



**PARK DISTRICT**  
of OAK PARK

**Park District of Oak Park (PDOP)  
Regular Board Meeting  
John Hedges Administrative Center  
218 Madison Street  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

**Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 7:30pm**

**Minutes**

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

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioners Lentz, Wick, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca

**Absent:** Commissioner Wollmuth

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

**Others:** Marianne Birko with WSSRA; Caitlyn Culbertson, Elrod Friedman (Park District Attorney)

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

**III. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wick, and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the Consent Agenda which included the Cash and Investment Summary, and Warrants and Bills for the month of February 2023; approval of the minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting for February 2, 2023, and Regular Board Meeting from February 16, 2023; the IPRIME Resolution for New Trustee (Mitch Bowlin); and, Disposal Ordinance 2023-03-10. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Executive Director's Report** – In addition to the Executive Director Report (which is included in the Board Packet), Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that the Ice Show will be held tomorrow (March 17<sup>th</sup>) and Saturday and Sunday (March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>). On April 8<sup>th</sup>, the Easter Egg Hunt and the Doggy Scramble will take place at Maple Park. Furniture for the CRC will be ready at the end of March. In addition the mural for the CRC will also be ready in April.
- B. Updates & Information** – Written report included in the Board Packet.
- C. Revenue/Expense Status Report** – No questions asked.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

### **A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee**

1. WSSRA Annual Report Update: Marianne Birko provided the Board with an update from WSSRA. During the winter sessions, there were still some restrictions due to the pandemic however, WSSRA has been rolling back with big numbers. There has been a restriction with in-person programs as 75-90% have been restricted due to staff availability. To address this issue, they have shortened the length of some of the programs. WSSRA was also part of a WGN segment which has been great to get exposure. WSSRA has also had a great partnership with the Park District with their afterschool programs, gym, and day camps. WSSRA has lost five full-time staff and they are working on ways to change this. Due to the staff constraints, they did have 28 kids on the waitlist last year. WSSRA has also ran five events last year in which they were able to raise \$80,000. The 2022 budget has continued to be at the same level as 2019. WSSRA is also going through a transition as they have also lost their Finance Manager. WSSRA are taking this as an opportunity to take a look at the whole picture. Due to the loss of the Finance Manager, the Superintendent of Operations has stepped up to take over some of the finance operations. Marianne also gave her thanks to Executive Director Arnold and the Board for their support and is looking forward to the CRC. The Board gave their thanks to Marianne and are always looking forward to their visits.

### **B. Administration and Finance Committee**

1. 218 Elevator Replacement Contract: Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren informed the Board that staff went out to bid on February 15<sup>th</sup> for the replacement of the elevator at the Administrative Building. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, only one bid was received. DME Access, LLC submitted a bid for \$69,961.60. Staff have reviewed references which were received with positive results. The Board had question on since this was the only bidder that was received, what did staff know about the bidder. Chris noted that this bidder is actually the company that originally installed the elevator at the building and also, they will help modernize the elevator. A motion was made by Commissioner Wick, and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the authorization for Executive Director Arnold to sign the contract with DME Access, LLC from Lisle, IL for an amount not to exceed of \$69,691.60. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**
2. Authorization to Purchase Barrie Park Equipment: Executive Director Arnold and Chris Lindgren informed the Board that staff went out to bid on March 24<sup>th</sup> for the purchase of the Barrie Park playground materials. Due to lead times, it was determined that ordering the playground equipment ahead of time was needed in order to receive the equipment in time to complete the project in the Fall of 2023. It was noted that NuToys Leisure Products is on a competitively bid contract through Sourcewell for playground equipment which also provided a 6% discount on the manufacturer's pricing. In addition, it was noted that the pricing for the main playground would be \$200,960 and the tot lot pricing is at \$87,582. A motion was made by Commissioner Wick, and seconded by Commissioner Worley-Hood to approve the authorization for Executive Director Arnold to purchase the playground equipment for the Barrie Park Playground Renovation for an amount not to exceed \$288,542. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

3. Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC) Approval: Executive Director Arnold noted that the PDCC was established to oversee the development of the Comprehensive Master Plan. The mission and guiding principles of the PDCC states that the committee should include 13 members. There are currently only 11 members in the committee. Jay Rowell has expressed interest in joining the PDCC. Jay is a current resident of Oak Park and lives closest to the Community Recreation Center. Jay would like to join the PDCC committee to provide suggestions based on frequent use of the Park District facilities, as well as be a legislative advocate. Jay has extensive experience in law and political and city work with the City of Chicago. Jay is also the current Vice Chair for D97's Facility Advisory Committee, in which he has been a member since 2018. Jay attended the February PDCC meeting and expressed his desire to join the committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Wick, and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the appointment of Jay Rowell as a member of the PDCC to serve a three-year term. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**
  
4. ARPA IGA Update: Executive Director Arnold provided the Board with an update on the ARPA IGA. It has been noted that the Village of Oak Park inserted language into the ARPA IGA. Executive Director Arnold noted that this language seemed overreaching. Caitlyn Culbertson (Park District Attorney), also noted that she spoke with the Village of Oak Park's attorney and the Village noted that these items were non-negotiable. Caitlyn did note to the Village that PDOP staff are more than willing to provide the information that the Village is requesting, but not tied to the funding distribution. The Board discussed the disappointment with the IGA language from Village. The Board expressed uncertain about who would be responsible for approving the quarterly reviews, the lack of specificity and an uncertainty if the Park District would even receive each payment. Since all board members were not present during the meeting, the Board decided to put a hold on the vote for the ARPA IGA at the Continued Regular Board Meeting.

**C. Parks and Planning Committee – None**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Apparel Bid Update: According to Executive Director Arnold and Maureen McCarthy, staff will be going out to bid on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This would be for staff day camp t-shirts. Staff did award a contract a year ago however, staff have decided not to extend the contract. Staff will be bringing a recommendation for the Board's consideration and approval at the Continued Regular Board Meeting.

**VIII. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

**Commissioner Lentz:** Commissioner Lentz noted that she is grateful for Marianne and for being a liaison to the WSSRA. Festival Theatre is on its way with their new Executive Director and Artistic Director and have some great things coming up. Commissioner Lentz attended the WSSRA meeting on Monday and noted that everyone is having trouble with getting lifeguards. She is also exciting for the upcoming ribbon cutting of the CRC.

**Commissioner Wick:** Attended the IGOV meeting, and noted that they will also be at Pleasant Home to have a meeting with the community. Ran into a PDCC member during the St. Patrick's Day celebration and asked how they enjoy being part of the PDCC in which great reviews were received.

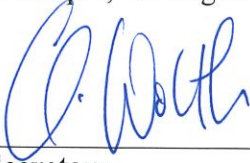
**Commissioner Worley-Hood:** Had a talk with the neighbors in which they noted that they are excited for the CRC and the new fitness center. Also Commissioner Worley-Hood's wife signed him up to play pickleball as well.

**President Porreca:** President Porreca wanted to make a comment on the Village Board meeting. President Porreca has been an educator and administrator for many years and has never been spoken to the way that the Village Board colleagues did. President Porreca was disappointed by their poor mannerism and for the slander of questioning that they did on her integrity. She also pointed out that other members of the community were also appalled by the reactions of the Village Board and were astonished to see what they did publicly. President Porreca noted her concerns of the reporting by the Wednesday Journal. However, she did note that there is support out there and she is appreciative of that.

**IX. CLOSED SESSION** – None

**X. CONTINUE REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING, APRIL 6, 2023**

At 8:38pm, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 4:0.**



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**Secretary**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**



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**President**  
**Board of Park Commissioners**

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April 20, 2023  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
April 20, 2023  
**Date**