



**Park District of Oak Park  
Regular Board Meeting  
Hedges Administrative Center  
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois  
Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 7:30pm**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioners Aeschleman, Lentz, Wick and President Bullock. Commissioner Guarino arrived at 7:34.

**Park District Staff present:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities; Mike Grandy, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Mike Lushniak, Program & Operations Manager; Diane Stanke, Director of Communications; Melissa Rimdzius, Program Supervisor; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

**Others Present:** Mark Burkland, Attorney; Joan Fiscella, League of Women Voters; John MacManus and Josh Anderson, Altamanu, Inc.; Brian Endless, OPYB/S; Omar Rihani, PMA; and Wes Venteicher, Chicago Tribune.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the agenda. Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that item VI.A.3, GRC Change Orders, was being taken off of the agenda. **The motion was passed by a voice vote.**

**III. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Aeschleman and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of July; Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes, July 11, 2013; Annual Board Retreat Minutes, July 16, 2013; and Regular Board minutes, July 18, 2013. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Director's Report**

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board of the following information in addition to her Executive Director's Report: Construction at the GRC and RCRC, the ribbon cutting for GRC is set for October 5, 140+ loads of topsoil was shared and spread on baseball diamond fields throughout the village as well as in River Forest, Rehm Pool is now on part-time hours, three Ellis audits were conducted this summer with 2 exceeds and 1 met expectation scores, fall permitting has begun, soccer fields are ready, D97 Intergovernmental Agreement discussions are to begin on August 23, with Commissioners Aeschleman and Lentz attending, the Elected Official's BBQ is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2, the web-site and work order system on the web-site are up and running, Patrick from the AAC spoke at the Park Foundation meeting to discuss potential art at the GRC, signs will be required to be placed in parks banning weapons based on the new Illinois concealed carry legislation, and Jan spoke of staff changes. A question was voiced regarding the Conservatory's staff working in the parks vs. the District's contractor and it was confirmed that this would be discussed during the Budget Meetings.

**B. Division Managers' Reports (Updates & Information):** Mike Lushniak, Programs and Operations Manager, presented updates and information to the Board.

**C. Revenue/Expense Status Report** – A Commissioner questioned negative funds for Cheney Mansion which was confirmed that it was due to Cheney Mansion being in a negative fund balance.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance**

1. **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) 2014-2015\***

**Commissioner Aeschleman moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the 2014-2018 Capital Improvement Plan.** Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the CIP discussions began in March and at many subsequent meetings going through each park individually and finalizing improvements for 2014 at the Board Retreat. The Board agreed that it was discussed at length. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

2. **Ridgeland Common Recreation Complex (RCRC) Change Order\***

**Commissioner Aeschleman moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the MWRD, suction line, and IDPH change orders for the Ridgeland Common Recreation Complex in the total amount not to exceed \$140,598.** Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that during construction the need for the three change orders were identified and that the amount was in the contingency. The Board questioned if in fact these were truly change orders, questioning responsibility for the circumstances which require the change orders. The Board was informed that the original plans of Ridgeland listed the wrong dimensions resulting in the suction line change and that the final approved rules from IDPH came after the bid for RCRC requiring changes. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

3. **Gymnastics Recreation Center (GRC) Change Order\***

Removed from the agenda at beginning of meeting.

### **B. Administration and Finance Committee**

1. **Safety Manual\***

**Commissioner Guarino moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the changes to the Safety Manual.** Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that it was a good business practice to look annually at the District's manuals and update accordingly. The Safety Manual's changes represent this update. No questions were asked by the Board. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

2. **Crisis Management Plan\***

**Commissioner Guarino moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the Crisis Management Plan.** Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that this plan was needed for the accreditation process but it was formed also as good business practice. This is a good manual to have on site and for the staff to have as guidance and good practice. The Board thanked the Marketing and Communications team for their work on the plan. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

