



Meeting Minutes

Rick Kahen Commission for Residents with Disabilities
Regular Meeting: May 27, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

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

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 7:08 PM

- a. **Guest** - Nanette Cohen, Senior Director, Employment (JCFS), to discuss their job placement program for individuals with special needs.
 - i. Leah Rudy, Manager of Client Services (JCFS), joined Nanette Cohen with a presentation and discussion of the placement program for individuals with special needs. Answered many questions. For additional information:
<https://www.icfs.org/jvs>

2. Roll Call

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

3. Approval of Minutes: April 22, 2026

- a. **Motion to approve April 22, 2026 minutes:** Commissioner Dragon
- b. Second: Commissioner J. Shapiro
- c. In Favor: All Present
- d. Oppose: None
- e. Abstain: None
- f. **Motion passes**

4. Chair Report (Judy Samuels)

- a. Commissioner Anniversary – Commissioner Mark Weiner celebrating 27 years, congratulations!

5. Trustee(s) Report (David Weidenfeld)

- a. In response to the RKCRD's concern regarding whether or not accessible parking spaces and ramp/curb cuts must be placed as close to the main entrance as possible, Trustee Weidenfeld did a deeper dive into the Buffalo Grove Municipal code in relation to the Illinois Accessibility code and explained his findings to the Commission. RKCRD, including the Lead of 'Advocating for Inclusion and Access' workgroup, was satisfied with Trustee Weidenfeld's shared information and answers.

- i. RKCRD is encouraged to share any examples of locations that may be questionable and Trustee Weidenfeld can help facilitate looking into it.
- ii. RKCRD is very appreciative of the effort Trustee Weidenfeld put into helping the Commission to better understand the law.

6. Staff Liaison Report (Tyler Ankney)

- a. Staff Liaison Ankney reaffirmed that the courtesy shuttle remains the sole responsibility of RKCRD to staff.
 - i. Some ideas were offered to help with filling the shifts.
 - ii. The 'Ensuring Opportunities for Hands-on Fun' workgroup will pull together a draft schedule taking into considerations discussed and 'yet to be discussed' ideas for a more tailored schedule.
 - iii. While on the topic of the courtesy shuttle, Chairperson Samuels noted that between the Buffalo Grove Fitness Center and Mike Rylko Community Park, but closer to the fitness center parking lot, there was an unmarked carved out dip in the sidewalk. Almost had an accident (at last year's BG Days) due to not being able to clearly identify where the curb dip opening was, especially as the sun start to go down. Can something be done to visually differentiate between the curb and the curb dip?
 - 1. Staff Liaison Ankney will reach out to the Park District regarding this.

7. Working Groups Report

- a. **Ensuring Opportunities for Hands-on Fun** (Commissioners Amy Parker and Mark Weiner)
 - i. **Buddy Baseball Spring League** (May 10 through June 28; Sundays 11 am)
 - Allstar game: Jun 21; Rain date: Jun. 28)
 - 1. June 7th game will be cancelled due to parking and road blockage concerns related to the parade running at the same time. Staff Liaison Ankney and Commissioner Klassman to follow up with communications to the players. Next year, an alternative plan will be considered in order to avoid the overlap.
 - ii. **Fun & Food Event (Monday Sept 7)**
 - 1. Grady – BGPD Therapy Dog
 - a. Staff Liaison Ankney will reach out to BGPD for additional information.
 - iii. **Future 2026 Events**
 - 1. Buddy Baseball Exhibition Game Event (Saturday Sept 5)
 - 2. Buddy Baseball Fall League (Sep 13 through Oct 25; Sundays 11 am)
 - Allstar game: Oct 18; Rain date: Oct 25)
 - 3. Bowling with Buddies Event (October 29)
- b. **Sponsorships / Donations**
 - i. None reported
- c. **Advocating for Inclusion and Access** (Lead: Vice Chair Marty Sussman)
 - 1. Follow up to Rep. Morgan's Senate bill 862 taken over by Senator Morrison which appears to be completely changed in a Senate bill.
 - a. Senator Morrison's office shared, with Vice Chair Sussman, the Illinois Disability Advocacy and Guardian Commission(IGAC) is being transformed so it would not be

included as part of this bill. Could potentially be included in bundled government reform packages.

- d. **Trusted Resource for Accommodations and Services (Sharing of Best Practices and Developing a Resource Guide (Education))** (Lead: Commissioner Zalay)
 - i. No Updates

8. Unfinished Business

- a. Autism Hero Project/Blue Envelope Project (Commissioner Jaregui)
 - i. Update following Police Department meeting
 - 1. Staff Liaison Ankney to follow up on this.

9. New Business

- a. None

10. Good and Welfare

11. Public Comment (Non RKCRD Commissioners)

12. Adjournment at 8:34pm

- a. **Motion:** Commissioner Jauregui
- b. Second: Vice Chair Sussman
- c. In Favor: All Present
- d. Oppose: None
- e. Abstain: None
- f. ***Motion passes***

Next Meeting: Wednesday June 24, 2026

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.

