



**Park District of Oak Park
Regular Park Board Meeting
John Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302**

Thursday, June 19, 2025

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: President Porreca.

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Maureen McCarthy, Deputy Director of Recreation; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations; Chris Lindgren, Deputy Director of Properties & Planning; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities; Arlene Pedraza, Finance Manager; Nelson Acevedo, Parks & Facilities Manager; Chad Drufke, Program & Operations Manager CRC; Daniel Ochoa, Fitness; Jim Ringstad, CRC Building Supervisor, and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others: Jonathon Sanchez, Josh Fortman, Jackson Friker, Cheryl Potts, Oak Park Mental Health Board; and Jasleen Kaur, Lauterbach and Amen.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.

IV. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Commissioner Worley-Hood informed the attendees that the PDOP wanted to thank individuals, both residents and staff, who stepped in to help during a serious medical emergency and to express our deepest appreciation for their courageous and selfless quick responses. Commissioner Worley-Hood awarded a PDOP Certificate of Recognition to Jackson Friker, Jonathon Sanchez, Josh Fortman, Nelson Acevedo, and Daniel Ochoa.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wollmuth and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to approve the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of May 2025; approval of Continued Regular Board Meeting, May 1, 2025; Annual Meeting from May 1, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting from May 1, 2025, Spring Park Tour May 10, 2025, and Regular Board Meeting from May 15, 2025; approval to continue to hold the identified closed session minutes and release the February 20, 2025 and March 6, 2025 Closed Session Minutes; approval of PDOP Fixed Assets; approval of 2026 Budget Guidelines and Timelines; approval of



Lease Agreement with Society of Model Engineers; and approval of Disposal Ordinance 2025-06-19. The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 4:0.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director's Report – In addition to the Executive Director Report (which is included in the Board Packet), Executive Director Arnold noted that we are in the second week of day camps, and the parks are full of activity. The pools are open as well and we kicked off the concerts in the park. A tent has been put up in Scoville Park hoping to prevent cancellations of the music with the late Sunday afternoon showers that tend to take place. The 4th of July parade is taking place again this year and we will be lining up at 9:30am; we look forward to seeing everyone out there.

A. Updates and Information – Written report included in the Board Packet.

B. Revenue/Expense Status Reports – No questions asked.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks and Planning Committee

B. Administration and Finance Committee

1. 2024 Audit Presentation

Jasleen Kaur with L&A provided the Board with an update on the highlights from the 2024 audit report and the finance performance of the Park District as of December 31, 2024. She stated there were no issues during the course of the audit and the PDOP received the GFOA award for excellence in our financial reporting. For the 2024 Audit, the Park District received the highest level possible with an unmodified opinion and Jasleen congratulated staff for their work. Mitch Bowlin, Director of Business Operations, and Arlene Pedraza, Finance Manager, provided the Board with details on individual funds. The Board had no questions and thanked Jasleen Kaur.

2. Community Mental Health Board (CMHB) Update

Cheryl Potts, CMHB, provided the Board with an update stating their second year at the CRC was just as successful with 22 community sessions and 229 visits with Oak Park residents, which included free mental health, drug intervention, stress care and other opportunities with education prevalent in all. They have held trainings for Collaboration for early Childhood staff on emotional learning and early intervention and are working with Smart Love Family Services. They are very grateful for the space in the CRC and to be able to get their information out through our communications. The Board asked if they worked with WSSR and were informed they do. The Board thanked them for all their efforts.

C. Recreation and Facility Program Committee

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Solar Update for CRC

Chris Lindgren, Deputy Director of Properties and Planning, wanted to give the Board a quick update on the additional canopy over the parking lot of the CRC. As more people visit the CRC, there's an increased use of energy. In order to make sure that the CRC is a



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

Net Zero facility, staff will be recommending that additional solar panels be installed. There will be zoning we need to go through for the parking structures. The bids will be opened on July 18 and will come to the Board for approval at a future Regular Board Meeting. The Board discussed additional charging stations along the west wall of the Hedges Administrative Center. **This item will be brought before the Board on the regular agenda at the July Regular Board Meeting.**

The Board was informed this would be the final Regular Board meeting that Chris Lindgren would be attending as he had accepted the position as Executive Director of the Wilmette Park District. Executive Director Arnold went on to say that he has been an integral part of our team and while he learned on the go turning Austin Gardens into a teaching facility, he has come a long way and plans to duplicate what he has done here over in Wilmette. The Board applauded Chris and all of his accomplishments at the PDOP.

IX. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Wollmuth: Extended congratulations to Chris and went on to say that it is our loss but a benefit to the parks of Illinois.

Commissioner Worley-Hood: Wished Chris the best of luck and said they are lucky to have you.

Commissioner Onayemi: Stated that he appreciated working with Chris on the Field Center and although it was brief, it was very sweet, and he wished him well.

Commissioner Lentz: Reiterated it was a delight to work with Chris and mentioned that Wilmette has no idea what they are getting with the resources he is bringing with him.

President Porreca: Absent.

X. CLOSED SESSION – None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12pm, the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned. **The motion was passed by a voice vote of 4:0.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

July 24, 2025

Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

July 24, 2025

Date