



AGENDA

Rick Kahen Commission for Residents with Disabilities
Regular Meeting: September 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Lower Level EOC Conference Room, Village Hall
50 Raupp Blvd, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

1. Call to Order at 7:05pm

2. Roll Call

- a. **Members Present:** Chair Judy Samuels, Vice Chair Marty Sussman, Commissioners Mark Weiner, Matthew Dragon, Lexi Robinson, Allie Zalay, Gowri Magati, Jack Shapiro, Dean Klassman
- b. **Members Not Present:** Commissioners Leo Njongmeta, Avi Samuels, Beth Shapiro, Amy Parker
- c. **Staff Liaison:** Tyler Ankney
- d. **Trustee Liaison:** Trustee Andy Stein

3. Approval of Minutes - August 21, 2024

- a. **Motion:** Commissioner Lexi Robinson
- b. **Second:** Commissioner Matthew Dragon
- c. **In Favor:** All present
- d. **Opposed:** None
- e. **Abstain:** None
- f. **Motion passes**

4. Chair Report (Judy Samuels)

- a. Commissioner Update
- b. The next meeting of the RKCRD is Wednesday October 16, 2024.
- c. Protocol for sending emails to other Commissioners
 - i. As part of the open meetings act, if we are sending emails to one another regarding commission business, we need to use the BCC function in email to blind copy. There is a potential fine for violating this act. Please make sure to Blind Copy in emails are going to larger groups.
- d. Meeting Agenda and Meeting Minutes review
 - i. Please make sure to review the meeting agenda and meeting minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

5. Trustee(s) Report (Andy Stein)

- a. Feedback regarding the RKCRD events that were hosted over the Buffalo Grove Days weekend has been extremely positive. Thank you to Public Works for helping fill in shuttle shifts.

6. Staff Liaison Report (Tyler Ankney)

- a. Thank you to the commission for the events the RKCRD hosted over the Buffalo Grove Days Weekend. There have been rave reviews from community members, the Village Board, etc. All of the events and hard work truly pay off!
- b. Thank you letters to sponsors and to those who participated/helped will come out next week from the commission.

7. Working Groups Report

- a. **Ensuring Opportunities for Hands-on Fun** (Commissioners Amy Parker and Mark Weiner)

- i. **BG Days Weekend**

- 1. **Fun and Food** - Debriefing

- a. The music was a little too loud, even from over towards the band shell.
 - b. Many participants did not know where to park, perhaps we could provide more information about where to park in our communications.
 - i. We could possibly include a map or information about parking in a confirmation email after individuals register.
 - c. Perhaps we can send out a feedback survey to those who participated to gain insight and input on the event and how we can improve it.
 - d. Vegetarian sandwiches ran out this year, we should increase the number of vegetarian meals next year to ensure we have enough for all participants who do not eat turkey.
 - e. Perhaps we can have a sign directing individuals to where lunch is so that is more clear from the carnival area.
 - f. Registration went smoothly and without a hitch, it was easy to check individuals in and mark them off the lists that were organized easily to navigate.
 - g. The signage was fantastic, they looked high quality and professional and were very clear.
 - h. Perhaps we can include a sensory area or a calming activity for individuals next year.
 - i. A few individuals requested to eat earlier.
 - j. A few individuals took lunches from the registration desk and did not stick around for lunch in the pavilion, so it was good to keep a few at the registration tent.
 - k. A few individuals were not able to stay for lunch due to dietary restrictions, such as gluten free. Perhaps we can include a gluten free option.
 - l. We need a more formal way to collect tickets for lunch, it was a bit adhoc this year. This will help us get a better head account about how many meals were actually served.
 - m. Kudos to the great community effort to make the event such a success for our participants!
 - n. Perhaps we can have a more controlled line to get food for lunch.

