

**Park District of Oak Park
Regular Board Meeting
Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:30pm**

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

Park District Staff present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Chris Lindgren, Superintendent of Parks and Planning; Nelson Acevedo, Buildings Supervisor; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Resident.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

III. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rob Kleps – Wanted to praise BlueEarth Deconstruction for the fine job they did on the demolition of the Kenilworth property and thanked the Board for listening to his requests and concerns. He also wanted to recommend the Park District plant more wild flowers along the edges of the parks not only for aesthetic reasons but he feels it would be easier and save time for the maintenance teams working in the parks. The Board thanked him for his comments and work he’s done on the PDCC.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Wollmuth to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of July 2021; approval of minutes from the Continued Regular Board Meeting, July 1, 2021, the Committee of the Whole Meeting, July 1, 2021, and the Regular Board Meeting, July 29, 2021; and approval of Disposal Ordinance 2021-08-01. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0.**

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. Director’s Report

Executive Director Arnold informed the Board that our day camps are ending tomorrow as our high school staff went back to school this week and we finished with a lot of full-time staff filling in where needed. The swim lessons wrapped up today; staff did a really great job with their limited resources due to Covid, staff shortages, and the Aquatics Manager out. The Black Panther movie is playing this evening and the last movie of the summer, A Dog’s Way Home, is scheduled for September 16; the ESAC continues to run waste events during the movies in the park. The last concert is scheduled for Sunday, August 29. The PDOP had planned to bring the big blue blocks to the Farmers Market but were asked not to due to the children’s constant touching of them with Covid. The construction at Rehm Park continues to go well and the fence is planned to come down around September 15. The sand volleyball courts opened up and the Portland Loo will be working shortly. Fall Fest is

scheduled for September 26, there will be no tractor rides and staff are working with the VOP's health department on activities that will be allowed. The playground opening will take place that morning at 10am.

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

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee – None

B. Parks and Planning Committee

1. 228-230 Madison Street Demolition

Commissioner Worley-Hood moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded the Board give Executive Director Arnold the authority to sign a contract with Milburn LLC, Bellwood, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$156,567.12. Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that the property was purchased with the thought for the parking of the Park District vehicles, i.e., the 15 passenger buses used by the Township and District, the dump truck, and lift truck. The building has deteriorated for years and now has HVAC issues and is causing damage to our adjacent Administrative building. Asbestos has been found in the building and the handling of it is being planned in the demolition. The Board discussed the structural crack in the Administrative building caused by the water leakage along with the timeline of the demolition. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0.**

2. Pleasant Home Geo Thermal Award

Commissioner Worley-Hood moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Board give Executive Director Arnold the authority to sign a contract with AMS Mechanical Systems, Woodridge, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$736,700.00. Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that we were awarded a \$421,500 Museum Grant from the IDNR in 2020. We have \$825,000 allocated in the budget and AMS Mechanical System's bid came in at \$695,000; we are recommending a 6% contingency which brings the total to \$736,700. The Board discussed the intricacy of the installation, interference with programming at Pleasant Home, and the timeline. **The motion was passed by a roll call vote of 5:0.**

C. Administration and Finance Committee

1. Mid-Year Review of Budget

Jan Arnold, Executive Director, and Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance, informed the Board that the District would not have to go out for a budget amendment due to where the District is at currently with staff having worked hard at keeping costs down and the District's continuing growth in earned revenue. The Board were very pleased with the staff's use of supplies on hand and their work with keeping costs down. **No motion is required of the Board.**

2. Strategic Plan Update

The Board was informed that the Park District has been meeting its goals for 2021 in the Strategic Plan which has been shown to during the quarterly Mpower presentations. The District continually meets and adds where necessary to its goals; moving goals up in the plan when it can such as sustainability opportunities and moving them back in the plan when needed such as the electric vehicles. The Board said they appreciated the agility of the plan and staff's constant vigilance for new opportunities. The Board also discussed the many partnerships with the other Oak Park entities. **No motion is required of the Board.**

VII. NEW BUSINESS - None

VIII. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Lentz** – Thanked Executive Director Arnold for her thank you note she sent out to our summer/seasonal staff, and stated she knows it was deeply appreciated. She reminded the Board that we have a busy September coming up, along with the CRC capital campaign kick-off happening on September 18, there is also the IGOV Forum on sustainability that will be held from 9-11:30. She stressed how important it was for not only all of the entities to attend but for all of the PDOP Board to attend as well, as we are leaders in sustainability and we can help achieve it throughout Oak Park and then went on to say we also have the Rehm Park opening on the morning of September 26, prior to Fall Fest.
- **Commissioner Worley-Hood** – Informed the Board that he has had numerous people come up to him complimenting our lifeguards on how active and attentive they are.
- **Commissioner Wick** – Attended the FOPCON meeting where they discussed the Uncorked events and their successful bake sale at the Farmers Market. He also questioned once the building next door gets taken down if there is a possibility of some artwork to be placed on the wall of the lot.
- **Commissioner Wollmuth** – Attended the AYSO meeting and said they are getting ready to kick-off their season even though numbers are low. He also informed the Board the Parks Foundation are really sinking their teeth into the September 18, capital campaign event for the CRC. He mentioned he has still to connect with OPYB/S but will continue to try to attend one of their meetings.
- **President Porreca** – Informed the Board of the Board Meeting Executive Director Arnold and she attended at River Forest where they presented opportunities for them to partner with us for the CRC. She also met with their Board President for coffee the next day and had a great conversation on our processes how we do things, our experiences, and they plan to meet semi-regularly. She also has reached out to the VOP Board President and hopes to do the same with her.

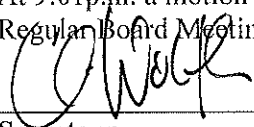
IX. CLOSED SESSION

At 8:30pm Commissioner Porreca moved and Commissioner Lentz seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners convene into closed session for the discussion of the performance of specific employee of the District. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5:0.**

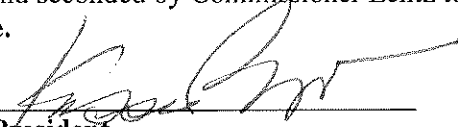
At 9:01pm a motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to adjourn the Closed Session. **The motion passed a voice vote of 5:0.**

X. ADJOURN REGULAR BOARD MEETING

At 9:01p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Lentz to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting. **The motion passed a voice vote.**



 Secretary
 Board of Park Commissioners



 President
 Board of Park Commissioners

September 9, 2021

 Date

September 9, 2021

 Date

