



**Park District of Oak Park
Committee of the Whole Meeting
Oak Park Conservatory
615 Garfield Street
Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, March 5, 2015**

Minutes

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

I. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Aeschleman, Guarino, Lentz, and Wick. President Bullock was absent.

Park District Staff present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance; Diane Stanke, Director of Marketing and Customer Service; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Chris Lindgren, Assistant Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Poppy Vogel, Cheney Mansion Supervisor; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Marianne Birko, WSSRA; Chris Wollmuth, GAC; and a resident.

II. Public Comment

III. Recreation and Facility Program Committee

A. WSSRA Annual Report Update

Marianne Birko, Executive Director WSSRA, updated the Board on the tasks accomplished during the past year, successes achieved, and the 2014 highlights including: programs and participants, camps, Olympic athletes, youth hiring, fundraisers, grants, and Board accomplishments. A video of a child interacting with a Lekotec toy was shown to the Board so they could see the power and impact a participant experiences. The Board asked what more they could do for WSSRA and then thanked her. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

B. PACT Agreements – Education Foundation

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the PACT program and the Oak Park Education Foundation's request for a PACT agreement in regards to their BASE camp program. The dates of the camp and the ratio of counselors to kids were discussed. **This will come before the Board at the March Regular Board Meeting under the consent agenda.**

C. PACT Agreements – Fenwick High School

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that the details for Fenwick's PACT Agreement were still being worked out. She discussed the amenities such as tennis courts and the Lindberg Park baseball fields that Fenwick is requiring and amenities that the Park District is possibly looking at for programs including a computer lab, the theatre, and possibly the gymnasium for a drop-in open gym. The Board asked feasibility questions of a program like this but all agreed that it would be a great benefit to the community. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

IV. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee

A. Greening Advisory Committee Annual Report

Chris Wollmuth, GAC Chair, informed the Board that the GAC had a successful year which began by the organization of the following groups within the committee: Energy, Building and Facilities, Water, Landscaping, Education and Waste and Recycling. Along with the work being done in each of the groups, the GAC took part in many aspects of the PDOP including research

into synthetic turf; finding no validity for concerns for synthetic turf. Through this research, they were also very pleased with the information found on the new Nike Grind turf being looked at for fields in Oak Park. The Board discussed a week long tree tagging program through the Oak Park Forestry division making a wide variety of information available to residents and the possibility of the VOP's energy group and GAC working together on like synergies for collaboration. The Board thanked Chris and the GAC for their work and stated they were pleased with how the GAC has grown. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

B. Cheney Mansion's Annual Report

Helen Vogel, Cheney Mansion Supervisor, gave a brief introduction to the history of Cheney Mansion and then addressed the following information: staffing, revenue, 2014 highlights, programming and rentals, expenses and that booking for 2016 has already begun. Ms. Vogel also explained the new responsibility of handling the Conservatory's rentals. A discussion took place of what the competition was for the Cheney Mansion. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

C. Easement Agreement – Brookfield/North Riverside Water Commission Update

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that a letter of intent is being brought to the VOP's Board for approval in May. The PDOP has prepared an Easement Agreement with Altamnu's guidance for the upcoming construction with the minimal impact on trees. The Board questioned if the roots of trees were considered and were assured they were following the policy to protect the trees and fencing. The Board was also informed of the timeline from July through November for the full renovation of Maple Park and that all the affiliates had been informed. Pipe will be brought in during the construction to the water fountain. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

D. OSLAD Grant Potential Project Discussion Update

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board she had received a call informing of the freezing of OSLAD Grants that had not been completed and also of the grants that had just been awarded. The future of the OSLAD grants currently does not look good and the assets could be frozen up for the next four years. Should the opportunity for new grants open up for 2016, the Park District would like to proceed with an OSLAD grant for Stevenson Park and all the amenities included in the park plan. The Board agreed that we have really done well with past grants awarded and hope that they will open up and agreed Stevenson Park would be an excellent applicant. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

E. Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center Update

Bid packets have been available as of February 13. To date, packets have been picked up in every trade with many questions being asked which bodes well for an accurate bid. Bid packets will be opened on March 13, and brought to the Board for approval at the March 19, Regular Board Meeting. **This will come before the Board at the March Regular Board Meeting under the regular agenda.**

V. Administration and Finance Committee

A. VOP/PDOP Intergovernmental Agreement - Parking

Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board of the past intergovernmental agreements for parking with the VOP and the few changes incorporated in the new agreement. This IGA will be for three years or until Madison Highlands construction begins. The Board questioned the possibility of the construction and were told Madison Highlands lease was up at the end of July and staff parking would move to Adams if/when construction were to begin. **This will come before the Board at the March Regular Board Meeting under the consent agenda.**

B. VOP/PDOP Intergovernmental Agreement – Taylor Park Street Drainage Update

Due to the buildup of ice at the corner of Ridgeland Avenue and the corner of Taylor Park's bioswale, the VOP approached the PDOP to work together for better drainage. The Board agreed with the work and directed the Executive Director to confirm all the details of the agreement are incorporated accordingly. **This will come before the Board at the March Regular Board Meeting under the consent agenda.**

C. Executive Director's Annual Performance Review Update

This item will be postponed until the March 19, 2015, Regular Board Meeting due to the absence of President Bullock.

VI. New Business - None

VII. Executive Session - None

VIII. Adjournment

At 9:11p.m. Commissioner Lentz motioned and Commissioner Guarino seconded to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting. **Motion carried in a voice vote.**


Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

April 16, 2015
Date


President
Board of Park Commissioners

April 16, 2015
Date