

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT, MAIN OFFICE  
2900 BENTON STREET  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025 5:30PM**

**I. ROLL CALL**

President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:42 PM. Commissioners answering Roll Call were Craig Sykes, Linda Ames, Chris Mitchell, and Don Harris. Commissioner Matt Jones was not in attendance. Employees in attendance were Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Brinkmeyer, Superintendent of Operations Bradley Boone, Attorney Ryan Robertson, and Secretary Stephanie Koishor.

**II. MINUTES AND ATTACHMENTS OF THE REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 25, 2026 (Pages 857-861)**

Motion to approve the Minutes and Attachments of the Regular Park Board Meeting of April 8, 2026, as presented, was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Request to address the Board**

None

**B. Request for Use of Facilities**

1. Sister to Sister Outreach Ministry would like to use Centennial Pavilion and the area around it to hold a "Juneteenth" celebration on June 19, 2026 (Page 862)

Motion to approve the request, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

**C. Other Communications**

None

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding daily pool admission rates for the 2026 season

No action taken at this time.

2. Resolution 26-09 approving architectural proposal with The Bend Architectural Group, LLC regarding the Wilson Park ADA Restroom and Concession Project (Pages 863-866)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye."  
Motion carried.

3. Resolution 26-10 to pay Collins & Hermann for fencing at D.W. Triangle Park and Lincoln Place Community Center (Pages 867-868)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye."  
Motion carried.

4. Resolution 26-11 to pay Gillihan Concrete, Inc for completion of sidewalk replacement near the Universal Playground in Wilson Park (Pages 869-870)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Chris Mitchell, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye."  
Motion carried.

## **VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Vandalism and Incidents**

On Sunday, March 29th, the police department contacted me regarding a fight at the Universal Playground involving several juveniles within the fenced area. After discussing the matter with the responding officer, I pursued a Disorderly Conduct charge on behalf of the Park District and requested that Trespass Notices be issued.

Also, on March 31st, we discovered that one of our trailers had been stolen from our fenced storage area behind the Brown Recreation Center. The trailer, which was loaded with aluminum left over from the Worthen Park project, had been placed at Brown Recreation in early December. While the loss of scrap is disappointing, the bigger concern is the theft of one of our two main trailers used for hauling mowers. Our Maintenance Team only realized it was missing when they went to retrieve it, after storing it there for the winter months. After reviewing extensive camera footage, we determined the trailer was stolen on Christmas Eve at 1:45 PM. Video was provided to the police when the report was filed.

This past Sunday morning, April 4th, a broken window and damaged glass door were discovered on the Amos Avenue side of the Brown Recreation building. It is believed that they were broken by a rock or pellet gun, but we were unable to locate the item(s) used. The door

was boarded up and fully repaired on Monday. The window glass has been ordered and will be replaced upon arrival.

### **Lincoln Place**

We have a contractor scheduled to provide a proposal for repairs to the handicapped ramp. Several areas of concrete are crumbling, which appears to require more than simple patching for a long-term solution. The freeze-thaw cycle this winter seems to have accelerated the deterioration.

### **Braves Football**

We met with the new president of the Braves Football organization on Tuesday, April 7th. They were informed that the new field does not have lighting, and we do not plan to install permanent fencing. However, temporary fencing will be set up during games to separate players and fans. I explained that, given the limited usage period, it is difficult for the Park District to justify the cost of permanent lighting and fencing.

### **Universal Playground**

Due to large groups of older kids from Coolidge and the High School taking over the playground, families with young children were unable to use some of the equipment. To address this, we have stationed a Park Attendant at the entrance to the playground. We are reminding everyone that all children must be accompanied by an adult (someone 18 or older). Permanent signage will be posted once it arrives.

### **Job Fair**

On Thursday, March 26th the different department heads hosted a job fair for summer employment opportunities within the Park District. During the 4-hour event roughly 150 applications were received. The high volume turnout was great, we will definitely plan to do this again in the future.

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Although the weather didn't allow the egg hunt to proceed as planned, we were still able to offer photos with the Easter Bunny and distribute treats to the children in attendance. Approximately 100 participants took pictures with the Easter Bunny.

All business concluded, Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM

/srk