



PARK DISTRICT
of OAK PARK

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

Thursday, February 6, 2025

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; Chris Lindgren, Deputy Director of Properties & Planning; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director of Recreation; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Parks & Facilities; Mike Baiardo, Superintendent of Special Facilities; and Edith Wood, Executive Assistant

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

III. PARKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

- A. Carroll Park/Center Master Plan Update – Executive Director Arnold noted that a community meeting was held on September 18, 2024, to discuss potential improvements for the park/center. Suggestions included adding more shaded areas. The current Master Plan has been updated to reflect these suggestions. **This item will be brought before the Board on the consent agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

- B. Professional Services for Longfellow Park Improvements – Executive Director Arnold noted that the most recent park master plan was completed in December 2023, based on feedback from the community meeting in October 2023. Suggestions included updating the playground, adding a dedicated pickleball area, and improving the splash pad. Planning Resources, Inc., the landscape architect for the 2017 renovations, also assisted with the master plan updates in 2023. Staff are now working with Planning Resources, Inc. to develop a proposal for professional services for the park improvements, with a recommendation to be presented for the Board's consideration and approval at the February Regular Board Meeting. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

- C. Andersen Park Improvements Construction Contract Update – Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that they had approved the design contract with Planning Resources, Inc. in December 2022 to create the drawings, specifications, and construction services for the park improvements at Andersen. The project was delayed due to budgetary impacts from the pandemic. Staff will open the bidding process on February 11 for the construction project and will present a recommendation to the Board for consideration and approval at the February Regular Board Meeting.



Meeting. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

- D. Cheney Mansion Geothermal Wells Project Update – Executive Director Arnold noted that an infrastructure assessment of Cheney Mansion was conducted in 2017, identifying the need for HVAC replacement. To support the district’s electrification goals, staff are planning to install a geothermal HVAC system. The project will be phased, with geothermal wells installed first, followed by the remainder of the HVAC system. This phased approach will help minimize disruptions to programming and weddings. Staff will open bidding for the well installation project on February 7 and will present a recommendation to the Board for consideration and approval at the February Regular Board Meeting. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

IV. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Park District Citizen Committee Approval – Executive Director Arnold noted that there are currently only 12 members on the committee. Daniel Crane has expressed interest in joining the PDCC. Daniel lives closest to Ridgeland Commons and Taylor Park. He is looking to provide input on programming for adults, identifying opportunities for underserved segments, and to provide feedback as a long-time resident. Daniel attended the January PDCC meeting and expressed their desire to join the committee. **This item will be brought before the Board on the consent agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

V. RECREATION AND FACILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- A. Bus Transportation Bid – Executive Director Arnold noted that due to the significant number of vehicles needed for transportation and the resulting costs, staff found it more efficient to contract a single company. Staff went out to bid on January 10. One bid was received from Safeway Transportation Services Corp. Safeway submitted a bid for \$58 per hour, with a minimum of 3 hours for field trips during the school year and summer camp trips. Performance will also be evaluated annually. Staff have worked with Safeway in the past and have been satisfied with their service. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Indoor Pool Concept Study – Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that in 2023, aQuity conducted a Community Survey, which included a question asking residents if they were in favor of an indoor pool, knowing it would require a tax increase. Of the responses received, 69% supported the idea. Based on these results, staff believe that additional information needs to be gathered and shared with the community, including estimates for construction and operating costs. Staff will work with Perkins+Will to create a concept study. Once completed, the results of the study will be presented to the Board for a decision on whether and when to propose a referendum to the community for a tax rate increase to fund the project. Staff are requesting approval for the Indoor Pool Concept Study with Perkins+Will, in an amount not to exceed \$44,500. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the February Regular Board Meeting.**



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VII. CLOSED SESSION – None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:26pm, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned. The motion was passed with a voice vote of 4:0.



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners



President
Board of Park Commissioners

March 13, 2025

Date

March 13, 2025

Date