

**Park District of Oak Park
Committee of the Whole Meeting
John Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lentz, Onayemi, Wollmuth, Worley-Hood, and President Porreca.

Park District Staff Present: Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Chris Lindgren, Deputy Director of Properties & Planning; Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director of Recreation; Ann Marie Buczek, Director of Marketing and Community Engagement; and Arlene Pedraza, Accounting Manager.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

III. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. 2025 Audit Report Presentation – Director Arnold shared that Lauterbach & Amen will provide the Board with a review of the 202 Audit Report at their meeting on June 19. There was a delay with the Parks Foundation providing some material for their audit which caused the delay. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**
- B. PDOP Fixed Asset Review – Mitch Bowlin began with a review of the PDOP fixed asset policy and then provided a review of the PDOP 2024 Fixed Assets. This information is prepared annually as part of the audit. No questions were asked. **This item will be brought before the Board at the consent agenda at the June Regular Board Meeting.**
- C. 2026 Budget Guidelines and Timeline - Mitch Bowlin provided the Board with an overview of the 2026 Budget Timeline/Guidelines. Staff have kicked off the 2026 budget review process. Mitch noted that staff will be recommending a 4.4% total increase (2.9% CPI and 1.5% New Growth) in the budget which includes an increase in program fees, pool wages, union agreements, benefits, IMRF, risk expenses, and capital transfers. Mitch shared that program pricing increases will be made based on the new pricing tool looking at Common Good versus Exclusive Use. The Board asked staff to prepare talking points on the budget once it is completed. It was noted that the budget presentations to the Board will be held on October 2 and 9. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**
- D. Lease for Model Engineer Society – Director Arnold shared that the new three-year lease would include a 5% increase to offset the increase in expenses including utilities. The



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

Board was pleased to hear they have 113 members of which 83 are Oak Park residents. **This item will be brought before the Board at the consent agenda at the June Regular Board Meeting.**

- E. Austin Trust Update – Mitch Bowlin and Executive Director Arnold provided the Board with an update on where the Austin Garden Trust Fund stands after funding for Festival Theater lighting. The Board was reminded that the funds can only be used for maintenance of Austin Gardens and for arts in the park that was set up by the former family. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

IV. PARK AND PLANNING COMMITTEE – None

V. RECREATION AND FACILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE – None

VI. NEW BUSINESS – None

VII. CLOSED SESSION – None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

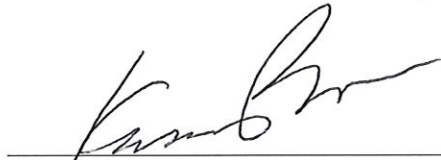
At 8:17pm, the Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed with a voice vote of 5:0.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

July 24, 2025

Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

July 24, 2025

Date