

Wellsville Joint Board Meeting



Recreation Commission

January 6th, 2026 6:00pm
WJRC Office, 320 Pendleton Ave, Wellsville, KS 66092

- I. Call to Order: Dustin called the meeting to order at 6:00pm
- II. Roll Call:

Mindi Nelson- x	Dustin Gardner-X	Zach DeVorss-x
Kurt Neis-X	Noah Breen-X	Bernie Smith-x
- III. Adoption of Agenda:
 - a. Add to Information Items-School Board Meeting Updates, Holidays in Wellsville Update
 - b. A motion to adopt the agenda with these changes made by Zach. Seconded by Mindi. Passed 5-0.
- IV. Public Forum: na
- V. Consent Agenda: A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Zach. Seconded by Dustin. Passed 5-0.
 - a. December Meeting Notes
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. MidAmerica Checking-\$12383.04
 - ii. MidAmerica Savings-\$65922.60
 - iii. Landmark Checking-\$10414.09
 - iv. Bernie presented the Treasurer's report, including a working budget, line-item tracking, and financial projections for 2025, highlighting increased transparency, improved year-end balances, and the need for ongoing financial diligence.
 - c. Donations-none
- VI. Information Items
 - a. Van Lease
 - i. The board reviewed multiple options for acquiring a vehicle to support Debbie's senior and youth programs, including leasing a van and purchasing either new or used vehicles. Leasing was considered for its consistent payments and maintenance coverage, while purchasing was discussed for potential long-term savings. The board compared costs and debated the pros and cons of each approach.
 - ii. Bernie agreed to contact local dealerships, banks, and legal advisors to clarify purchasing and financing options, and to gather more information on available vehicles. The board decided to postpone a final decision until more data is collected, with plans to revisit the topic at the next meeting.
 - b. Grant Information
 - i. Bernie has met with the grant writer to identify both large-scale projects (such as building construction) and smaller initiatives. The grant writer compiled a proposal based on a questionnaire completed and will focus on building a portfolio of successful grants.
 - c. 501c3 established
 - i. The Friends of WJRC 501(c)(3) was established with an initial three-person board to facilitate donations and grant management. Plans were made to expand the board to five members, recruit outside participants, and create separate banking and social media accounts to ensure transparency and separation between The Friends of WJRC and WJRC.
 - ii. The board discussed recruiting new members for the 501(c)(3), including sharing opportunities via Facebook and providing a scope of work for prospective members.

Responsibilities include attending an annual meeting, ensuring the organization fulfills its charitable mission, remains legally compliant, and uses resources prudently

- d. Liability Signage-we will not pursue putting signage in the park
- e. Board Vacancy-Kurt Neis appointed
- f. WJRC Annual Review
 - i. Bernie introduced the first annual report for WJRC, summarizing program participation, financials, and strategic goals, and outlined plans for continued improvement and community engagement in 2026.
- g. Annual Report Introduction
 - i. The annual report includes data on youth sports, seniors on the go, special events, and strategic goals, and will be published on Team Sideline for public access. Mindi noted the loss of historical data due to a system switch but committed to improving future reports.
- h. Strategic Goals for 2026
 - i. Goals for the coming year include enhancing community engagement, expanding special events, and improving facilities and programs, with a focus on transparency and delivering value to the community.
- i. Mill Levy Impact Analysis-Adding 1 mill to the levy will equate to \$23 on a \$200,000 home in Wellsville.
- j. School Board Meeting Update-The board decided to send representatives to school board meetings every three months to provide updates on WJRC activities, financials, and upcoming needs, aiming to strengthen communication.
- k. Holidays in Wellsville Update-The board reviewed the success of the Holidays in Wellsville event in December. There were close to 300 participants enjoying treats, activities, and the decorated park.

VII. Action Items

- a. Building Proposal Letter from Incite
 - i. Incite provided a building proposal featuring four basketball courts, community rooms, administrative offices, concessions, and an elevated walking track, with estimated costs ranging from \$6–8 million for the building
- b. Building Location
 - i. The board discussed site options and strategized plans to present to the City Council regarding the land behind Dollar General.
- c. Pitching Mound for Field #2
 - i. Bernie proposed purchasing a new pitching mound for field #2, with partial funding from the school district and baseball team (\$4000), to support high school and American Legion use.
 - ii. The board approved Bernie to purchase the pitching mound as presented. This was motioned by Zach, seconded by Dustin. Passed 5-0.
- d. Policy Book
 - i. The board discussed ongoing policy updates and agreed to schedule additional work sessions to address the growing workload and ensure thorough review of administrative items

VIII. Administrative Reports-see board packet for more details

- a. Director's Report
- b. Community Program Report
- c. Assistant Director Report

IX. Executive Session-na

X. Adjournment- A motion to adjourn was made by Dustin 9105.

Follow-up tasks:

- **Vehicle Acquisition Options:** Research and compare purchasing versus leasing options for a 15-passenger van, including loan possibilities, interest rates, and available vehicles, and report findings to the board.
- **501(c)(3) Board Expansion:** Identify and propose candidates for expanding the 501(c)(3) board to five members, and prepare a scope of work for potential board members
- **501(c)(3) Financial Separation:** Establish a separate bank account for the 501(c)(3) to ensure financial separation from general funds.
- **City Council Communication:** Prepare and present a proposal to the City Council regarding securing land for the new community center, including letters of support and funding plans