

BARTLETT PARK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

Call to Order

President Eckelberry called the Board Meeting to order at **7:00 pm**.

Roll Call

President Eckelberry called for the roll. Commissioners answering present were: Stephen M. Eckelberry, Diana Gunsteen, Dale Ann Kasuba, Jody Fagan and Nathan Botkin.

Commissioners absent were: Lori A. Palmer and Susan M. Stocks

Staff members present were Executive Director Kevin Romejko, Superintendent of Parks and Planning Kelly O'Brien, Superintendent of Business Services Eric Leninger, Superintendent of Special Facilities Katie Mix, and Superintendent of Villa Olivia Bobby Pierobon.

Guests: Ellen Botkin, Anna Botkin, and Emily Botkin

Pledge of Allegiance

President Eckelberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation

Mr. Eckelberry read and presented Superintendent of Special Facilities, Katie Mix, her 15-year service award. Among the many accomplishments of Ms. Mix outlined in the award letter was her bringing assless Big Ass Fans to **LIFECENTER** Health & Fitness Club. Ms. Mix thanked the Board and fellow team members for her award.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Eckelberry presented the consent agenda and requested a motion to approve. Mr. Eckelberry stated the consent agenda included approval of meeting minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on March 10, 2026, approval of the Monthly Treasurer Report, approval of the March Bill List, and approval of the Purchase Order Report. Ms. Gunsteen motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Kasuba. Mr. Eckelberry asked for a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Eckelberry, Gunsteen, Kasuba, Fagan, Botkin

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Palmer, Stocks

Motion Passed.

Public Comments

Ms. Anna Botkin commented that she loved the assless Big Ass Fans in the Fitness Center.

Unfinished or Continuing Business

None

New Business

Approval of Drendel Property Management Agreement

After a slight delay in realizing it was his agenda item, Mr. Pierobon noted Drendel Property Management has provided consultation, oversight, and hands-on support at Villa Olivia for the golf and ski operations since 2016. Mr. Pierobon further noted the current agreement expires March 31, 2026, and staff desire to enter into a new agreement with Drendel Property Management for the period of April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027, in the amount of \$40,583. Mr. Pierobon noted this reflects only a 1% increase in the fee. Ms. Gunsteen made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Botkin. **Motion Passed.**

Department Updates

Business Services

Mr. Leninger provided an update on the District's electricity rates. Mr. Leninger noted for 20 years the District has utilized the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) and its group bidding pool to leverage the lowest possible rates from electricity providers. The current District electricity agreement expires on April 30, 2026. After recently receiving pricing from NIMEC, the District has selected a two-year electricity agreement at a rate of \$0.0894 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for the period of May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2028.

Parks & Planning

Ms. O'Brien reviewed, in detail, the included 2025 Parks Department Summary Report, which provides an overview of responsibilities, projects, and staff summaries for parks, facilities, and Apple Orchard Golf Course. Ms. O'Brien noted that six new team members were welcomed from May 2025 and January 2026. Next Ms. O'Brien highlighted projects completed within the area of park maintenance. These included Sunrise Park OSLAD Grant project, reestablishing the woodland trail at Theodore J. Lewis Park, removing slightly t-ball field backstops at Prairieview, Tallgrass, and Kjar Parks, replacement of four vehicles, new landscape beds, and parking lot improvements at Bartlett Community Center (BCC) and Park Maintenance. Next Ms. O'Brien highlighted projects and repairs completed by the facility maintenance team such as **LIFECENTER** RTU replacement and six assless, Big Ass Fans, scoreboard and basketball winches replacement at BCC, installation of five water bottle filers, interior painting in the bathhouse at Barracuda Bay Water Park, and water heater replacements at Apple Orchard Clubhouse, Log Cabin, and Barracuda Bay concessions. There being no questions, Ms. O'Brien moved on to discussing Apple Orchard Golf Course (AOGC). She reminded the Board AOGC is maintained by one full-time Parks Maintenance Level II team member and two park-time laborers, all under the supervision of the Parks Supervisor. Ms. O'Brien then shared a three-year comparison, by task, of the hours spent by full-time and part-time team members at AOGC. In summary, Ms. O'Brien noted the Parks Department works diligently to maintain day-to-day operations, continually seeking ways to improve efficiency while serving the Bartlett community through the care of its parks and facilities. Ms. O'Brien noted the excitement withing the department surrounding the planned playground replacements at Happy Trails and Schick Parks, completing the replacement of a second RTU at BCC, along with upgrades at The Bay such as new front landscaping, painting, and the installation of new flippin' banners! The Board thanked Ms. O'Brien for her report and thanked the entire Parks Department for all their hard work.

