



ST. CHARLES PARK DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Pottawatomie Community Center

April 28, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Call to Order

The St. Charles Park District Board met for a Regular Meeting at Pottawatomie Community Center on April 28, 2026. At 6:32 p.m., President Bob Thomson called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Administrative Assistant Jenny Santos called the roll.

Commissioners present: Jim Cooke, Karrsten Goettel, Peggy McCarthy, Bob Thomson and Steve Ward

Commissioners absent: Bob Carne & Craig Newman

Administrative staff present: Director of Parks & Recreation Holly Cabel, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Laura Rudow, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Kies, Superintendent of Finance and Administration Ashlee Wallace, Information Technology Manager Jeff Essig, Public Relations and Marketing Manager Erika Combs and Administrative Assistant Jenny Santos

Other staff present: Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Rosie Edwards, Teen Center Supervisors Abby Fleming & Dan Procaccio

Guests present: Platt Hill

Consent Agenda

Mr. Cooke moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda items, including the following:

- Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 14, 2026
- Approval of Bills as of March 31, 2026

Account	Amount
CORPORATE FUND	\$ 427,652.64
RECREATION FUND	\$ 79,363.23
AUDIT	\$ 25,490.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$ 1,505.22
SPECIAL RECREATION	\$ 3,347.94
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ 13,500.00
REVENUE FACILITIES	\$ 33,387.85
NORRIS REC CENTER	\$ 14,285.90
SPORTSPLEX	\$ 19,427.68
CAPITAL	\$ 188,188.61
Total	\$ 806,149.07

- Approval of Cash and Investment Report as of March 31, 2026
- Approval of Revenue Expense Reports as of March 31, 2026

A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Cooke, Goettel, McCarthy, Ward and Thomson. Nay: none. The motion carried.

Public Appearances

Mr. Platt Hill, resident of St. Charles and a member of the Norris Recreation Center, addressed the Commissioners to express his concerns about the new tennis court reservation system. He shared his experiences with it and that he has worked with the NRC staff to remedy his frustrations. He believes he is not the only member to be frustrated and he complimented the NRC staff for their efforts to help members. Ms. Cabel connected Mr. Hill to Mike Kies, Superintendent of Recreation, so that they can discuss the issue further. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Hill for his appearance.

Platt Hill left the meeting at 6:36 pm.

Administration and Finance

Teen Center (STC Underground) Annual Report

Mr. Kies introduced his Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Rosie Edwards. Ms. Edwards said she is proud of Teen Center Supervisor Dan Procaccio and Tween/Teen Supervisor Abby Fleming for their accomplishments this past year. Mr. Procaccio began the presentation by sharing that the total Teen Center membership has grown over the past two years by over 400 teens. The monthly average visits have nearly doubled in two years. Special Events sponsored by the Teen Center include the St. Charles Community Garage Sale, Movies in the Park (cooperative with STC Public Library), Gallery of Ghoulish Homes Tour and the Autumn Market. Ms. Fleming shared a video of summer fun at Teen Camp that was posted on social media last summer that was the most viewed post of the year. Mr. Procaccio shared the eclectic new programs offered in 2025 to meet the variety of interests of its members, such as STEAM, crafts and video gaming. He added that the programs offered with the library bring in new teens who have never been to the Underground. Ms. Fleming spoke about Teen Camp, the 10-week summer camp that has increased its participation by 200 campers since 2024. Lastly, the Late Shift at the STCU is a new “third space” hangout for people ages 18+ looking to socialize and make new friends in a non-alcoholic setting. Mr. Procaccio added that it is a once-a-month program on Monday nights when the Teen Center is closed and many STCU alumni have returned to see old friends. Ms. McCarthy complimented Mr. Procaccio and Ms. Fleming and Mr. Ward asked if there is anything they need for the Teen Center. Ms. Fleming replied that they feel fortunate to have just received a grant from the City’s Youth Commission that they will use to purchase a new computer for the teens to use.

Rosie Edwards, Abby Fleming and Dan Procaccio left the meeting at 6:50 pm.

2026-05-01 Resolution Honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Henry Rockwell Baker Memorial Community Center

Ms. McCarthy moved and Mr. Goettel seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve Resolution 2026-05-01 which honors the 100th Anniversary of the Henry Rockwell Baker Memorial Community Center. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Personnel Policy 5.33: AI

Ms. Cabel explained the need for a policy for employees using artificial intelligence and that this policy is separate from the guidelines that have been established, which will most likely be

everchanging. Mr. Cooke moved and Mr. Ward seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve Personnel Policy 5.33: AI. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Nominating Committee

President Thomson appointed Commissioners Goettel and Ward to present a slate of officers at the next board meeting.

NRPA Conference Attendance

Ms. McCarthy moved and Mr. Cooke seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve the attendance of Director Holly Cabel, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Laura Rudow and Superintendent of Recreation Mike Kies to the NRPA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA, September 29-October 1, 2026. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Swanson Pool Bench

Erika Combs, on behalf of the St. Charles Park Foundation, presented a final drawing of the bench and location in which the Foundation would like to manufacture and install a bench.

