



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

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lentz, Wollmuth, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca. Commissioner Onayemi was absent.

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Nelson Acevedo, Director of Parks and Facilities; Roger Oney; Supervisor of Parks and Facilities; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others: – None

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

III. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. D200 IGA Facilities – Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that she had been in contact with Greg Johnson, Superintendent at OPRFHS, and a change in the agreement is being made as it was agreed it was unnecessary for charging each agency for swapped staff usage except for specialty items such as technicians for the theatre, but all the other charges will be eliminated from the 2026-2031 agreement. The back facilities page has been updated by OPRFHS as well. This agreement if approved would become effective on October 1, 2026. **This item will be brought before the Board under the consent agenda at the April Regular Board Meeting.**
- B. Maverick Vehicle Purchases – Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that we had budgeted \$60,000 for an electric vehicle for staff in 2026. While searching, staff found two Maverick hybrids from National Audit Fleet Group. In the budget there was an additional money for a battery utility vehicle which we will forgo and use the budgeted amount for two hybrid vehicles for staff daily duties. After pricing them out further, it was found the Zieglar Ford, North Riverside, had the lowest price. Staff are looking for approval for the two Maverick hybrids for \$65,000. The Board confirmed their usage, mileage, and groups that would use them including the Conservatory and the parks and planning group. The pickups would be used to pull the trailers when needed. **This item will be brought before the Board under the regular agenda at the April Regular Board Meeting.**



- C. FOPCON | PDOP Agreement – Executive Director Arnold noted the PDOP and FOPCON met with staff and a Board member for the past several months and had extended the past agreement while the meetings took place. FOPCON’s budget begins on October 1, which would align with the start of this agreement becoming effective. This agreement is for two years and could be extended a third year if all are in agreement. Updates to the agreement include revenue sharing to cover our direct costs as it relates to funding. **This item will be brought before the Board under the consent agenda at the April Regular Board Meeting.**

IV PARKS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

- A. HVAC Emergency Repair - Conservatory – Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that staff identified a critical malfunction on boiler 3 that impacted the operation in the Conservatory. We believe that we have passed the emergency timing for this project as it is now getting warmer and it shouldn’t affect the plants. Executive Director Arnold explained the problems of the repair including: all three boilers are reaching their 20 year life expectancy, newer equipment is actually larger and could not be configured into the current space with the older equipment if it was not all purchased at once, also, the equipment cannot “talk” between the older and newer equipment. The Board questioned if the glass were replaced in the conservatory, would the units still all need to be replaced, and were informed they would. The Board was informed staff will look for something in Sourcewell and if nothing is found, we will go out to bid, with the approximate completion date of September. **This item will be brought before the Board a future Regular Board Meeting.**

V. RECREATION AND FACILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE – None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Parks Foundation Art Sculpture – Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the email sent out in regards to a piece of art called Safe Haven that has been displayed across from the movie theatre on Lake Street from art professor Schencheng Xu at Northeastern Illinois University. Camille Wilson White helped the Parks Foundation with the purchase of this piece that they would like to gift the PDOP for display in Longfellow Park on one of three current art pads. Executive Director Arnold informed them they’d be happy to hear that the beloved Seal from the park was saved and will also be put on one of the art pads as art, not as a water feature. The Board asked if there would be ribbon cutting for the art and were informed it would be at the same time as the reopening of the park. **This item will be brought before the Board at the regular agenda at the April Regular Board Meeting.**

VII. CLOSED SESSION – None



VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:21pm, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned. The motion was passed with a voice vote of 4:0.

Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

May 21, 2026

Date

President
Board of Park Commissioners

May 21, 2026

Date

