



**PARK DISTRICT
of OAK PARK**

**Park District of Oak Park
Regular Board Meeting
Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7:30pm**

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lentz, Porreca, Wick, and President Aeschleman. Commissioner Guarino arrived at 7:42.

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

Others Present: Joan Fiscella, League of Women Voters; Chris Wollmuth, GAC; and Marianne Birko, Executive Director WSSRA.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

III. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of February, 2017; approval of minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting February 2, 2017, and the Regular Board Meeting February 16, 2017; approval of the Travel Reimbursement Ordinance; and approval of the Purchase Card Agreement. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Director's Report

Jan Arnold, Executive Director, updated the Board on the liquor License which is currently scheduled to be on the Village's agenda on Monday, March 20, Festival Theatre has been invited to attend and she will keep the Board apprised, OPRF Foundation has donated \$5,000 towards our scholarships for summer camps which we will work with D97 to identify kids in need, the PDOP has been meeting with D200 for conversations on pool and space collaborations, the Maple Park Grand Opening is scheduled on April 8, on the south side of the park at 10am and the egg hunt will also be taking place at the same time on the north side of the park at 9am, 10am, and 11am with a doggie egg hunt at 10:30am, and the Ice Show is this weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

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

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – None

B. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee

1. Donation of Solar Panels by Natural Resources Defense Council

Commissioner Wick moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners accept this generous gift to help continue our sustainability initiatives from the Natural Resource Defense Council in an amount of \$9,085. The Board was reminded of the donation of 6 panels from NRDC and the purchase of 14 panels by the Park District for a total of 20 panels installed. The panels will produce 30-40% of energy required for Longfellow. The Board had no further questions. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

2. Austin Gardens Update

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that last night a Forum was held at the Library for the Albion property; a lot of conversation and support took place for Austin Gardens. Per the Board's request, the staff is compiling information regarding the costs of impact on the park such as relocation of the solar panels, plants, etc. Should the 1000 Lake property go before the planning commission on April 6, our Committee of the Whole Meeting will be moved up to 6:00pm to allow any Board members who would like to attend the meeting the ability to do so. She also reminded them of the Austin Guards event taking place at Austin Gardens on Sunday to bring awareness to the Albion building. The Board agreed that should any of them speak to the press or residents to be aware that they will be construed as talking for the entire Board and should respond accordingly.

C. Administration and Finance Committee – None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. WSSRA Annual Report

Marianne Birko, Executive Director WSSRA, Marianne informed the Board of their past year for including position changes for the new full-time Public Relations position, the bar code scanner to help scan toys, events including Martin Luther King Day, 2016/2017 Recognition Banquet, D97 Young Athlete Event, Day In Our Village, Oak Park 4th of July parade, softball tournament, gymnastics, the increased programming, and medals received in the Special Olympics. Facilities continue to be a problem for them but are very happy with the PDOP and all that they make available to WSSRA. She then pointed out on the back of the snap shot of 2016 flyer Ricky Smith, who has been a part of WSSRA for 41 years and that he had been named the Athlete of the Year. The Board discussed inclusion, size of the partners, federal funding, and families involved. Marianne thanked Diane Stanke, PDOP Communications and Marketing Manager, for help during the interview process for their new full-time position and Commissioner Porreca for her support as the Park District's representative. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

2. Greening Advisory Committee (GAC) Annual Update

Chris Wollmuth, GAC Chair, informed the Board of the two main areas the GAC tackled in 2016, which was their zero waste events and weed control. He went on to discuss the successes of the zero waste and the level of learning that incurred which they will take into 2017 for more success. They are looking for volunteer groups for the remaining concerts that have not yet been scheduled and informed the Board of the communications that will take place before and after each concert to inform the residents. They did not have much success with their efforts for green weed control. He spoke of two items they tried and the applications, and waiting, and watching for the results. Patti Staley and the GAC are continuing to work together on weed control. The Board questioned crossover with the VOP and it was stated with the new person at the VOP and their expanded role, there could be some crossover. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Porreca** – Attended the FOPCON meeting where a lot of discussion was regarding their first retreat and what they had learned.
- **Commissioner Lentz** – Attended the Pleasant Home Foundations meeting and that with the Board's donations, had raised over \$5,000. They took a tour of the upstairs and were all impressed with the painting, floors, and space and they are aware no recommendations will be made until after the assessment. They held a very successful mystery weekend and the fundraising for the stained glass is going great.
- **Commissioner Wick** – Drove around the south side parks an evening last week and was very impressed at how well they all looked in the evening with the lighting. He also stated he was surprised to read an MSN article with the 100 busiest streets in the country and Oak Park was listed as 45th busiest streets. He and Commissioner Lentz attended the OP Democratic meet and greet and had a good time talking with residents and getting feedback on the Park District.
- **Commissioner Guarino** – Apologized for being late and stated he has been attending a lot of the forums for the 1000 Lake property and is very thankful for our Board. He said he has been getting a lot of questions regarding Euclid Park and confirmed the master plan was up on the PDOP site. He also suggested that the PDOP suggest banning dogs at Austin Gardens. He thought it might be good for the word to get out that it could be a possibility with the Albion building and their marketing of the park for dog use. He suggested that the Commissioners and residents keep the pressure on and make sure they are heard as interested parties.
- **Commissioner Aeschleman** – Is looking forward to the Ice Show and is happy with the open dialogue regarding the pool with D200.

X. CLOSED SESSION

At 8:32pm Commissioner Wick moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners convene into closed session for the discussion of performance of a specific employee of the Park District. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

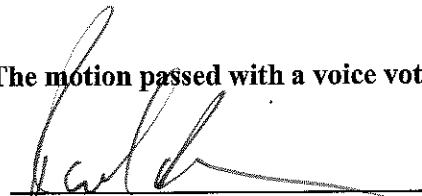
At 9:16pm a motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Guarino to adjourn the Closed Session. **The motion passed a voice vote of 5:0.**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:16pm the Regular Board meeting was adjourned. **The motion passed with a voice vote.**


Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

April 20, 2017
Date


President
Board of Park Commissioners

April 20, 2017
Date