



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

Thursday, June 20, 2024

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: President Porreca

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Patti Staley, Director of Horticulture & Conservatory Operations; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Nelson Acevedo, Parks & Facilities Manager; and Edith Wood, Executive Assistant

Others: Caitlyn Culbertson with Elrod Friedman; Gary Cuneen with PlanItGreen; Oak Park Resident Sara Schneider; Lauren Johnson with the PDCC; Cheryl Potts with the CMHB

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

III. APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING PUBLIC COMMENT RULES

Executive Director Arnold noted that changes to the Public Comment Rules have been made for some additional clarification, including adding a time limit of 30 minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Wollmuth and seconded by Commissioner Wick. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

IV. VISITOR/PUBLIC

Sara Schneider – Sara noted that she is yoga and dance instructor in Oak Park. Sara has previously contacted staff to see if she is able to get access to one of the fitness rooms in the CRC for practice. Sara was also looking to make this request to the Board as well.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of May 2024; approval of the Minutes from the Local Government Efficiency Task Force Meeting from May 2, 2024, Annual Meeting from May 2, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting from May 2, 2024 and Regular Board Meeting from May 16, 2024; approval to continue to hold the identified closed session minutes and release the February 15, 2024 and March 7, 2024 Closed Session Minutes;



and, approval of the two Intergovernmental Agreements for Fleet Services and Fuel Usage with the Village of Oak Park. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

VI. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Executive Director's Report** – In addition to the Executive Director Report (which is included in the Board Packet), Executive Director Arnold noted that Day Camps, Movies in the Park, and Concerts in the Park have kicked off for the summer. The 4th of July Parade will begin at 9:30am and staff will be meeting at Longfellow Courts. 10,749 pool passes have been sold as of June 19 which is ahead of budget.
- B. Updates and Information** – Written report included in the Board Packet.
- C. Revenue/Expense Status Reports** – No questions asked.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks and Planning Committee

1. PlanItGreen Update – Gary Cuneen with PlanItGreen provided the Board with an update. Gary noted that PlanItGreen started with a Sustainability Plan in which the organization has moved forward with the plan for the past 10 years. Their top priorities include clean energy, equity, working with the community, working with youth, and waste education. Gary noted that the Park District has been a leader in sustainability. Gary provided the Board an overview of these priorities. The Board thanked Gary for his update.

B. Administration and Finance Committee

1. Park District Citizen Committee (PDCC) Update – Lauren Johnson with the PDCC provided the Board with an update. Lauren noted that the PDCC is looking to have seats filled as there are currently 11 members. Meetings are now held in-person with rotating locations. PDCC members continue to take part of the secret shopper program and have also attended the Master Plan review meetings for Longfellow and Fox, as well as the focus group meetings for the Comprehensive Strategic Master Plan. The Board thanked Lauren for the update and noted that the members of the PDCC are a dedicated group.
2. Community Mental Health Board (CMHB) Update – Cheryl Potts with the CMHB provided the Board with an update. Cheryl noted that since opening their office at the CRC there have been many conversations with patrons of the CRC looking for guidance. By the end of the school year, CMHB has organized 42 events and are already planning for future events in the Fall. CMHB has also collaborated with Thrive Counseling. CMHB has also been involved with the monthly senior Walk and Talk program to help seniors break isolation by walking the walking track at the CRC and speaking with one of their members. CMHB has also provided mental health financial aid for Oak Park residents as well as Park District staff. CMHB has also worked with NAMI on various trainings. CMHB also works with DePaul University in provided counseling services during in-school sessions with additional office hours provided. CMHB also gave their thanks to Ann Marie Buczek with her help with marketing. The Board was thankful for the collaboration that the Park District has with the CMHB.



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

3. 2025 Budget Timeline/Guidelines Update – Mitch Bowlin provided the Board with an overview of the 2025 Budget Timeline/Guidelines. Staff have kicked off the 2025 budget review process. Mitch noted that staff will be recommending a 4.9% total increase in the budget which includes an increase in program fees, pool wages, union agreements, benefits, IMRF, risk expenses, and capital transfers. It is noted that the budget presentations to the Board will be held on September 27 and October 3.
4. CRC Net Zero Update – Executive Director Arnold noted that are continuing to work on the energy modeling for the CRC. As more people visit the CRC, there's an increase use of energy. In order to make sure that the CRC is a Net Zero facility, staff will be recommending that additional solar panels be installed. In order to receive the grant for Net Zero, energy use will need to be reviewed over a 12-month period. However, there is uncertainty that staff will be able to show that the building is Net Zero over a 12-month period based on current projections. The Board discussed that this program is also an opportunity to test new technologies.

C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee

1. CRC Teen Afterschool Partnership with Triton College IGA Approval – Executive Director Arnold noted that the Park District has a strong partnership with Triton College and as such are looking to continue the Teen Afterschool program at the CRC. Staff also plan to work with parents to encourage their kids to take advantage of the program for homework assistance. Staff have also received a \$100,000 grant from an anonymous donor for this program. The Board agrees that this is a great program for people to use. A motion was made by Commissioner Lentz and seconded by Commissioner Wick to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Triton College for Homework Assistance for the CRC Afterschool Program for the 2024-2025 school year. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. 947 South Ridgeland Roof Contract Update – Executive Director Arnold noted that staff have gone out to bid for the roof replacement of the 947 South Ridgeland building. The building serves as storage for the field crew fleet. In addition, records that are not to be destroyed are also stored in the building. Three contractors have attended the pre-bid meeting however, bids are due in early July. Staff will bring a recommendation for the Board's consideration at the July 25 Regular Board meeting. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the July Regular Board Meeting.**
2. OSLAD Resolution of Authorization for Longfellow Park Update – Executive Director Arnold noted that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will release the OSLAD grant process from July 1st until early September. Staff plan on submitting an application for the grant for the Longfellow Park Improvements in which staff will be requesting the full grant amount of \$600,000. In order to submit an application, a Resolution of Authorization will need to be approved by the Board. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the July Regular Board Meeting.**



PARK DISTRICT
of OAK PARK

- 3. 2015-2024 Comprehensive Master Plan Update – Executive Director noted that for the pending OSLAD grant request for Longfellow Park, an update to the existing plan is needed. The updates include the master plan updated that were developed via the two community meetings by Planning Resources Inc. (PRI) in 2023. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the July Regular Board Meeting.**

IX. COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS

Commissioner Wollmuth: Attended the FOPCON meeting in person and met the three new members. FOPCON also sends their compliments to staff. Also attended the IGOV meeting. Also visited the pools for a lap swim and enjoyed the staff there.

Commissioner Worley-Hood: Ran into Spencer, the President of the Pleasant Home Foundation and showed his appreciation to Executive Director Arnold and how the home is being taken care of.

Commissioner Wick: Attended the latest Concerts in the Park. Also attended Day in our Village in which he was able to speak with community members. Also enjoyed watching the bubble machine and all the kids playing with it.

Commissioner Lentz: Noted that the PDCC meeting will be next Monday. Noted her appreciation for the people that the Park District has and the quality of work that they put in. Also looking forward to visiting the splash pads with her granddaughter.

X. CLOSED SESSION – None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:51pm, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 4:0.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

July 25, 2024

Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

July 25, 2024

Date