Mr. Cooke moved and Mr. Goettel seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve the design and location of the Swanson bench. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Recreation

Athletic Business Conference Attendance

Mr. Cooke moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve the attendance of Assistant Superintendent of Athletics and Sportplex Melissa Caine, Sportplex Supervisor Evelyn Grant, Athletics Manager TC Hull and Athletics Supervisor Andrew Nelson to the 2026 Athletic Business Conference in Orlando, FL on November 17-19, 2026. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Parks, Planning, and Facilities

Comprehensive Master Plan & Capital Update

Superintendent of Parks & Planning Laura Rudow shared the progress made thus far this year for both the Comprehensive Master Plan and the 2026 Capital Plan. Professional services have begun to apply for an OSLAD grant for Cambridge Park, as it is in greater need of an upgrade than Cranston Meadows, which was originally slated for renovation. The pesticide cabinet at DRSC is actually a flammables cabinet. The new aerators for the pond at ESSC have been installed and the boardwalk replacement at Ferson Creek Fen is complete. Staff are working on exhibits for a renovation of Pottawatomie Community Center, but professional services for NRC renovation have been put on hold until D303 makes a decision regarding their facilities and possible referendum. Professional services are in progress for redesigning the golf course's pro shop. The River View Miniature Golf Course is on track for having a final plan go out for bid this summer, with construction to begin after Labor Day and completion by Memorial Day 2027.

Change Order #1 Otter Cove Aquatic Park Concrete Project

A change order to the contract with M&M Peters is needed to provide and install necessary piping and drains to the existing storm basin. Mr. Cooke moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve change order #1 to the contract with M&M Peters in the amount of \$26,615 to address these issues. A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Cooke, Goettel, McCarthy, Ward and Thomson. Nay: none. The motion carried.

Requests for Use

Mr. Cooke moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners approve the following request for use:

1) The EveryHeart Movement

The EveryHeart Movement for the use of Lincoln Park for the purpose of an event in conjunction with LIFE Church, on Friday, June 12, 2026.

A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast and the motion carried.

Special Reports

Fox Valley Special Recreation Association

Mr. Thomson said the FVSRA Board met that morning and staff complimented Evelyn Grant of Sportsplex for her helpfulness over spring break. The recent BBQ event raised \$23,000 for the FVSR Foundation.

St. Charles History Museum

The History Rocks! Fundraiser is on May 7th at the Arcada in celebration of the theater's 100th anniversary.

St. Charles Park Foundation

The Foundation is working on a plan for a bench honoring the Anderson's and planning the annual fundraiser, A Night on the Fox, which is July 31st.

St. Charles Arts Council

Ms. Cabel said the Paint the Street event is May 9, sponsored by the Arcada and designed by Carina Dietz, a student at St. Charles East High School.

St. Charles Business Alliance

The SCBA is planning the annual art show over Memorial Day weekend with over 100 artists registered. They also will have live artist and music on the plaza from 1-3.

St. Charles Housing Commission

No report

River Corridor Foundation

The Foundation is continuing talks with a potential donor for EcoPark. The last lecture in the series was well attended and ended another successful series, which averaged 180 attendees per lecture.

Baker Community Center

The Open House is May 1st from 4-7 pm.

Director's Report

Ms. Cabel shared that Ashlee Wallace is doing an analysis on the financial impact the City of St. Charles' increases in water usage rates will have on the District's budget. The information will be shared with the commissioners when it is complete. Ms. Cabel followed up with a Commissioner's previous inquiry into whether the District investigated railbanking during negotiations with the UPRR. Ms. Cabel said her notes indicate that the District had discussed this option back in 2017, but at that time, the UPRR was interested in selling and the forest preserve had already received grant money for acquisition. The Commissioners would like Ms. Cabel to revisit this option with the city and forest preserve as an idea worth pursuing.

Commissioner Comments

Jim Cooke: No comments.

Karrsten Goettel: No comments.

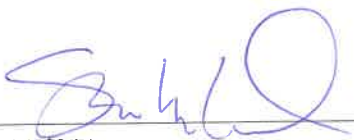
Peggy McCarthy: Ms. McCarthy complimented the staff on their fabulous job planning the appreciation dinner for employees held at the Arcada. She said the food was delicious and that the staff all seemed very happy.

Bob Thomson: Mr. Thomson agreed with Ms. McCarthy regarding the employee appreciation dinner and added the trivia game was a big hit. He shared that a new bill was passed unanimously in the Illinois Senate that will regulate ebikes.

Steve Ward: Mr. Ward asked what programs are planned for America's 250th anniversary and the World Cup. Ms. Cabel shared that programs for the 250th anniversary are in the summer activity guide, the District's website and the City's website. The recreation staff are working on plans for the World Cup.

Adjournment of Meeting

Mr. Cooke moved and Ms. McCarthy seconded that the St. Charles Park District Board of Commissioners adjourn. A voice vote was taken. Unanimous aye votes were cast; therefore, President Thomson adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm.



Secretary

Date Approved: May 12, 2026