- o. If we choose to use paper bags next year, we should plan ahead to get all bags of the same color so there is no confusion or wondering if the bags have different food within.
- p. The number of walk-ups this year was 24 individuals with 70 additional family members (94 individuals total).
- q. Registration and attendance numbers can be found below:

Pre-Registered = 439				
100 individuals	329 additional family members			
1 group home	10 participants			
Walk-Ups = 94				
24 individuals	70 additional family members			
Total Attendees = 426		79% of individuals who pre-registered attended		
79 individuals pre-registered	243 additional family members			
24 individual walk-ups	70 additional family members			
1 group home	10 participants			

- r. The bees were bad near the registration table this year. Can we plan in advance to hang yellow-jacket traps at the events?
 - s. Should we shift the tables under the pavilion to not have the sandwiches/food directly under the sun?
 - t. Next year we would be looking for two new go leads for Fun & Food in order to see the events continue.
2. **Buddy Baseball Exhibition Game** – Debriefing
- a. The bees were bad this year. Can we plan in advance to hang yellow-jacket traps at the events?
 - b. It was a great game! There were 35 players and 35 buddies. Huge thank you to Tyler for all the support and help!
 - c. The signage was great and professional looking.
 - d. Next year we should make sure that the players know there is water in the dugout.
 - e. Pizza was set up a little too early, maybe hold back the plating of the pizza until it is closer to the end of the game so that the pizza does not get cold.
 - f. There were a lot of extra pizzas this year from Lou Malnatis.
 - i. Lou's delivery man returned with about 10 extra pizzas saying that his boss wanted to send some more over.
 - g. There were 35 players, 35 buddies, and 26 pizzas that were ordered for this year.

- h. Perhaps we can purchase a few pairs of emergency headphones for individuals who need to block out the sensory overload of the noise or provide sensory bags that include headphones, fidget spinners, etc.
 - i. We should also include on the registration form and advertisements that there will be loud noise/crowds and if individuals who are sensitive to noise/crowds should bring headphones or what they need in order to not be on sensory overload.
 - ii. We need more smaller sized shirts for next year - including smalls, extra smalls, and youth larges.
- 3. **Courtesy Shuttle** - Debriefing
 - a. The courtesy shuttle is always very much appreciated. If we are able, next year we would like to include the skate park as a stop for the shuttle.
 - b. There were two shuttles going instead of three shuttles. We were fine with two carts instead of three for next year.
 - c. We should be more strategic with the number of carts and high traffic events should have two carts (Bingo) but possibly one cart during lower traffic times (Friday afternoon, Saturday afternoon).
 - i. We should move the Bingo shift earlier.
 - d. Great suggestion to move the courtesy shuttle spot off the grassy area that includes a step up.
 - e. If the courtesy shuttle carts are being pulled for the parade, please let us know ahead of time so that we do not schedule shifts during that time.
 - f. Is there a more accessible way for individuals to wash their hands after using the porta-potties - individuals with physical disabilities may have a hard time using the foot pedal/pump to turn the water on to wash their hands.
- b. **Buddy Baseball League** (Lead: Commissioner Dean Klassman)
 - i. The league is going really well, we could use a few more buddies if possible for anyone who is interested and able to volunteer.
 - ii. Is there a way to block out the pavilion in addition to the field so there are no birthday parties occurring at the same time as the league games.
- c. **Buddy Bowling** (Lead: Commissioner Mark Weiner)
 - i. The date of Buddy Bowling has switched to Wednesday, October 30th due to construction at Bowerlo 6-8pm. Registration begins at 5:30pm. If commissioners can arrive between 4:30-4:45pm that would be great.
 - ii. There are 74 participants that have confirmed that they are coming to the new date. There are still approximately 20 individuals who registered for the additional date that we are awaiting confirmation if they can attend on the new date.
 - iii. There will be two tables that serve food. Bowlero will provide two individuals to help serve food. Volunteers Donna Garfield and Debbie Verson will help with food.
 - iv. There will be multiple registration tables with two RKCRD commissioners to register participants at each table. Provide each their lane assignment and a

wristband that shows they registered. Rotarians will check in their participants. Participants will also get a coupon to hand in for food.

