



Park District of Oak Park  
Committee of the Whole  
Hedges Administrative Center  
Oak Park, Illinois  
Thursday, September 3, 2020

Minutes

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

**I. Roll Call**

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

**Park District Staff present:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant. Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation and Chris Lindgren attended electronically.

**Others Present:** None.

**II. Public Comment** – None.

**III. Recreation and Facility Program Committee** – None.

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

**V. Administration and Finance Committee**

**A. Draft 2020 Tax Levy**

Executive Director Arnold and Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance, reminded the Board of the 2.3% levy the Park District can take equaling approximately \$230,000. Per the discussion at the Board's Annual Retreat, the Board had given direction to not capture the full amount but a partial of 1.5% which is .8% less than the full CPI. The Board briefly discussed the effects of taking a partial amount on the residents and the Park District. The Board gave consensus to move forward with this option. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**B. 2021 Budget Update**

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board of the meetings for department's budgets within the District and what it would look like for 2021. She also informed the Board of the list of adjustments the Park District has made to the budget along with the cuts, steps being taken to decrease administrative costs, overhead in the District, and what the Park District will most likely look like at the end of the year due to Covid 19. The inability to have access to the schools this fall for evening programming due to the sanitization of the schools and its impact was discussed. Executive Director Arnold added that the District will need to provide space for students during the school days when they are not scheduled in school and that the Park District could handle approximately 300 students. The Board discussed their goals for 2021-2025 and how to continue our current strategic goal of collaboration with the other agencies while maintaining the standards of our Gold Medal agency. The 2021 Board goals include: 1) looking for operational efficiencies, 2) looking for collaborations and partnership opportunities with other Oak Park government entities and 3) explore ways to increase

diversity and social equity with citizen committees. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**D. NRPA Conference Update**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board due to the pandemic, the NRPA in-person conference has been cancelled. Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Revenue Services and Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation, will sign up for the virtual conference which will allow staff to watch sessions both at RCRC and at the administration center. She asked that should the Board wish to attend any virtual sessions to contact her. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**E. Community Service Award Nominations Gathered**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board it is the time of the year to gather nominees to award their service to the community and to get any suggestions to her as soon as possible. Discussion took place of possible nominees. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**VI. New Business** - None

**VII. Closed Session** – None

**VIII. Adjournment**

At 8:17p.m. a voice vote was taken to adjourn the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried in a voice vote.**



Secretary  
Board of Park Commissioners

October 22, 2020  
Date



President  
Board of Park Commissioners

October 22, 2020  
Date