



**Park District of Oak Park
Committee of the Whole
Hedges Administrative Center
Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, January 7, 2016, at 7:30pm**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:37pm.

I. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Guarino, Lentz, Porreca, Wick, and President Aeschleman.

Park District Staff present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Chris Lindgren, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Heidi Ruele-May, Executive Director Pleasant Home; Paul Greenberg, Vice President Pleasant Home Foundation; and Joan Fiscella, League of Women Voters.

II. Public Comment - None

III. Recreation and Facility Program Committee

A. Pleasant Home Foundation

Heidi Ruele-May, Executive Director of Pleasant Home, and Paul Greenberg, Vice President, ran through the 2015 year and Pleasant Home's future goals. Also discussed were construction projects and costs that had taken place, Kids-Connect the middle school educational program, the work being done for the digital website, programs, goals and finances. The Board questioned their ability to meet their financial goals and was informed that they were confident especially with the changes made to the memberships and new marketing taking place such as Trip Advisor. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

B. Field Utilization Study

Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation, and Travis Stephen, Sports Field Manager, discussed the utilization of the sports fields and the maintenance including: 2015 vs 2014 permits and fields' usage, aeration, over-seeding, top dressing, irrigation, IPM strategy, field position, and the managing of the additional D97 school fields. The Board discussed infield mixtures, the goal to have each team practice in Oak Park, and their desire to look into making changes to the PACT. The Board thanked them for the comprehensive report and the continued movement towards improvement. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

IV. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee

A. Vehicle Replacements Update

The Board was reminded of the PDOP's vehicle rotation schedules and upcoming needs. **No action is needed on this item at this time.**

B. Austin Gardens Master Plan Review Update

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board of the community meeting with over 65 people in attendance. Middle school students presented a model of the park showing the shadow study and the effects of the new construction on the park. Discussion took place on the planting material, volunteers, pavers, the concerns of opening up the park, homeless population sleeping in the park and the Township and intervention programs. The Board discussed the park and the surrounding area and residents and confirmed that a survey was also posted to our website for additional input. **This will come before the Board at the March Board Meeting.**

V. Administration and Finance Committee

A. Illinois Park and Recreation Conference January 28-30 Update

Jan Arnold, Executive Director, reminded the Board of the upcoming conference; where staff along with four commissioners will be attending. All are looking forward to bringing back good information to be shared with the District. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

VI. New Business - None

VII. Executive Session - None

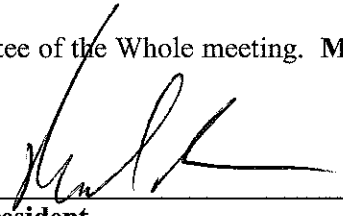
VIII. Adjournment

At 9:03p.m. a voice vote was taken to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. **Motion carried in a voice vote.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

February 18, 2016
Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

February 18, 2016
Date