### **C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee -**

1. **Dog Park Plus\***

**Commissioner Lentz introduced the discussion regarding consideration of Dog Park Plus (DPP) locations.** Executive Director Arnold led a discussion with the Board regarding the criteria approved by the Board at its July Regular Board meeting for selection of a DPP site. Those criteria was created by Altamanu, Inc. in collaboration with FOOPD and Park District staff and in consideration of the information and opinions from the public at the July Committee of the Whole meeting. The Board thoroughly reviewed the scoring of the parks under the criteria and noted again that no park came close to the minimum score of 20 points

set by the Board to be considered for a DPP location. The highest score was 12.5. Several scores for various parks were discussed. The Austin Gardens scores were reviewed, particularly the score related to the existing fence. The existing fence does not detain small dogs. Park District attorney Burkland confirmed that Cook County's fence requirement is intended to keep unleashed dogs securely contained within a defined dog park area. Several commissioners agreed that the approved criteria were properly applied to Austin Gardens and stated that Austin Gardens generally is not appropriate for a DPP site. The commissioners agreed that, through numerous meetings and extensive studies, the Park District has completed its diligent attempt to find a DPP site and that the conclusion is clear that there is no site available. Executive Director Arnold confirmed for the Board that FOOPD was notified that the DPP matter would be discussed at this meeting. The commissioners stated that it would have been better if space was available, but public safety and the overall needs of the residents are paramount. One commissioner noted that Miller Meadow will have a dog grove and that project is scheduled for completion in 2014. Commissioner Aeschleman stated that the Park District should plan to reconsider this matter in future years. **The Board determined that the thorough DPP research has been concluded and that no Park District facility fits the criteria for a DPP site.**

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. OPYB/S Update\***

Brian Endless, President OPYB/S, updated the Board on the past year's successes and items requiring attention. He stated that in terms of partnership with the Park District, this was the best year yet and felt with Jan's, Travis's and Mike's attention, great strides had been taken in terms of working together. They appreciated being invited to attend planning meetings and are excited for the batting cages that will be in place at RCRC and were pleased to be able to contribute towards them. He questioned if it was possible for the PACT Agreements to be looked at for multi-year increments instead of annually. He discussed concerns with fees in the PACT Agreements as well as space concerns.

### **2. Teen Center Report\***

Melissa Rimdzius, Program Supervisor, discussed the numbers for the 2012 Teen Center year and updated the Board on the past year's successes with programming and the declining memberships despite repeated attempts to increase the numbers; resulting in the request to close the Teen Center. Melissa explained the plan to allocate the closed Teen Center's budget towards teen programming which has shown increased numbers and successes. The Board thanked her for her attempts at keeping the center open and agreed that the money could be better used towards programming. Discussion took place as to how the facility would be used in the future and possible programming for the teens. The Board agreed that at this time the Teen Center would close at the end of the year but could be reassessed in the future.

## **VIII. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

- **Commissioner Aeschleman** – Thanked Jan and Travis for attending the OPYB/S affiliates meeting and mentioned the AYSO upcoming meeting. He also thanked buildings and grounds for getting the fields ready. He stated that he liked the intergovernmental sharing information that was put in the Executive Director's report this month.
- **Commissioner Guarino** – Stated that the new Irving turf looks great and suggested everyone take the time to go and see it.
- **Commissioner Lentz** – Reminded everyone of the WSSRA *Making Tracks Race* coming up. Schiller Park has approached WSSRA regarding becoming a partner. WSSRA will also be hosting a fundraiser at Cheney Mansion in September. Pleasant Home will be hosting their

House Walk in October as a fundraiser and also recently held an ice cream social as well as hosting black and white film nights on the porch.

- **Commissioner Wick** – Visited Taylor Park which was in high use. He loves to see all the family activity and is looking forward to Fallfest. He enjoyed that event and thought it was great for families. He also suggested the possibility of some type of family Olympic event that both kids and adults could participate in.
- **President Bullock** – No comment.

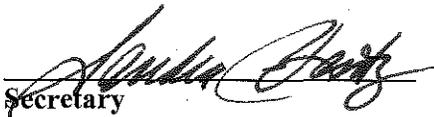
**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:37p.m. Commissioner Lentz moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners convene into closed session for discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the Park District. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

At 9:55p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Aeschleman and seconded by Commissioner Wick to adjourn the Executive Session. **The motion passed a voice vote of 5:0.**

**X. ADJOURN MEETING**

**At 9:55p.m. the meeting was adjourned by a voice vote.**



Secretary  
Board of Park Commissioners

September 19, 2013

Date



President  
Board of Park Commissioners

September 19, 2013

Date