Recreation

With Ms. Dasbach absent from this evening's meeting, Director Romejko moved over to Ms. Dasbach's chair and delivered a riveting and entertaining Recreation Department report. Director Romejko, on behalf of Ms. Dasbach, thanked Ms. O'Brien for her informative 45-minute Parks Department Recap report and reminded Mr. Pierobon his turn was approaching after Ms. Mix. Director Romejko highlighted April preschool activities such as Preschool Spring Fling and Open House on April 9 and the Scholastic Book Fair April 6-10, from 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM. Director Romejko next highlighted upcoming Spring Break activities being offered to the community from

the Recreation Department. Day Camp will be offered Monday-Friday at Bartlett Community Center and Bartlett Nature Center. Additionally, Youth School Day Off Basketball Open Gym will be available Monday-Friday for youth in grades 3-12 from 1:00-5:30 PM. With there being no questions from the Board, Director Romejko returned to his chair.

Special Facilities

In addition to her written report, Ms. Mix highlighted registration statistics for swim lessons and open swim. Ms. Mix also noted that the District offers a Stroke Clinic and not a Stoke Clinic as inadvertently noted in her written report. Ms. Mix also reviewed **LIFECENTER** membership and group fitness statistics, noting that memberships continue to increase and more patrons are taking advantage of the single membership type where group fitness classes are included with their **LIFECENTER** membership. Ms. Mix also noted that DuPage County rented Program Room 5 at Bartlett Community Center for early, early voting and there is a group renting multiple times per week for Ramadan. Last, Ms. Mix welcomed Jeanne Plesa to the part-time Guest Services team.

Villa Olivia

Mr. Pierobon provided statistics for winter sports and food and beverage for February 2026, compared to last year. Due to being open eight fewer days in February 2026, winter sports and ski café revenue is less compared to last year. Mr. Pierobon also shared Villa Olivia hosted three fewer events in 2026, compared to 2025, resulting in an \$8,317 revenue decrease. Lastly Mr. Pierobon reminded the Board about the upcoming Easter Brunch hosted at Villa Olivia on April 5, 2026, from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. Mr. Pierobon noted there are now more than 700 reservations and seating will be provided at the bar for walk-ins should they wish to sit there. To quote Mr. Pierobon, "Some people just want to eat."

Executive Director Updates

In addition to upcoming dates provided in his written report, Director Romejko highlighted the upcoming Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 1:30 PM at Bartlett Community Center on Fields 7/8/9. Next Director Romejko called the Board's attention to the included Preliminary FY2026-27 Proposed Capital Projects List. Director Romejko reminded the Board the proposed capital projects will be included and voted upon within the overall FY2026-27 Park District budget. Director Romejko asked the Board review the FY2026-27 proposed capital projects and contact him with any questions or concerns.

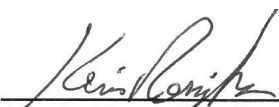
Commissioner Comments

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Gunsteen moved to adjourn the Board Meeting, seconded by Ms. Fagan. **Motion carried at 7:43 pm.**

Minutes Approved by the Board on April 14, 2026.

By: 
Kevin Romejko, Board Secretary