

Winnemac Park Advisory Council
 Monthly Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, October 9, 2024 6:15 PM

Registered Members Present ✓:

	Name	V	Info (corrections only)		Name	V	Info (corrections only)
✓	Manny Vega (President)	Y	On file	✓	Anne Sylvan (Field/Grounds Committee)	Y	On file
✓	Dinakar Vinnakota (Treasurer) (Administration)	Y	On file		Margaret O'Connor (Field Improvement / TIF Committee)	N	On file
✓	Cathy Vega (Secretary)	Y	On file		Johanna Raimond (WP Tennis)	N	On file
✓	Amy Wiliamson (Nature Committee)	Y	On file		Mike Lonergan	Y	On file
	Elvia Heneghan	Y	On file		Kristen Lonergan	Y	On file
✓	Jacob Schuster (Treasurer) (Administration Committee)	Y	On file		Christian Blume	N	On file
✓	David Cady Jr. (Performing Arts in the Park Committee)	Y	On file		Eleanor Arnold	N	On file
✓	Mary O'Connor (FFA24 Service Sourcing)	Y	On file		Alyssa Edes	N	On file
✓	Russ Klettke	Y	On file		Mike O'Keefe	N	On file
E	Dave Miretzky	Y	On file		Jayson von Osinski	Y	On file
E	Deb Miretzky	N	On file	✓	Sarah Harpring	Y	On file
✓	Tessa Groll	Y	On file				

Key: Voting /Standing - Y or N

Notified of absence - E

Chicago Park District Representation ✓:

	Name	Role	Email
E	Lisa Ragucci	Park Supervisor - CPD	On file
	Maria Stone	Community Engagement Manager	On file
	Greg Czajkowski	Park Area Manager -North	On file
	Arthur Richardson	Community Engagement Director	On file
	Kate Thomas	Senior Project Manager - CPD Planning & Construction	On file
	Edward Warden	Community Stewardship Manager	On file

Community ✓:

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#	Name	Email	Phone	Member Interest? ✓
1	Chelsea Brown	On file		✓

Voting Members Present: **11**

Voting members present needing to meet quorum: **9**

Public comments: None

Manny called the meeting to order at approximately 6:23 PM

Old Business:

Election to fill vacant roles in accordance with PAC by-laws:

- Jacob is the only member currently interested in the position. Tess expressed that she was comfortable with Jacob taking on the role. Manny motioned to appoint Jacob as Vice President, Cathy seconded the motion, and it passed with a vote of 10-1.
- FOIA Officer candidates: No interest

New Business:

Committee Head announcements:

- Fourth for All 2025: No interest was shown in chairing the 2025 event.
- There is some concern about securing enough volunteers to ensure the event's success again for 2025, especially with no one stepping up to chair the event.
- Russ requested event numbers including vendor numbers from the previous event to help us assess what funding will be needed for WFFA 2025.
- Jacob mentioned that we should check in as a PAC to decide if we want to move forward before making any decisions. Russ is worried that we don't have the numbers we need to figure out if we should keep doing the event. Dinakar has the numbers, but he didn't bring them to the meeting since there wasn't a request for them before the November meeting. They are available on the winnemacpac website.
- Russ said he had asked for them by email before, but didn't follow up after that; Russ expressed the need for the financials needed to make an informed decision.

Treasurer report: Scheduled for the November meeting. Dinakar will not be in attendance due to business travel.

Nature Committee: Amy W.

- Last event was Saturday, September 28, 2024 – 18 volunteers
- Saturday October 26th - mulching and taking out saplings
- Skipping the November clean-up

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- There were questions about a bush in the park dedicated in Memory of Patty Hamilton – no one had any information regarding it. The plant is dead – maybe we as a PAC can replace it?
- Cool plant in the prairie – Prairie Dock: the roots go 14 feet deep and can withstand a lot
- Stantec was in Winnemac today and they took out golden rod and many saplings

Administrative Committee: The sign in sheet was reviewed and discussed and voting status of members would be defined at the start of each meeting going forward and in accordance with the by laws established April 2023.

Park Supervisor Report: Lisa had a conflict and informed the board she would not be in attendance.

Restroom Facilities Committee: Jacob S.

- He is going to get some committee meetings planned – he’s asking anyone that is interested in being on the committee to reach out to him to get on the email list for the meeting.

Member Concern: Mary O. is concerned about a shooting that took place near Hamilton and Argyle. Two guys with a handgun and a rifle shot at someone near the park, and the person they shot at fired back. She talked to the Alderman, who added it to the menu. Mary also pointed out that the Park District probably doesn't have the funds for anything like this. She asked if the PAC has any influence with the Park District.

We also talked about the possibility of adding more lighting at the corner of Hamilton and Argyle but decided to hold off on that discussion until next month.

Facility & Grounds: Margaret / President – The baseball field has not seen much progress during the month. Crews had just dug trenches for drainage earlier this week.

Youth Garden Learning Center: Mike Roach was not present – no update

The next Winnemac Park Advisory Council Meeting will be Wednesday, November 13th, 2024 at 6:15 pm in Amundsen HS RM 118. Please join us if you are able.

Summary of Action Items:

- Dinakar committed to sharing all transactions later in the week following the meeting. report then.
- Jacob and Tessa will post signs in the park for the meeting – at least 14 days before (1) was placed on the announcement board on Oct 30th.
- Cathy will follow up with the Alderman’s office to get on the calendar.
- Community member Chelsea Brown suggested “yard signs” to be created to help with meeting announcements. Updates by a grease pencil. (example @ winnemacpac.org)