



Western Gateway Recreation & Park District

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Monday, August 24, 2026

Regular Meeting 6:30 pm

Buttermaker's Cottage

1) **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance** - Chairman Lindsen called the meeting to order at 6:33pm / No Pledge of Allegiance was performed as there was no flag present due to meeting being moved outside. Buttermaker's Cottage was being used by a reservation.

2) **Roll Call** – Brandon Lindsen, Chair, present; Sharon Lewis, Vice Chair, present; Lance Eck, present; Chris Potter, absent; Paul Towne, present

3) **Introduction of Guests** - Dana Ettlin and Son with the WGP Foundation, Joanne Sorresse with the Bocce Ball Club

4) **Agenda Approval** – Vice Chair Lewis moved and Director Towne seconded a motion to move 10A) for Bocce Ball above Correspondence. Unanimously approved. Vice Chair Lewis moved and Director Towne seconded a motion to move 11C) for WGP Foundation Update after Public Comments. Unanimously approved.

5) **Public Comments** - *Comments relating to topics not already included on the agenda. Comments relating to agenda items will be heard during discussion of those items. Official board action can only be taken during discussions covered under Old and New Business. Please be brief and limit comments to a maximum of five minutes per person.*

11C) WGP Foundation Update - Dana Ettlin stated that the Foundation website would be finished by the end of the week. He confirmed the donation bucket had been created and they were planning to add a few more. They are currently pushing the Legacy Club, where they are hoping to have \$100,000 raised by the end of the year for proceeds toward the ballot. He also stated that they are waiting until November to see if a measure passes regarding the Citizens Initiative. Regardless, it will require legal counsel which they estimate to be \$20,000 - \$30,000 upfront. The measure would then need to be initiated by the Board. Foundation will keep the board updated on next steps. Dana confirmed the Foundation is still meeting once a month, every 3rd Monday of the month. He also stated he would like to see the Legacy Club added to the website.

10A) Bocce Ball Update - Chairman Lindsen summarized what was discussed on Wednesday, August 19th when the Board of Director's meeting had to be rescheduled due to not meeting a quorum. Because John Mitzel and members of the Bocce Ball Club attended, their presentation was heard though no votes were made. John Mitzel

requested to renovate 1 court at a time to get a better idea of the costs it would take to renovate all the courts. Chairman Lindsen moved to start the renovation of 1 court. Unanimously approved. Chairman Lindsen stated that anybody working must sign a volunteer waiver. Joanne Sorresse also requested to have a tournament and allow RV Campers to stay overnight. Chairman Lindsen declined at this time until the RV Park is completed.

6) **Correspondence** – Chairman Lindsen shared that there is a grant opportunity called the Land Water Conservation Program that requires a 50% match. He stated that Shivati will go to the upcoming meeting and see if there is anything that the park can apply towards this grant. Chairman Lindsen said he would like to see trails in the plaza made wider to hold market fairs and center them around the art sculpture, which also needs to be repaired or replaced. This was approved previously.

7) **Board Minutes** – Director Towne moved to accept the July minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

8) **Financial Report** – Director Towne moved to accept the July financials as presented. Unanimously approved.

9) **Old Business**

- a. Pollinator Garden – District Secretary Carol Fulkerson confirmed they are making progress and working on designs.
- b. Playground Shade Structure – Chairman Lindsen confirmed there has not been any movement on this as they are waiting to hear back from Tony. Dana Ettlin confirmed Tony was not currently available to take this on as his partner got injured and is now shorthanded. Chairman Lindsen confirmed the work needs to be done by July 2027.
- c. Rural Recreation & Tourism Grant – Chairman Lindsen confirmed we hired an electrician and the RV Park is in the engineering phase.
- d. Park Lighting – Director Eck confirmed we received the light poles and adjustable solar lights. A reimbursement check will need to be made out to Art De Leon. Dana Ettlin suggested to have Louie weld something to the light poles to make them mobile.
- e. Creekside Village - No updates.
- f. New Truck and Dump Trailer – Chairmen Lindsen confirmed the park got a 6x12 dump trailer. No update on the search for a truck, though the deadline for the auto loan is coming up in September.
- g. Credit Card Limit – District Secretary Carol Fulkerson confirmed the credit limit was increased to \$5000.
- h. Out of District Surcharge – District Secretary Carol Fulkerson confirmed that the reservation system is in the works of moving to Team Sideline, which the county is paying for the next 5 years. Moving to Team Sideline will allow the park to accept online reservations and credit card payments. Carol also confirmed that we would be able to offer a 10% discount to locals, but would need to increase prices accordingly. Chairman Lindsen moved to approve a 10% increase for park reservation prices and offer a 10% discount to in-district rentals. Director Towne motioned to amend previous motion to occur once Team Sideline rolls out. Unanimously approved.
- i. New District Secretary – Czarina Espanol was chosen to be the New District Secretary and has already started training. Carol Fulkerson's last day is August 25th.

10) New Business

- a. Bocce Ball – *Moved above Correspondence.*
- b. Park Host – A negative Facebook post was made regarding the Park Host and park hours. Chairman Lindsen confirmed that the Board cannot comment on anything regarding the Park on public platforms. Director Towne suggested to possibly change the park hours to hard times as Sunrise to Sunset can be subjective. No changes were made.

11) Advisory Groups - Presentations

- a. Buildings and Grounds.
 - i. General Park Maintenance – Chairman Lindsen confirmed there are 2-3 zones that are not watering and said the sprinklers need to be gone through by the groundskeepers. No updates on mowers.
 - ii. Farmers Market and CRV Program - District Secretary Carol Fulkerson stated there was no update except that it is going well. Dana Ettlin raised a concern regarding the hot dog vendor who continues to drop grease on the concrete even after being approached.
- b. Upcoming events and reservations report
 - i. Upcoming Events Report – District Secretary Carol Fulkerson confirmed the following upcoming events - Hipper than Hip Concert 8/29, Praise in the Mountains 9/5, The Great Pumpkin Race 10/10 and 40 for Forty Relay 10/24. Director Towne confirmed the last concert will be Steelin' Dan on 10/3.
- c. WGP Foundation Update - *Moved below Public Comments.*
- d. Pickleball Courts Update -
- e. YBONC Update - Chairmen Lindsen confirmed they are working on moving a storage container in September, which was paused during the heat of Summer.

12) Director Comments - Director Eck stated Miranda sent him a 15 million dollar grant from the Office of Grants and Local Services called the Outdoor Legacy Partnership (Round 8). He said he would forward it to the Board and Dana Ettlin. New District Secretary Czarina Espanol suggested looking into digital keypads and a deposit box for the Buttermaker's Cottage. But Board will revisit this until Team Sideline rolls out and see if this is still needed.

13) Adjournment - Chairmen Lindsen motioned to adjourn. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.