



Park District of Oak Park  
Committee of the Whole  
Cheney Mansion  
230 N. Euclid  
Oak Park, Illinois  
Thursday, September 12, 2013

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm.

**I. Roll Call**

**Present:** Commissioners Aeschleman, Lentz, Wick, and President Bullock. Commissioner Guarino arrived at 7:36.

**Park District Staff present:** Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent Recreation; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Revenue Services; Mike Grandy, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance; Diane Stanke, Director of Marketing; Helen Vogel, Cheney Mansion Supervisor; Michael Lushniak, Aquatic & Rink Manager; Jackie Sturtz, Aquatic & Rink Program Supervisor; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

**Others Present:** Don McKay, Nagle Hartray; Diana Rosenbroch and Anne Courter, Collaboration For Early Childhood and Patrick Dahlstrom, Art Advisory Committee.

**III. Recreation and Facility Program Committee**

**A. Art Advisory Update**

Patrick Dahlstrom informed the Board of the work the AAC had been involved with over the past year including: inventorying of all the art for the District, discussions with the Park Foundation for future pieces, cleaning of two Mars paintings, placement of *The Well* sculpture, extension of the *Pillow* sculpture contract, fundraising and unexpected costs. The Board thanked Patrick and the AAC for their work. A brief discussion took place regarding insurance on the artwork which will be further researched with PDRMA. **No action by the Board is necessary for this item.**

**B. Park District Early Childhood Programming and Collaboration for Early Childhood**

Executive Director Arnold began by reminding the Board of the partnership with the Collaboration for Early Childhood. Diana Rosenbroch and Anne Courter reviewed the highlights of the past year including: workshops and college classes for teachers providing credit hours, coordination of at-risk children, hearing and vision screenings, and their annual symposium. They explained the tools that will be brought to schools and homes to assess the children and assist/support families as needed. Discussion took place regarding at risk children and its definition and the Collaboration's tracking of their work to define its success; the Board was informed of the hard data that will be available in the years to come as it is tracked. They informed the Board of the VOP, D200 and D97 partnering and thanked the Park District for their contributions. **This will be put on the regular agenda at the September Regular Board Meeting.**

**C. Discussion Regarding Potential Year-Round Ice**

Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities, stated that two factors were being looked at in the decision for year round ice: 1) cost of operation/potential revenue generation and 2) summer program opportunities in lieu of year-round ice. The Board was informed that 45 of 47 local rinks that had the capability of providing year-round ice are doing so. Additionally, 15 of 20 rinks surveyed responded that their summer months' participation, while lower than winter, has remained consistent. The budget and programming options for both year-round and seasonal ice were discussed. The Board questioned whether there was a way through marketing or early commitment to have actual numbers for the 2014 summer as they were not confident of

beginning the year-round ice in June after being closed through the construction period. **No action by the Board is necessary for this item.**

**D. Park District Citizens Committee Nomination – Steven Miller**

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that Steven Miller had expressed interest in joining the PDCC and had attended a meeting. He participated in the meeting and had a lot to discuss on the GIS system. He is involved in the community and his background will be an asset to the PDCC. **This will come before the Board on the consent agenda at the October Regular Board Meeting.**

**IV. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee**

**A. Lindberg Park – Professional Landscape Architecture Services Recommendation**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the master plan and upcoming renovations for this project along with the OSLAD matching grant. The proposal from Wolff Landscape Architecture services will also include a planting plan. The Board stated that they would like to make sure that the GAC is part of the planning of the plantings and were assured that they would be. The protection of the turf during the renovation was confirmed. **This will be put on the regular agenda at the September Regular Board Meeting.**

**B. John Hedges Administration Building Architectural Services**

Executive Director Arnold explained to the Board that these architectural services are needed for an exploration of the Hedges Administrative Center to gather potential costs of the project - similar to the exploration done at RCRC for its renovation. The Board agreed this needed to be completed as it was such an old building and much work needed to be done. **This will be put on the regular agenda at the September Regular Board Meeting.**

**C. Cheney Mansion Greenhouse Architectural Services**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the Cheney Mansion Greenhouse had been approved in the 2014 CIP and the Park District was moving forward with the architectural services for the property with the hopes to begin work in February. Don McKay, Nagle Hartray, Helen Vogel, Cheney Mansion Supervisor, and the Board discussed expectations, options, and costs of options for the renovations of the greenhouse as well as time lines and limitations due to the structure and the budget. They agreed further discussion was needed. This will be put on the October Committee of the Whole Agenda.

**V. Administration and Finance Committee**

**A. Renaming Tot Lots**

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that with changes in the park system and added amenities to the tot lots, they were no longer just tot lots. With the possibility of bringing more community into those parks, it was proposed to change the name from “tot lot” to “park”. The Board questioned if new signs would be needed which was affirmed. **This will be put on the consent agenda at the September Regular Board Meeting.**

**B. First Budget Meeting, September 26, 2013, at the Oak Park Conservatory Update**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the first budget meeting will be held on September 26. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**C. Community Service Award Nominations Update**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the Community Service nominations are due in by Friday, October 7. The Board had a discussion if anyone under a contract with the Park District should be eligible and all agreed that they should not while under contract. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**D. Elected Official BBQ Update – October 2, 2013**

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the upcoming Elected Officials BBQ's date of Wednesday, October 2, where they are able to network and share information with other Oak Park elected officials. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**E. Fall Park Tour Update**

The Fall Park Tour will take place on Saturday, September 28. Sites to be toured are: Lindberg Park, Cheney Mansion Greenhouse, GRC and RCRC; they Board agreed on the time of 8:30-11:30. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

**VI. New Business**

None.

**VII. Executive Session**

At 9:15p.m. Commissioner Aeschleman 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 9:40p.m.a motion was made by Commissioner Guarino and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to adjourn the Executive Session. **The motion passed a voice vote of 5:0.**

**VIII. Adjournment**

At 9:40pm a voice vote was taken to adjourn the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried in a voice vote 5:0.**

  
Secretary  
Board of Park Commissioners

October 24, 2013  
Date

  
President  
Board of Park Commissioners

October 20, 2013  
Date

