



# Wheaton Park District

**Wheaton Park District Board of Commissioners  
Local Government Efficiency Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday September 4, 2024, 5:00 p.m.  
DuPage County Historical Museum  
Wheaton, IL 60187**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

President Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., Commissioner Frey, Commissioner Mee, Commissioner Pecharich, Commissioner Vires, Commissioner Welker, Public Committee Member Marty Keller, and Public Committee Member Matt Szfranski were present.

Commissioner Barrett was absent

Staff Present included: Executive Director Benard, Executive Assistant Siciliano, Director of Parks & Planning Sperl, Superintendent of Planning Hinchee, Finance Director Simpson, Assistant Finance Director Meger, Director of Recreation Beyer, and Director of Arrowhead Operations Novak

## **COMMUNITY INPUT**

There was no community input or public comment.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Review of Committee Purpose.**

Executive Director Benard stated that the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act, 50 ILCS 70/1, *et seq.*, requires units of local government that levy any tax, including park districts, forest preserve districts, and conservation districts, to form a committee to study local government efficiencies and issue a report to the county board in which the unit of local government is situated.

Benard reviewed the park district's Government Directory that gives a high-level overview of the district and is available at all our facilities. It includes a block diagram, our mission, vision, and values statement, FOIA process a QR code to the transparency portal where people can access public documents online. This provides efficiency to the public who are interested in accessing information about the Wheaton Park District.

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Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the park district's ADA Compliance Officer, Michael Benard, at the park district's Administrative Office, 102 E. Wesley Street, Wheaton, IL Monday through Friday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for a qualified ASL interpreter require five (5) working days advance notice. Telephone number 630.665.4710; fax number 630.665.5880.

## 2. Review of Committee Deliverable

Benard stated that IAPD provided member districts with a model report to assist members with meeting this obligation. Benard asked the committee to review the model report and to provide feedback concerning additional reporting recommendations. Matt Szafranski had previously shared some related resources from the private financial sector with Benard. Benard reviewed a list of current Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA's) that the park district has in place with other local and regional partners as evidence of efficiency. Examples include the park district partnership with DuPage County for the operation of the museum, our Park School Usage IGA with CUSD 200, land use agreements with the City of Wheaton and WDSRA. Another example of efficiency is our event partnership model with local non-profit partners including the Lions, the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary. The district also engages a substantial number of volunteers annually and uses joint purchasing agreements which are additional avenues of efficiency. He asked the group to share ideas on potential intergovernmental, non-profit, or private sector partnerships that would contribute to operational efficiency. Benard also highlighted avenues for communication with and transparency to the Community as an area for review and feedback. Benard also provided examples of mandates from State, regional and local government to be reviewed that may be impacting the efficiency of the Wheaton Park District.

Marty Keller asked Benard for report examples from other park districts for review. Commissioner Frey asked when the feedback requested was due. Benard stated that initial feedback on the items reviewed today would be appreciated by September 20. Commissioner Welker asked what other park districts would be comparable to us in population, services, and amenities. Benard said Highland Park, Skokie, Arlington Heights, Wilmette, and Naperville. Welker asked if there were any more locals that were comparable. Benard stated that it would be helpful to review the reports completed by our partners within the WDSRA membership.

## 3. Review of Committee Work Plan

The committee will review complied materials and recommendations over the next two months. Additional data collection methods will be explored over the next two months. Staff will draft sections of the model report for review and edit by the committee over the next three months toward final approval in December 2024.

## ADJOURNMENT


At 5:20 p.m. Commissioner Vires moved to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Commissioner Vires.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Frey, Mee, Pecharich, Vires, Welker, Kelly, Marty Keller, Matt Szfranski

Nays: None

Absent: Barrett



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