

Village of Antioch Park Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

6:30 p.m. Village Hall, 395 Skidmore Dr, Antioch, IL

1) Call to Order

Park Board Chairman Weber called the July 15, 2026 regular meeting of the Park Advisory to order at TIME p.m.

2) Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Deichsel	_____	___X___
Hartman	___X___	_____
Nolan, B.	___X___	_____
Nolan, S.	___X___	_____
Olufs	_____	___X___
Schartz	_____	___X___
Weber	___X___	_____
<u>Staff</u>		
Kotloski	___X___	_____
Ford	___X___	_____

3) Pledge of Allegiance

Antioch Park Advisor led the Pledge of Allegiance

4) Approval of Minutes

Hartman/Nolan, B. motion and second to approve the June 17, 2026 Park Advisory minutes.

Vote –

Yes = 4

No = 0

5) Public Comment & Communications

Chairman Weber called for public comments and inquired whether any public correspondence had been received.

Director Kotloski reported receiving one email from a member of the public regarding the Fourth of July Parade. The resident expressed concern about a parade participant's vehicle displaying vulgar language that was visible during the parade. The resident

requested that the Parks & Recreation Department review its parade policies to ensure inappropriate language is prohibited on parade entries in the future.

Kotloski informed the Board that she responded to the resident, thanked them for bringing the matter to the Village's attention, and advised that the concern would be addressed. She also stated that she has revised the parade participation policies for board review and approval.

Board members discussed the incident addressed and the Fourth of July Parade. Hartman suggested modifying the parade exit route for participants. Kotloski explained that the current route is established in coordination with the Police Department and is designed to meet public safety requirements.

6) Old Business

a) Park visits/observations

- i) Board members discussed observations from their park tour at Williams Park prior to the meeting. Members reported several minor maintenance items but indicated there were no significant park issues requiring further discussion at this time.

7) New Business

a) Park Advisory Board Membership Updates

- i) Kotloski informed the Board that Member Deichsel is currently on a leave of absence due to a recent surgery that temporarily limits her ability to drive. The Village Clerk has been notified of her leave.

Kotloski also announced that Board Member Dave Olufs has submitted his resignation due to relocating outside the Village and therefore no longer meeting residency requirements for Board membership. She thanked Olufs for his years of service and recognized the valuable knowledge and expertise he contributed to the Park Advisory Board.

Chairman Weber asked about the process for filling the vacancy. Kotloski stated that staff will first review recent Board applications to determine whether previously qualified applicants may still be interested in serving.

Board members also discussed recognizing Olufs for his years of service to the Park Advisory Board.

b) Playground replacement and recommended approval.

- i) Kotloski presented the Board with the recommendation for the replacement of the playground equipment at Osmond Park and distributed copies of the recommendation for review.

Board members discussed the proposed replacement, asked questions regarding the project, and reviewed the process for consideration by the Village Board should the recommendation be approved.

- ii) Following discussion, the Park Advisory **Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation for the replacement of the Osmond Park playground equipment.** Chairman Weber will present the Board's recommendation to the Village Board of Trustees at its August 12, 2026 meeting for consideration.

c) FY 2028 Capital Projects

- i) Kotloski reviewed the proposed FY 2028 Capital Improvement Projects with the Board.

Board members discussed several of the proposed projects, asked questions regarding project priorities and future planning, and provided feedback during the budget planning discussion.

8) Reports

a) Chairman Weber's Report

- i) Chairman Weber discussed several observations from the Fourth of July Parade. He expressed concerns regarding spectators, particularly children, entering the roadway during the parade despite repeated reminders to remain on the sidewalk. Kotloski noted that staff regularly encounter similar situations and explained that while additional barricades could improve safety, the cost would be significant. She also stated that this is a common challenge experienced by many communities during parades.

Chairman Weber also raised concerns regarding participants using squirt guns during the parade, noting that some attendees may not appreciate being sprayed.

Weber further discussed comments he received regarding the parade's quiet zone and the use of emergency vehicle sirens. While some attendees appreciated the sirens, others preferred that the quiet zone remain free of loud noises. Staff acknowledged the differing opinions expressed by the public. Chairman Weber also suggested improving communication with parade participants regarding procedures if a vehicle becomes disabled during the parade. Kotloski stated that staff will include those instructions in future participant communications.

Lastly, Weber asked about the possibility of installing security cameras at Pedersen Park and other Village parks. Kotloski explained that cameras are

planned for Centennial Park and that expanding camera installations at additional parks could be considered during future budget discussions.

b) Board Members Reports

i) Hartman

(1) Hartman reported receiving no complaints regarding fireworks noise following this year's Fourth of July celebration.

He suggested securing a larger musical act to conclude the Party in the Park festivities. Kotloski explained that the event intentionally concludes with a slower-paced performance to encourage a gradual and orderly departure of attendees.

Hartman also suggested increasing the diversity of entertainment offered during the event. Kotloski noted that several planned activities, including the DJ-led games and contests, were canceled because of rain.

Hartman asked whether future Party in the Park festivities could begin immediately following the parade. Kotloski stated that the idea had been discussed previously but was not supported at the time. She noted that, following this year's event, the concept may receive additional consideration during planning for next year's celebration.

ii) Nolan, B.

(1) Member Nolan reported that he had nothing further to add beyond the items already discussed.

iii) Nolan, S.

(1) Nolan suggested creating a "Park of the Month" program to highlight one Village park each month through social media and other community outreach efforts. The program could feature the history, amenities, and unique characteristics of each park to increase public awareness and encourage park usage.

Board members expressed support for the concept and agreed it would be worthwhile to explore in the future.

9) Director's Report

a) Centennial Park Update

i) Kotloski provided a follow-up regarding the Centennial Park tennis court reconstruction project. She confirmed that the contractor's soil testing consultant was present on-site throughout the installation of the new base and that required inspections were completed during construction.

b) FY 2027 Capital Project Updates

- i) Kotloski reviewed the FY 2027 Capital Improvement Projects with the Board and discussed potential project priorities should budget reductions become necessary.

Hartman asked whether the Village tracks park usage to help prioritize future improvements. Kotloski explained that the Village previously utilized software to collect that information but no longer maintains the program following a recent Village Board decision.

10) Financial Reports for Period Ending June 30, 2026

The Park Advisory Board reviewed the Financial Reports for the period ending June 30, 2026.

11) Next Meeting

The next Park Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at 6:30 pm starting at Jensen Park for a park tour.

12) Other Business

No other business reported.

13) Adjournment

Hartman/Olufs B. motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Vote –

Yes = 4

No = 0