

WACONIA PARK BOARD MEETING AGENDA



Thursday, March 19, 2026
6:30 PM

VISION STATEMENT

A thriving, connected community with deep roots: a great place to live for a lifetime.

MISSION STATEMENT

A city that leads, serves, and governs to enhance the quality of life for all community members.

CHAIR: LUCAS REINERS
MEMBER: BEN STRASHEIM
MEMBER: ELIZABETH DEMEYERE
MEMBER: LEAH SOLTIS
MEMBER: TAMI PETERSON
ALTERNATE: DAN O'BRIEN

**NOTE: TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST,
PLEASE BE PRESENT AT 6:30 P.M.**

Those with items on the agenda should reach out to their staff contact. Others who wish to participate in the meeting, please contact the City Administrator, Shane Fineran, at 952-442-3100 or sfineran@waconiamn.gov to make certain that you are called upon during the meeting.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 1) Approve January 18, 2026 Park Board Meeting Minutes**
- 4. REGULAR BUSINESS**
 - 1) Resident Request - Goldenrod Land Parcel**
- 5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE**
- 6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS**
- 7. ADJOURN**

UPCOMING MEETINGS



REQUEST FOR PARK BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date: March 19, 2026	
Item Name: 3.1. Approve January 18, 2026 Park Board Meeting Minutes	
Originating Dept:	
Presented By:	
Previous Council Action:	
Item Type:	
RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED:	
EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:	
ATTACHMENTS: 1. Park Board Meeting 1-15-26	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:
Funding Sources & Uses:	Planning Commission:
Budget Information:	Park Board:
_____ Budgeted	Personnel Committee:
_____ Non-Budgeted	Other:
_____ Amendment Required	

**CITY OF WACONIA
JANUARY 15, 2026**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Waconia Parks & Recreation Board in the City Council Chambers was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Fineran. Introduced the members of the board.

Park Board Members Present: Ben Strasheim, Tami Peterson, Lucas Reiners, Leah Soltis, Elizabeth DeMeyere, Dan O'Brien

Park Board Members Absent:

Council Liaison: None

Staff Present: Shane Fineran

Guests: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to Approve made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) Approve November 20, 2025 Park Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Reiners.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

1) Board Chair & Vice Chair

A nomination was made by Peterson for Lucas Reiners to be the Park Board Chair. Reiners accepted the nomination.

Motion to Approve made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

A nomination was made by Strasheim for Tami Peterson to be the Park Board Vice Chair. However, she declined but nominated Ben Strasheim. Strasheim accepted the nomination.

Motion to Approve made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Reiners.

MOTION CARRIED.

2) 2026 Park & Trail Capital Project Update

The following items were discussed to update new board members on projects planned for 2026.

Pine Hill Playground Replacement – The existing neighborhood playground will receive new 2–5 age equipment, resilient surfacing, a replaced seating pad, and a new shade structure. Construction is anticipated in late spring.

Island View Estates Park – A new neighborhood park will be developed featuring separate playground structures for ages 2–5 and 5–12, an asphalt sports court, and open space. Grading and drainage plans are nearing completion, with construction anticipated in early spring.

CSAH 10 Trail Extension – This project will extend the trail along the east side of CSAH 10 from Sterling Road to the trail stub at Waconia Parkway North. Final design is underway while the City awaits cost-share commitment from the Carver County Board.

CSAH 10 / Sparrow Road Trail & Sidewalk – In coordination with Carver County’s mill, overlay, and ADA improvements, the City will fund trail and sidewalk extensions along CSAH 10 connecting the Pine Hill development to CSAH 59/Sparrow Road and extending the sidewalk from Kwik Trip #2 to Pinehill Boulevard.

The City Council also authorized applications for two 2027 park projects through the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program: a pickleball court project at Brook Peterson Park (\$265,000 request) and development of Sudheimer Park (\$300,000 request), both requiring matching funds.

Plans for a future dog park were also discussed, though construction will depend on surrounding development timelines.

5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE

6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS

Board Discussion:

Leah asked how likely it is that the City would receive the grants? Shane responded that, as with all grants, the process is highly competitive and there is no way to know the outcome

but we have been successful in the past.

Leah asked whether the trail along CSAH would eventually connect to the Dakota Trail? Shane stated that while this would be desirable, once the trail extends beyond city limits it becomes the County's responsibility to complete the connection.

Leah asked if the dog park could potentially be completed by the summer of 2026? Shane stated that it is very likely the park could be completed if the lift station is approved, noting that the timeline will depend on weather conditions and how quickly the project progresses.

Elizabeth asked about access to Sudheimer Park, which was discussed.

7. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Soltis to adjourn the meeting at 7:17pm.

MOTION . CARRIED

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Lucas Reiners, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Brenda Jurek, Administrative Specialist



REQUEST FOR PARK BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date:	March 19, 2026
Item Name:	4.1. Resident Request - Goldenrod Land Parcel
Originating Dept:	Administration
Presented By:	
Previous Council Action:	
Item Type:	Regular Session
RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED:	
EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:	
<p>Kathleen Abel is proposing that the City consider a park development at a city-owned parcel located at 1016 Goldenrod Trail. This parcel is .32 acres in size. Upon review of the original development plans, this parcel was deeded to the city with no particular use in mind or limitation on its use like storm water mitigation or native restoration area, and was likely an irregular lot remnant of the Fields development. Park dedication for the Fields development was met through the park space development to the east at 1001 Wildflower Way. This 2.36 acre space includes a small playground, open space, trail connectivity, and a basketball court.</p> <p>Ms. Abel would like to propose that a passive labyrinth garden element be constructed on the site.</p> <p>A garden labyrinth is a single, non-branching, winding path designed for meditation, contemplation, and walking meditation. Unlike a maze, it has no dead ends and leads directly to a central point and back out. These, often, are landscaped with materials like brick, grass, or, sometimes, herbs and flowers to provide a serene, reflective experience in nature.</p> <p>Key Features and Benefits Purpose: Primarily designed for personal, psychological, and spiritual rejuvenation. Meditation Tool: Walking the path helps lower blood pressure, improve focus, and reduce stress. Design: Labyrinths often feature a central "heart space," sometimes with a boulder or seat for rest and reflection. Symbolism: They represent a journey to the center of oneself and back out again</p>	



The proposed parcel is relatively flat, but does feature nine planted trees that would potentially need to be removed or relocated. The parcel features no pedestrian or ADA access as a constructed sidewalk exists on the opposite side of Goldenrod Trail. It should also be noted, that, based on the attached aerial map, this parcel does not have an at-grade connection to the existing pocket park and underpass area adjacent to CSAH 10. There is significant grade change between this area and the subject parcel.

If the Park Board supports this type of park development a project would need to be developed

for inclusion in the Capital Investment Plan and then evaluated along with other park project priorities for ultimate construction.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Goldenrod Parcel
2. Goldenrod Parcel 2

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:
Funding Sources & Uses: Budget Information: _____ Budgeted _____ Non-Budgeted _____ Amendment Required	Planning Commission: _____ Park Board: _____ Personnel Committee: _____ Other: _____



City of Waconia

201 Vine Street South, Waconia, MN 55387

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