

**CITY OF WACONIA
NOVEMBER 20, 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 6:34 p.m. by Shaw.

Park Board Members Present: Lacey Shaw, Tami Peterson, Ben Strasheim

Park Board Members Absent: Tom Adamini, Lucas Reiners, and Leah Soltis

Council Liaison: None

Staff Present: Shane Fineran

Guests: Mayor Tim Litfin, Chris Ohm (WBA), Chad Backes (WBA)

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 September 18, 2025 Park Board Meeting Minutes

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

MOTION CARRIED.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

Chris Ohm presented on behalf of the Waconia Baseball Association (WBA) a request to begin planning for a perimeter expansion of the ballfield at Brooke Peterson Park, originally developed in 2019.

The field has hosted several major events, and WBA is seeking improvements to enhance overall functionality and fan experience.

Proposed Improvements:

Move the outfield fence back to increase field size.

Long-term conceptual ideas include adjustments would be to relocate some batting cages and potentially an indoor facility, though the latter would be a far-future, high-cost project.

Timeline & Purpose:

WBA aims to complete improvements by 2027, ensuring everything is finalized before 2029, when they plan to host the State Amateur Baseball Tournament.

The State Amateur Board requires a clear plan for any facilities that will be upgraded prior to hosting.

Cost & Funding:

Cost estimates are still being developed; WBA is gathering data.
WBA is not requesting full City or Park Board funding but is seeking a partnership.
Board members appreciated the early approach to planning.

Board Discussion:

Ben asked about required steps; emphasized having a solid plan for the state board.

Tami asked about cost; it was stated the numbers are pending.

Shane noted the project could align with other improvements listed in the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which includes fencing.

Shane also noted the field is under lease with the City, so formal adoption of any expansion would involve the City.

Lacey expressed strong support, praising WBA's commitment to maintaining the park.

Tami agreed.

Ben supported the concept and noted the intent is simply to enhance the

1) Lions Field Perimeter Expansion Request

5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE

Shane Reported: Parks staff are currently conducting fall cleanup and preparing facilities for winter operations.

He also recognized Lacey and Tom for their commitment and leadership on the Park Board.

Noted that with their terms being up there will be two open board positions for the upcoming year.

The board will begin exploring grant opportunities for 2026.

Lacey shared a few words reflecting on her accomplishments and expressed that she was honored to serve on the board.

6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS

7. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 7:02pm made by Park Board Member Peterson, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Lacey Shaw, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Brenda Jurek, Administrative Specialist

**CITY OF WACONIA
SEPTEMBER 18, 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: Lacey Shaw, Lucas Reiners, Leah Soltis, Tom Adamini
Park Board Members Absent: Tami Peterson and Ben Strasheim
Council Liaison: None
Staff Present: Shane Fineran
Guests: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

MOTION CARRIED.

1) Approve the August 21, 2025, Park Board Meeting Minutes

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

1) 2026 Capital Improvements - Island View Estates Park & Pinehill Park

Park Project Update – Pine Hill & Island View Estates

Shane reported that after reviewing the budgets and options, funds from Pine Hill can be reallocated to Island View Estates to help both parks meet the board's goals.

- Pine Hill Park will have a budget of \$112,000, which will include:
 - Shade structure
 - Swing bank
 - Basketball court
 - 2–5 year-old children's play structure (the same age group currently served)

Since there are several nearby parks with trails leading to them, the board discussed whether Pine Hill's setup best fits the neighborhood's age group.

- Island View Estates Park will have a budget of \$340,000, allowing for more amenities that serve a wider range of age groups.

With these adjustments, both parks can be fully completed within budget.

The board is in agreement with this plan.

Shane gathered feedback on Pine Hill Park and the members of the board were all in agreement to move forward.

They will host an open house with Island View Estates homeowners on October 13, 2025, from 6:00–7:00 p.m.

5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE

Public Services Update

Mike reported on recent projects completed last week in preparation for Nickle Dickle Day and other community improvements:

- Cleaned up native grasses around town.
- Donated 100 trees to the Waconia High School Conservation Club for planting.
- Worked on repairing the trail along County Road 10 by Highway 284.
- Repaired a broken backstop at Brook Peterson Park.
- Replaced ag lime on the fields at Brook Peterson.

6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS

Shaw shared that she had out-of-town guests visiting over the weekend. One guest commented on how pleasant and welcoming the city staff were while interacting with people, and they thought it was a great reflection of the community.

7. ADJOURN

Adjourn 7:00pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Lacey Shaw, Chair

ATTEST:

Brenda Jurek, Administrative Specialist