REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT, MAIN OFFICE
2900 BENTON STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 5:30PM

I. ROLL CALL

President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Commissioners answering Roll Call were Linda Ames, Matt Jones, Chris Mitchell, Craig Sykes, and Don Harris. 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 AUGUST 26, 2026 (Pages 294-297)

Motion to approve the Minutes and Attachments of the Regular Board Meeting of August 26, 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

None

C. Other Communications

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

None

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gazebo

Our Maintenance Team has completed most of the renovations, which include the replacement of sections of wood framing, new railing, metal pickets, and a fresh coat of paint. The roof decking and shingle replacement will be the final portion of the project, which we hope to have completed by Homecoming.

Ice Rink

We are scheduled to have an onsite meeting with an architect and structural engineer at the end of September to discuss the scope of work for the ceiling project inside the rink, as this project will require sealed drawings. They will also help prepare documents for bid packages. We hope to complete this work during the season, as the areas needing repair are not over the ice.

Labor Day Weekend

It was a busy weekend for staff, as we put a lot of preparation into the grounds at Wilson Park while hosting the Annual Cross-Country Invitational, with nearly 47 schools attending. It is always a great event to showcase our incredible park. On Monday, we hosted the post-parade picnic for the annual Labor Day Parade. Although much of the event is held on 29th Street, the Park District team sets up tents and trash cans and cleans up after the crowd. We're grateful for the hours put in by these team members to host these events.

Staffing

The majority of our summer help has returned to school, so we are operating with much smaller crews. This is particularly true for our maintenance and gardens teams, so our rotations of mowing, weed-eating, and other tasks are taking a bit longer. Fortunately, the grass has slowed its growth, which has helped. The golf course faces the same challenge, as much of the cart staff is only available to work weekends. Our teams continue to do the best they can.

Worthen Park/Splash Pad

The final day of the splash pad was Labor Day. About 20 minutes into the afternoon, the system shut down completely while families were enjoying the features. After arriving onsite, our team assessed the situation and discovered the surge tank was nearly empty, which should not happen. As a result, the system shut down to prevent the pumps from running dry. Our team determined that, once again, the issue was with the sensors inside the surge pit. They got things back in operation after about an hour of troubleshooting and after the pit refilled on its own. The interruption didn't seem to impact the day much, as families enjoyed the rest of the afternoon. Landmark Aquatics was contacted and plans to replace the sensors this season so that we can go into next season ready to go.

Ameren Update

I have talked to iParks and they may be able to help with our claim by utilizing additional connections they have. If this route is not successful, we will pursue a claim through our insurance and will ask our attorney to assist if needed.

Cell Tower Request

I have been approached by a cell phone company who is interested in installing a tower in Loman Park. Is this something we would like to get more information about?

Upcoming Events:

September 26 – Touch A Truck, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM
October 24 – Halloween Festival, 4:00 PM–8:00 PM

All business concluded, Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Chris Mitchell, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM
/srk