

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Park Commissioner George Bridges Named Waukegan Fire Chief

Waukegan, IL (October 9, 2015) – The Waukegan Park District Commissioners and staff extend their congratulations to Commissioner George Bridges on his appointment at this week’s City Council meeting as the new Chief of the City of Waukegan Fire Department. Chief Bridges has expressed his excitement and pleasure regarding his new role in addition to affirming that he plans to continue serving out his term as a Commissioner for the Waukegan Park District.

Bridges commented, “As a leader at the City and the Park District, I am looking forward to helping shape the future of Waukegan.” We are especially pleased he will continue in his role as a Commissioner with the Waukegan Park District.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 725 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois

Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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