

**CITY OF WACONIA
JULY 24, 2025**

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 Shaw.

Park Board Members Present: Thomas Adamini, Lacey Shaw, Ben Strasheim, Tami Peterson, Leah Soltis

Park Board Members Absent: Lucas Reiners

Council Liaison: None

Staff Present: Shane Fineran

Guests: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to Approval of Agenda made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Approval of March 20, 2025 Minutes made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

1) Approve the March 20, 2025, Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

Shane Fineran presented an overview of the prior neighborhood survey and the resulting design concepts created by Flagship Recreation. Based on the feedback, three initial design options were proposed. All options are currently over budget, so phasing the project may be necessary.

Design Options:

Option 1: Features two separate play structures, a swing bank, sport court, and a seating area.

Option 2: Like Option 1, but with a larger swing bank and a more open-space layout. It

also includes a sport court and seating area.

Option 3: Includes several play structures but the smallest tot structure. Simpler swings are proposed.

Seating: Pederson suggested all options should include more seating.

Budget Concerns:

- Soltis raised the question of what could be done immediately to start the project within budget, possibly combining structures.
- Pederson asked about modular options – starting with a base structure that could be expanded in the future.

Preferences:

- Shaw and Pederson prefer Options 1 and 3.
- Fineran proposed combining the layout of Options 1 and 3 with the sport court design from Option 2.
- Strasheim & Pederson: Both requested a revised plan that:
 1. Merges Options 1 and 3 conceptually.
 2. Fits within the current budget.
 3. It can be built in one phase, with flexibility for future additions.

Cost-Saving Ideas:

- Reduce the amount of sidewalk to reallocate funds towards play structures.
- Consider an all-ages play structure with swing banks and simplified site work.

Funding:

1. Discussed using PIR cash and Park Dedication CIP funds to support the project.

Next Steps:

- Present two refined options at a neighborhood meeting for feedback.
- Develop a plan that uses \$150K for the play structure, focusing on concepts from Options 1 and 3.
- Reserve \$100K for grading and sport court.
- Ensure the plan stays within the \$250K budget, while allowing for future enhancements.

1) Island View Estates Park Concepts

5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE

Mike was not present. Nothing to report

6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS

Soltis – Memorial Park Concept:

- Soltis suggested exploring the idea of creating a memorial park concept.
- The vision includes stepping stones or stone-type memorials that individuals can purchase in memory of a loved one.
- Further discussion will be needed to identify a location, establish guidelines for the memorials, and outline potential costs and funding sources.

Shaw – Pedestrian Safety Concern at Cedar Point Park:

- Shaw reported a pedestrian safety concern brought to her attention at Cedar Point Park.
- The issue is related to a hill with a blind spot at a corner, creating a potential collision risk for pedestrians.
- She suggested installing a pedestrian crossing or warning sign in the area to improve visibility and safety.

7. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Soltis.

MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourn 7:30

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Lacey Shaw, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Brenda Jurek, Administrative Specialist