



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

Park District of Oak Park
Regular Board Meeting
Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, October 22, 2020, at 7:30pm

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm.

I. ROLL CALL

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

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

Others Present: Sam Elsner, OPYB/S, and Thomas Howe, AYSO.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda. **The motion was passed by a voice vote.**

III. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley-Hood and seconded by Commissioner Wick to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of September, 2020; approval of minutes from the approval of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, September 3, 2020; approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2022; approval of Executive Director's Contract; approval of Dementia Friendly Community Resolution 2020-10-01; and approval of Ordinance of Disposal of Surplus Property 2020-10-01. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Report

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board of the variety of different youth and adults groups, via technology platforms, have been reached for their input on the CRC virtual meeting scheduled on November 11. It has been promoted in the Wednesday Journal, the FYI, Eblast, and on Facebook. The discussion will focus on potential programs, proposed scheduling per week, and design/construction including sustainability. The meeting will also show four partner videos, such as Maryann Birko, Executive Director of WSSRA. We currently are hosting 150 students working with D97 under the full remote schedule. Maureen will be calling next week to confirm that for this next quarter that D97 will continue to cover the full/reduced lunches. Residents enjoyed the Spooky Walk in Austin Gardens and the Fright at Night at the Conservatory. The fourth blood drive will be hosted at RCRC on November 2; the PDOP is working with the Eagle Scouts project on this blood drive. Covid is once again up-ticking. Illinois has put in place three tiers between our current phase IV and phase III. Tier 1: Weddings and gatherings back to 25 minimum, Tier 2: All indoor recreation programs cancelled, and Tier 3: All indoor and outdoor organized recreation is cancelled. We will continue to monitor and communicate closely.

B. Division Managers' Reports (Updates & Information): Written Report Included in Board Packet.

C. Revenue/Expense Status Report – No questions were asked.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – None

B. Parks and Planning Committee

1. Tree Removal and Trimming Contract*

Commissioner Wick moved and Commissioner Wollmuth seconded to approve a contract with Davis Tree Care, Inc. from Forest Park, IL for tree pruning and removals for a total of \$34, 313.00.

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the PDOP partnered with the VOP to seek out proposals for tree pruning and removal and went out to bid on September 9, 2020. A pre-bid meeting was held on September 16, with seven firms, from which six bids were received. Davis tree Care were the low responsible bidder. We've worked with them before as has the VOP and they are the most local company. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

C. Administration and Finance Committee

1. Community Service Award Nominations Gathered Update

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the many good actions put forth by many of the Village of Oak Park residents and then named a few of the projects/works that the Park District thought they'd like to nominate. The Board discussed the nominees and confirmed them. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

2. NRPA Conference, October 27-29, 2020 Update

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that due to the pandemic, the NRPA Conference would be held virtually. The Park District will be receiving the CAPRA award for outstanding Park District, retaining a perfect score, on October 28, 2020, via the electronic awards ceremony during the conference. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Sam Elsner, OPYB/S, informed the Board that even with the pandemic they had great participation and volunteers, with approximately 672 participants. This number not only shows the lower participation due to Covid but the loss of players to travel ball. The participants and families were very pleased to get some sense of normalcy back into their lives with the playing. He stated how great Maureen, Jan, and the Park District was to work with. When they were finally able to hold the games, the participants had very little interaction, no dugout use. They continue to look for partnerships such as the one they have with the Chicago White Sox as well as sponsors. He also mentioned that should the Park District ever wish to look into software to handle the scheduling of the fields, OPYB/S would be willing to help with that. The Board asked if they had looked at their 2021 season yet and were informed that they had not yet and then thanked Sam and OPYB/S for all the work they do for the community. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**
2. Thomas Howe, AYSO, informed the Board that they had a change in leadership through their organization and that they also after much discussion separated from the River Forest AYSO group. They did partner with the Edge group to host a fall league along with clinics held mid-to-late summer. Their participants of roughly 400 were subsidized so the cost was lower, approximately \$30-\$40 per child. The fall league will end early November. The Board discussed if AYSO was able to do their VIP program and were informed with the pandemic they had not been able to. The Board thanked Thomas and AYSO organization stating how great it was to see all the smiling kids out there being able to participate in soccer in our parks. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

VIII. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Wollmuth** – Reminded the Board that he is the liaison of OPYB/S and AYSO and stated that their remarks this evening were a good representation and reminder of all the people that volunteer and give their time to make the groups successful and hopes both groups will be able to weather the pandemic. He has

been attending the CRC meetings and though they are still slightly high on the budget, he knows that they will get to where they need to be and is looking forward to the presentation at the next CRC Community Meeting.

- **Commissioner Wick** – Informed the Board an IGOV meeting was held last weekend where an action plan is being put in place at the VOP that will eventually be brought down to the other agencies regarding carbon waste. In January, the IGOV will again be hosting a meet the candidate night as they did during the last election. The FOPCON meeting was held and they are moving steadily along holding two uncorked events in September following the state guidelines and they also sent out their annual appeal and have already received some good response to it. He then suggested an event the Park District might do that is being done by Hephzibah, where they are inviting past Board members back. He thought it might benefit the Park District to do so maybe next spring. The Board discussed this and agreed.
- **Commissioner Porreca** – Absent.
- **Commissioner Worley-Hood** – Attended the Pleasant Home meeting and there is a lot of good feelings and work going on regarding the future and programming. He also attend the ESAC meeting and complimented the great working relationship and respect between the committee and the Park District.
- **Commissioner Lentz** – Thanked the commissioners and staff for all the work they've done over the past several months and their ability to adapt with the constant changes.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

X. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:26p.m. a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting. **The motion passed a voice vote.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

November 19, 2020
Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

November 19, 2020
Date