sculpture, titled *Spring Fling*, will be installed soon. It will be placed along the hill leading up to the park.
- C. Director Grobelny also shared that the fence around the community garden has been replaced. The new fence is 8 feet tall and made with welded wire. Gardeners are happy with the improvement. She also mentioned that Public Works will be asked to help with weeding between the plots.
- D. Director Grobelny announced that the current playground will be torn down and replaced with an all-inclusive playground, which will be named *Asher's Playground*. The playground is being named in memory of Asher, a child who passed away due to a congenital heart defect. His mother, Marissa, named the playground in his honor. The new playground will feature side-by-side play areas to ensure that everyone can enjoy the space together. Director Grobelny also shared a slideshow that provided more details about *Asher's Playground*, including images of the proposed design. She highlighted how the new playground will be inclusive for all children. Additionally, she mentioned that there is an opportunity for the community to donate towards the cost of the playground's construction.

Public Comments: N/A

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. PBM C. Slota moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by PBM J. Mueller. All "AYE" by voice. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be Monday, July 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Peper, Recreation Specialist
Date: April 28, 2025