

**ELLISVILLE PARKS & RECREATION
PARK BOARD MEETING
Monday, October 27, 2025**

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

Park Board Members Present:

T. Elwell, P. Gay, E. Laboube, J. Powell, G. Sackett, C. Slota, G. Zuzack

City Residents Present:

N/A

Park Board Members Absent:

P. Councilor, J. Mueller

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, January 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes. PBM G. Sackett

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

A. Recreation Programs and Events

Parks Director S. Grobelny shared that summer camp went very well and we had a great staff, though most will not be returning next year.

She mentioned that the Family Campout had lower registration but overall was a success, aside from the heat. The Hayrides also had low registration and one was cancelled. We believe this was due to the hot temperatures. Next year, we may look into offering Haunted Hayrides to boost participation.

The Letters from Santa program will be starting soon. The Ellisville Pumpkin Patch Scavenger Hunt went well, and our new event, Sleigh Ride to the North Pole, is coming up. S. Grobelny mentioned our new and upcoming photo contest, Capture Ellisville, and our Fall Flower Arrangement Class.

We have one more Blood Drive in December and an Electronics Recycling event in November. A new Paint Recycling event is scheduled for November 20th.

Unfortunately, the Stargazing Event had to be cancelled due to weather.

The Movie Night event was a success with a bigger crowd this year, and adding popcorn and drinks was a nice touch. The Hot Dog, It’s Chili event went well, though attendance was lower due to other events in the area. PBM G. Sackett suggested bringing back the chili competition, possibly as a fundraiser.

B. Dog Park Turf

Parks Director S. Grobelny shared that new turf will be installed in the large dog park. A survey was sent to members to gather feedback on whether to keep a grassy area, and the majority preferred to keep the grass.

C. Swim Team Finals

S. Grobelny mentioned that the Ellisville Swim Team will host finals again next season.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Asher’s Playground

Parks Director S. Grobelny stated that the committee for Asher’s Playground has been formed. A major sponsor has offered to donate between \$50,000 and \$70,000 toward the project. The sponsor has requested additional signage in recognition of their contribution. S. Grobelny also mentioned the possibility of hosting a Dash & Splash event to help raise additional funds for the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Budget Items

Parks Director S. Grobelny discussed the removal of the Bussmann Pavilion. Our Publics Works Department removed it. It will be rebuilt to match the design of the Amphitheater. She mentioned that the fitness equipment along the trails were removed due to corrosion and hopes to install new equipment in the future in a different location.

Parks Director S. Grobelny announced that the Inclusion Coordinator will be retiring on January 1, 2027, and the City will be hosting the new Inclusion Coordinator following that transition.

She also reported that the Ellisville Athletic Association is dissolving, and there is a possibility that the City of Ellisville may assume its operations.

Director Grobelny noted that the Bluebird Pavilion and the Gazebo will be replaced, along with the fencing at the front of the park. In addition, the Edge Aquatic Center will be painted. All improvement projects have been approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: N/A

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson G. Zuzack asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. P. Gay moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by G. Sackett. All “AYE” by voice. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be Monday, January 26, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Peper, Recreation Specialist
Date: October 30, 2025