



City of Columbus

WPRA Region III Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Fireman's Park Pavilion

1049 Park Avenue, Columbus, WI 53925



8:45AM- 9:15AM:

Breakfast Snacks and Networking

9:15AM- 9:30AM:

Welcome/ Host Report – *Welcome report given by Matt Amundson. Report discussed the City of Columbus, operating with both the Parks and Rec but also the city as a whole.*

9:30AM- 9:45AM:

WPRA Reports

- Recreation Section
 - Working on conference speakers
 - Fall Workshop
 - Nomination
- Park Section
 - Working on conference speakers
 - Fall Workshop
 - Nomination
- Aquatics Section
 - Update on new federal age laws pertaining to aquatics, life guarding, training.
- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee
 - Working on Conference Speakers
- Emerging Professionals Committee
 - Working on Conference Speakers
 - Upcoming Lunch and Learn on July 15th around Difficult Conversations
- School District Departments
 - If interested in joining the group reach out to Brooke Friese
- WPRA Board
 - Brewers game follow up
 - Nominations
 - Micro volunteerism

9:45AM- 10:45AM:

Learning Session 1

Please R.S.V.P by clicking below

[**REGISTER HERE**](#)

By Friday, May 8th

Administration:

How to work collaboratively with your administrators and the pathway to becoming an administrator. (Innovative Public Advisors & Matt Amundson)

Presentation talked about strategic planning. How to work with Mayors, boards, and how to positively gather data to support initiatives and or budget request and how to back all points with useful data.

10:45AM- 11:45AM: Learning Session 2 (Choose One)

Recreation:

This interactive session is designed as a structured idea exchange for parks and recreation professionals to share and discover programs, events, and strategies that have proven successful in their communities. Participants will contribute real-world examples—such as high-participation programs, low-cost/high-impact initiatives, and creative engagement strategies—through a guided, collaborative format.

The session will highlight common trends, innovative approaches, and practical takeaways that can be easily adapted and implemented across agencies of all sizes. Rather than a traditional presentation, this format encourages peer-to-peer learning and provides attendees with a collection of actionable ideas to bring back to their own departments. (Amy Jo Meyers)

Round table discussions on programming and operations. Discussion included pool operating, rental questions, facility agreements, program ideas, program co-ops, volunteer recruitment and retainment, sponsorships, programs guides.

Master Parks Planning and Stormwater Project:

Highlighting the City of Columbus master park planning efforts and the stormwater projects. (Matt Amundson.)

Tour given of Fireman's park. Walk through highlighted and showed the completed parks planning and storm water project within Freman's park.

11:45am:

Lunch (Taco Bar)

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