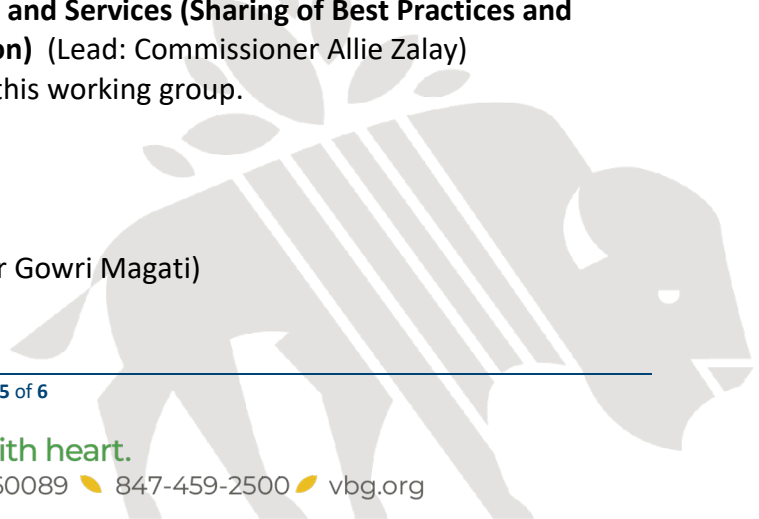
- v. We will be selling dinner to parents for \$10. We typically give food coupons for free to aides from group homes.
- vi. Commissioners who will run registration:
 - 1. Table 1: Commissioner Mathew Dragon and his daughter Bethany
 - 2. Table 2: Vice Chair Sussman, Commissioners Allie Zalay and
 - 3. Table 3: Commissioners Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels and Lexi Robinson
- vii. Volunteer Debbie Verson will be the “shoe maven” to help participants get their shoes.
- viii. Commissioners Beth and Jack Shapiro will help with flow of food. Commissioner Jack Shapiro will cover lanes 1-15 and Commissioner Beth Shapiro will cover lanes 16-32. Commissioners Beth and Jack Shapiro will distribute coupons to lanes as they are ready to go up and get food to help keep lines manageable.
- ix. We would like two commissioners to be ‘security’ to monitor the doors to ensure no one leaves. Staff Liaison Ankney will ask if the Police Department could have an officer at the event for the entirety of the event.
- x. We will need about 125 wristbands and about 200 coupons.
- xi. There are about 20 trophies from last year, we can reuse those for this year. Staff Liaison Ankney will check. If there are 20, we would like to order 80 more to have a total of 100 trophies for participants. Commissioner Mark Weiner will confirm with Staff Liaison Ankney.
- xii. Bowlero is requesting a deposit of \$860 to hold the space.
- d. **Spring Fling**
 - i. Commissioner Lexi Robinson will connect with Commissioner Amy Parker to bring an update on the Spring Fling to the next meeting to determine a draft for planning.
- e. **Advocating for Inclusion and Access** (Lead: Vice Chair Marty Sussman)
 - i. Parking lot near the Continental is being updated and fixed. It looks great and is marked and smooth!
 - ii. Vice Chair Marty Sussman and Staff Liaison Ankney visited two physical therapy facilities that have parking issues that are very long distances for handicap parking spaces. The Athletico in the BG Fitness Center and the facility within the Sky Fitness are both being discussed and worked on, there is no update yet.
- f. **Trusted Resource for Accommodations and Services (Sharing of Best Practices and Developing a Resource Guide (Education))** (Lead: Commissioner Allie Zalay)
 - i. There is no current update from this working group.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

- a. Volunteer or Internship? (Commissioner Gowri Magati)

10. Good and Welfare



11. Public Comment

12. Adjournment at 9:02pm

- a. **Motion:** Commissioner Allie Zalay
- b. **Second:** Commissioner Mark Weiner
- c. **In Favor:** All present
- d. **Opposed:** None
- e. **Abstain:** None
- f. **Motion passes**

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 16

The village of Buffalo Grove, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities contact the ADA Coordinator at 847-459-2500 to allow the village to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

