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MINUTES
RECREATION & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
September 15, 2026

1. Roll Call:

A regular meeting of the Hoffman Estates Park District Recreation & Facilities Committee was held on September 15, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at the Triphahn Center in Hoffman Estates, IL.

Present:	President Friedman, Commissioners Chhatwani, Evans and McGinn; and Comm Rep Winner
Absent:	Chairman Dressler, Commissioner MacGregor, Comm Reps Aguilar, Henderson and Truitt
Also Present:	Executive Director Talsma, Deputy Director Bechtold, Director of Parks & Planning Hugen, Director of Recreation Sweeney, Director of Administrative Services Rivas, Executive Assistant Flynn
Audience:	Maggie Dowling

2. Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner McGinn made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chhatwani, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Comm Rep Winner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chhatwani to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2026 meeting as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. Comments from the Audience:

Maggie Dowling commented that several densely populated areas near her residence lack green space and encouraged the district to continue considering green space opportunities when evaluating future development.

President Friedman noted that the district has maintained a commitment to providing a park within one-half mile of every residence.

Director Hugen explained that the Village requires developers to dedicate green space based on projected population or provide a fee in lieu of land dedication, which can be used by the district for future park development.

5. Old Business:

None

6. New Business:

A. Recreation Board Report / M26-075

Commissioner McGinn made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Winner to recommend to the full board the September Recreation Board Report be included in the September Executive Director's Report.

Director Sweeney reported that Seascape closed for the season on September 7 following a summer that was challenging from a weather perspective. She noted that youth house league soccer participation is up approximately 55 to 60 players compared to last year, with registration still increasing slightly and games having begun the prior weekend.

She highlighted that Oluremi Odediran and Ascension St. Alexius were selected as Best of the Best Award recipients and expressed appreciation for that recognition. She also reported that STAR registrations are higher than last year and that relationships with the local schools continue to be strong.

Director Sweeney noted that marketing engagement numbers continue to increase and that the district website has become the largest driver of activity, functioning as intended.

President Friedman commented that two of his former baseball players worked as lifeguards and had very positive experiences with the district.

The motion carried by voice vote.

B. Facilities Board Report / M26-073

Commissioner Chhatwani made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Winner to recommend to the full board the September Facilities Board Report be included in the September Executive Director's Report.

Deputy Director Bechtold reported that golf rounds continue to perform well, aided by favorable daytime weather conditions despite frequent evening storms. The driving range has also performed well, although Toptracer issues have limited evening operations. Several promotional specials are planned.

In response to a question from Commissioner Evans regarding weather impacts, Deputy Director Bechtold noted that strong storms and lightning have been the primary challenges, though league participation remains strong.

Regarding The Club, Deputy Director Bechtold stated that membership levels have remained steady following the initial decline associated with the rate increase, and staff is hopeful for membership growth as participants move indoors for the colder months.

He also reported that the hockey program is off to a strong start, with 109 participants enrolled in development classes and seven teams competing. The Ice Hawks brand continues to gain momentum and recognition.

Figure skating recently hosted a U.S. series event, and an Olympic team trained at the facility. Forty-eight skaters participated in the event, and overall skating participation continues to be strong.

Deputy Director Bechtold added that recent updates at the Triphahn Center and Willow Recreation Center continue to attract new members and are being well received.

The motion carried by voice vote.

7. Committee Member Comments:

Commissioner McGinn said Germanfest (Platzkonzert) was enjoyable over the weekend and that the Park District was well represented. He added that he hopes to attend the upcoming garage sale.

Comm Rep Winner commented that he enjoyed the park tour video, felt staff did a great job, and was pleased to see participation levels continuing to increase.

Commissioner Chhatwani said she enjoyed the virtual park tour and thought it was well done.

Commissioner Evans noted that the Legislative Luncheon will be held on Friday and reminded everyone about the Chamber golf outing on September 24.

President Friedman congratulated Commissioner Chhatwani on receiving the Bank of America Pinnacle Award.

8. Adjournment:

Commissioner McGinn made a motion, seconded by Comm Rep Winner to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. The motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Talsma
Secretary

Cindy Flynn
Executive Assistant