



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

**Park District of Oak Park (PDOP)
Committee of the Whole Meeting
John Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 7:30pm

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Lentz, Wick, Wollmuth, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Chris Lindgren, Superintendent of Parks & Planning; and Edith Wood, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Laura Stamp, Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC)

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

III. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC) Update

Laura Stamp with the PDCC provided the Board with an update. Laura was very happy to see that everything has gone back to normal. PDCC have a secret shopper program that has been great in which people attend events and visit parks in which positive reports have been received. New members have also joined the PDCC which have been valuable in providing a lot of great ideas. The plan for next year is to get more members to join PDCC as they have been having some trouble with retention. The Board had a discussion on potential people that would be interested in joining the PDCC. The Board also thanked Laura for all of the things the PDCC has done. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

B. Parks Foundation Annual Update

This update has been rescheduled for the March Committee of the Whole meeting.

C. VOP IGA ARPA Update

Executive Director Arnold noted that the Village of Oak Park will provide a funding grant for \$1 million for the Andersen Park improvements. This was part of the previously agreed \$2 million ARPA grant that the Park District requested in the CIP from the Village, in which the grant was to be provided in two installments. This ARPA grant for the Andersen Park improvement is the second installment. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

D. 218 Elevator Replacement Contract

Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren reminded the Board that the 218 Madison building was purchased in 1986 to house the administrative functions of the Park District. However, the elevator dates back to 2000, and was previously used in residential applications and not suited for commercial use. The elevator was made by National Wheel-O-Vator Co., Inc. (a company that no longer exists). The elevator needs repairs and staff are working with Otis Elevator for a proposal for the reuse of the elevator, or replacement. Estimates that staff have received so far estimate around \$200,000. Staff plan to go out to bid again and if the estimated costs for the repairs remain the same, then staff will plan to redo the budget for the elevator repairs for 2024. The Board had questions if there are safety concerns or if there are any ADA employees that would require the use of the elevator. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

E. Vehicle Replacement Contract

Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren noted that staff are looking at three vehicles that need replacement in 2023. With the goal to electrify the Park District fleet, staff are looking to purchase two hybrid trucks. Due to the slow production and high cost of fully electric vehicles, after a completion of the greenhouse gas inventory, the vehicle impact on carbon emission is small. The hybrid vehicles are well suited for work in urban environments and are also the same size as the current trucks that staff are looking to replace. As such, staff are looking to recommend allowing the Executive Director to purchase the two Ford Maverick trucks in an amount not to exceed \$84,000. The Board had question on whether it would be best to wait for fully electric vehicle to be made available for purchase, or to move forward with the hybrid vehicles. Staff noted that the hybrid vehicles are more efficient in the city versus driving in the highway (which is not normally done by staff). **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

F. Taylor Park Court Improvement Contract

Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren noted that in Taylor Park, tennis/pickleball courts have reached the end of their useful life and are developing cracks and deterioration of the acrylic surfacing. Staff have budgeted \$150,000 in the CIP for the restoration of the six courts. The work will include new surfacing and striping of the courts. Staff went out to bid on January 18, 2023 in which two bids were received. The lowest bid was from US Tennis Court Construction for \$218,100. Staff have previously worked with US Tennis Court Construction multiple times with great success. Due to the higher bid received, staff are looking to readjust the CIP for other projects. The Board had question on how long the repairs will take, and what changes will staff be doing so that there is no conflict on the court for the tennis and pickleball players. Staff noted on implementing a lock box in which patrons will need to get a code to obtaining netting for play. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

G. Battery Powered Mower Purchase Update

Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren noted that staff are looking to purchase a battery powered mower. With the success of their battery powered landscaping equipment previously purchased, and to continued efforts to move away from fossil fuels to lower greenhouse gas emissions, staff are looking into purchasing the battery powered mower. Staff have demoed three different manufacturers and unanimously agreed that the Gravely EV mower is best suited for the Park District. The mower will include two extra batteries but noted that after demoing the mower,

the mower still had a 40% charge after a long day of use. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

H. 2022 Facility Report Card

Mitch Bowlin provided the Board with an overview of the 2022 Facility Report Card. The 2022 Facility Report Card is similar to the Parks Report Card in which staff visited facilities and rated a facility's common areas, stairs, and drinking fountains. Scores received in 2022 were consistent with scores in 2021. Overall, facilities had very high scores, scoring all A's with one B. Carroll Center did score the lowest however, Carroll Center does see a lot of high traffic volumes at its facility. The Board thanked staff for the information provided as how valuable it is to see what items need extra attention. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

IV. RECREATION AND FACILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

A. PACT Facility Use License Agreement for 2023-2025 (Festival Theatre)

According to Executive Director Arnold, changes to Festival Theatre's PACT License Agreement have been made. This includes change to the length of the agreement from one year to three years. In addition, Festival Theatre is leasing the third-floor office space of Cheney Mansion for three years. The Board noted that Festival Theatre is very happy with the relationship they have with the Park District. **This item will be brought before the Board on the consent agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

V. PARKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

VI. NEW BUSINESS – None

VII. CLOSED SESSION – None

VIII. ADJOURMENT

At 8:16pm, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 5:0.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners



President
Board of Park Commissioners

March 16, 2023
Date

March 16, 2023
Date