

**PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 3, 2026**

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at Choice Health & Fitness community room, 4401 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street, at 5:00 p.m. with President Skarperud presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Present were President Skarperud, Vice-President LaDouceur, and Commissioners Bartholomew, Kraft, and McIntyre.

Park District staff in attendance were: Executive Director Hellyer, Director of Finance & Administration Lancaster, Director of Operations & Community Relations Nelson, Director of Programs & Facilities Orr, Facilities Manager Colborn, Parks Operations Manager Hell, Altru Sports Complex General Manager Rollefstad, Marketing Manager Trontvet, Marketing and Sponsorship Representative Brorson, Senior Accountant Larsen, and Project Administrator Swenberger.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice-President LaDouceur made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner McIntyre seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2026**

Commissioner Bartholomew made a motion to approve the minutes from February 3, 2026. Commissioner Kraft seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**Eagles Crest Update**

Jeff Waind was in attendance to provide a report to the Board on the year at Eagles Crest Grill. Waind stated that the season has been steady regarding sales and patronage, and that catering has continued to expand with the announced closing of Ground Round. Waind also noted that new tables and chairs are scheduled to be delivered in April. Issues that are currently affecting Eagles Crest Grill include employee retention and the increasing costs of goods. Discussion took place on the operations of the halfway house and beverage cart.

**Altru Sports Complex Update**

Altru Sports Complex General Manager Rollefstad provided an update on construction and operational developments including continued work on equipment needs, job descriptions, and procedure manuals. Rollefstad informed the Board that Ally Muus has been hired as the Tournament Development Coordinator, the shared position previously approved in concept by the Board. A formal agreement will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting. Rollefstad noted intentions to meet with user groups to introduce Ally and discuss tournament facilitation. She concluded by informing the Board that phase 2 design development meetings will continue into April and Director of Operations & Community Relations Nelson and her team will lead fundraising and sponsorship efforts for the facility. Discussion took place on coordinating tournaments with other local organizations to ensure hotel availability.

## **Sponsorship Revenue and Inventory Update**

Marketing and Sponsorship Representative Brorson provided an overview of the transition away from ICON Sports Marketing and the impact of bringing sponsorship sales in-house. Brorson reviewed 2025 sponsorship revenue, highlighted the addition of 15 new sponsors, and updated the Board on remaining sponsorship inventory. Brorson also informed the Board of projects planned for 2026, including installation of the new digital screen at Choice Health & Fitness. President Skarperud commended Brorson and the Marketing Department for their work and noted the positive financial impact to the organization.

## **FOR ACTION**

### **Kraft Field – Light Installation Bids**

Facilities Manager Colborn presented to the Board the Kraft Field light installation bid tabulation. The lowest bidder was RBB Electric with a bid of \$95,500. The Board previously approved the Musco Sports Lighting bid for this Blue Line Club funded project.

Commissioner McIntyre made a motion to approve the bid from RBB Electric for \$95,500. Commissioner Kraft seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

### **Ulland Sports Complex – Mower Purchase**

Director of Finance & Administration Lancaster presented to the Board a quote for \$99,884.58 obtained from MTI through a Sourcewell cooperative purchasing agreement for the purchase of a 10' mower for Ulland Sports Complex.

Vice-President LaDouceur made a motion to approve the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing agreement with MTI for the amount of \$99,884.58. Commissioner Bartholomew seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

### **NDAD Park – Playground Project**

Executive Director Hellyer presented renderings of the NDAD Park playground project for Board review. Hellyer reminded the Board that \$800,000 had previously been approved for the project and requested authorization for a total project cost not to exceed the contribution from NDAD. Hellyer reported that NDAD has expressed interest in expanding the playground and would increase its contribution to support the expanded scope. Current project estimated cost is \$888,683.00.

Commissioner Bartholomew made a motion to approve the total project cost not to exceed the contribution by NDAD. Vice-President LaDouceur seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Lancaster reviewed the January 2026 financial reports. Vendor and payroll payments for January 2026 were \$1,376,925.85.

Vice-President LaDouceur made a motion to approve the financial report for January 2026. Commissioner McIntyre seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Director of Programs & Facilities Orr presented January membership numbers and provided updates on upcoming events, programs, and promotions at Choice Health & Fitness, noting the facility will be closed on Easter Sunday in observance of the holiday. Orr extended an invitation to the Board to participate in the annual Polar Plunge event. Orr provided an update on the planned flooring updates including the new rubber flooring on the first floor, the forthcoming second floor recarpeting and locker room kinetic flooring installation. Orr concluded by noting that Dan Fjestad has taken over as the CEO of the Altru Family YMCA.

Colborn reported on upcoming tournaments and the ice show in the arenas, reporting that ice rentals were down compared to last year due to timing of tournaments. Colborn informed the Board that warming houses were open for 41 days, which was made possible by weather and reliable and enthusiastic staff.

Parks Operations Manager Hell reported that renovations at King's Walk Golf Course are ongoing. Staff are also preparing warming houses for summer use and repairing and painting picnic tables.

Marketing Manager Trontvet informed the Board that she is finalizing the 2026 Summer Activity Guide. Her team is assisting with special events and continues promoting spring programming at Choice Health & Fitness. She also reported that \$21,000 was raised on Giving Hearts Day to support youth recreation scholarships through the Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation.

Director of Operations & Community Relations Nelson updated the Board on the recent and upcoming events, including the Lucky Strike Bowling event and Knight for a Princess dances, while highlighting the success of Greenway Snow Day and Bloomfest. Nelson reported the Golf Ambassador special will run through the end of March at Kings Walk Golf Course. Nelson also provided tentative timelines for the King's Walk Golf Course pro shop renovation, clubhouse roof replacement, and delivery of new golf carts.

Lancaster reported that the audit report is forthcoming and that a Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled later in the month. Lancaster also stated that all budgeted 2026 equipment has been bid or received quotes.

Hellyer informed the Board that a Request for Qualifications has been published for the Blue Line Club IcePlex renovation project and will be brought back for Board consideration at the April meeting. Hellyer also reported that Park District Attorney, Laura Cobb, has recommended the use of a Request for Proposal process for the acquisition of a new maintenance shop, with financing options to be presented for Board review and approval once a property has been found. Hellyer further updated the Board on a recent park dedication, indicating that cash will likely be recommended in lieu of the required 1.18 acres. Hellyer concluded by providing an overview of the 2026 flood outlook.

### **BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Commissioner McIntyre inquired on a possible meditation space at Choice Health & Fitness. Staff will review available space options to determine feasibility.

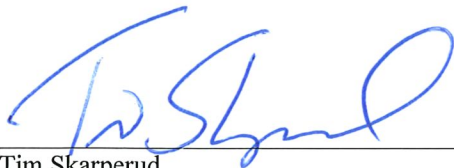
Commissioner Kraft inquired whether a decision has been made regarding the operation of Riverside Pool in 2026. Hellyer stated that the Park District intends to operate it and continues to await direction from City staff regarding future plans for the City owned facility.

Commissioner Bartholomew thanked Hellyer, Colborn, Orr, and Blue Line Club IcePlex Facility Supervisor Barton for their information and support of public skating at the Blue Line Club IcePlex.

Vice-President LaDouceur inquired on arena ice rental procedures, discussion took place on best practice.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-President LaDouceur made a motion at 6:07 p.m. to adjourn. Commissioner Kraft seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous, motion carried.



Tim Skarperud  
President of the Board of Park Commissioners



George Hellyer  
Executive Director and Clerk