



**Park District of Oak Park
Board Retreat
Cheney Mansion
220 North Euclid Avenue
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:03pm.

I. ROLL CALL

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

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Special Facilities & Customer Service; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Ann Marie Buczek, communication & Community Engagement Manager; and Edith Wood, Executive Assistant

Others Present: Jill Allread with Public Communications, Inc.

II. 2025-2029 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Board had a discussion on the major sources of the CIP which includes modified referendums, operating transfer funds and grants and intergovernmental revenue. Also discussed the plan to complete the OSLAD grant application for the Longfellow Park Improvements. The Energy Grant for the CRC and the potential need for additional solar panels so that the CRC can be Net Zero. A recap of the intergovernmental agreement with the school district for field maintenance and the purchase of a mower. An overview of the 2025 projects for some of the Park District parks and facilities was also given to the Board, as well as a general overview of the 2026-2029 major project that are yet to come. The Board also had a discussion regarding the potential of an indoor pool, a referendum, the timing and location ideas. In addition, an update to the Longfellow Park Evaluation in the Comprehensive Master Plan will be brought before the Board on the July Regular Board Meeting to prepare for the OSLAD grant application for the park's improvements.

III. COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN (CSMP) UPDATE

Executive Director Arnold noted that the marketing team for 110% will be visiting Oak Park on August 2 and 3 to engage with members of the community to gather input for the CSMP. Staff also purchased an additional add-on service for the CSMP as well which is to help staff see how much a program costs to run and the potential loss of running that program to get a better sense for budgeting purposes. The CSMP process continues to be on schedule.

IV. SCHOLARSHIPS

Executive Director Arnold noted that for 2023, the Park District budgeted \$155,000 for the scholarship program however, \$185,000 in scholarships were awarded. This increase mostly comes from the addition of the CRC and the increase of community members that have looked to

join. The Board would like to see a metric on who is receiving these scholarships to get a bigger picture. In addition, staff are planning on budgeting \$220,000 for scholarships in 2024.

V. CLOSED SESSION

At 2:17pm, a motion was made by Commissioner Wollmuth and seconded by Commissioner Wick to convene into closed session for the discussion of the purchase or lease of a real estate property for the use of the Park District. **The motion was passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

At 2:34pm, a motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Wollmuth to adjourn the Closed Session, and to resume the Board Retreat. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 5:0.**

VI. BOARD GOVERNANCE – CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Jill Allread with Public Communications, Inc. provided the Board with a training on the Roles the Board when Facing a Demanding Public. This includes examples of the public’s expectations vs. reality. An overview of some of the tough questions that the Board can receive. Effective ways to respond to the public which includes the power of bridging with the public. As well as ways to manage the conversation. Jill asked each Board member to test these skills with her and provided feedback.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:39pm, the Board Retreat was adjourned. **The motion was passed with a voice vote of 5:0.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners



President
Board of Park Commissioners

July 25, 2024

Date

July 25, 2024

Date