



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

**Park District of Oak Park
Regular Board Meeting
Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, February 20, 2020**

Minutes

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Wick, Wollmuth, Worley-Hood, and President Lenz. Commissioner Porreca was absent.

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Chris Lindgren, Superintendent of Parks and Planning; Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Special Facilities; Paula Bickel, Director of Human Resources; Diane Stanke, Director of Marketing and Customer Service; Jamie Lapke, Program and Operations Manager – GRC; Chad Drufke, Program Manager; Mike Loszach, Program Manager; Kayla Fauria, Aquatic & Rink Program Manager; Patti Staley, Director of Horticulture & Conservatory Operations; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Don Nekrosius; Nancy Teclaw, OPRF Senior Citizens' Center's Board; and residents.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes to the Agenda. **The motion was passed by a voice vote.**

III. COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

The Park Board presented the Community Service Awards to the following recipients: Don Nekrosius and the OPRF Senior Citizens' Center's Board. Don thanked the Board and District and stated that the Park District has made a difference in his life and he has loved volunteering. Nancy stated she really appreciates the award and that the combined Senior Citizens' Center was a long time coming and that it was great to work with the Park District and watch the memberships increase and the use of the new space. The Board thanked them for their many hours of service and selfless devotion to their community. A brief reception took place for the awardees.

IV. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dane Rankin – Stated he was the Vice President of OPYB/S and was tasked with the scheduling of the teams. He was coming to the PDOP to ask that the duplication of programs competing with theirs stop as it is confusing for those that are signing up expecting one and getting the other and that the duplicate programs is taking up space on the already crowded fields. He feels we can do better with more open communication, planning, and placement of correct ages/sports on the correct fields. Their organization is 90% Oak Park River Forest residents and feels priority should be given to tax paying residents first and that residents should not have to travel outside of Oak Park for their sports due to non-residents using the fields.

Brian Endless – Informed the Board he will be phasing out as President of OPYB/S and Sam Ellison will be the new incoming president. He went on to say that he would like to build a relationship with the boards of both organizations and staff and rectify the overlap of duplication of effort. They have heard from families where they saw baseball in our brochure and signed up thinking it was the OPYB/S league thinking they were signing up for the league that their child's friends were on. Better placement of age groups on appropriate fields needs to happen. They would like better communication between the written request for space on paper they send in at the beginning of the season and what is said to be "a draft of space" they get back but is really more of a final

document as changes can rarely be made to it. He was here to ask for the ability to discuss the requests before they are made into the “draft” schedule they receive back.

Haviva Siegel – Came back to compliment the Park District on all the communication that is going out and wanted to let them know that residents are really noticing the information and appreciating it. She also wanted to ask the Board when the new drawings for the Rehm project would be coming out. This is the OSLAD grant project and she wanted to see the updated drawings with the new monies awarded. She also asked who was going to be looking into the details of the playground, what the process is to make sure of inclusiveness. She stated an example of a zip-line piece of equipment; that for it to be inclusive, there must be two zip-lines next to each other, one being ADA accessible, with the other allowing someone to go down alongside the ADA accessible zip-line.

Nakhab Nadeen – Stated he has lived in Oak Park for 16 years and is part of the AYSO organization. He thanked the Park District for all their support over the years. Their board was looking for the possibility to explore a U8/U6 soccer partnership. They are hoping to introduce the sport at that age and give children the opportunity to learn and play at an earlier age than what has been in the past.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Worley-Hood and seconded by Commissioner Wick to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of January, 2020; approve minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting January 9, 2020, the Regular Board Meeting January 16, 2020; approve the Festival Theater Agreement; and approve the Engagement Letter – Elrod Friedman LLC. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Director’s Report

Jan Arnold, Executive Director, informed the Board that due to Mother Nature not cooperating this winter, the outdoor ice rinks will begin to be dismantled. The outdoor liners were never put into the rinks due to the lack of continuous freezing weather but they will be able to be used next year. The Ice Show is March 13-15, it’s a wonderful exhibit of the skaters of all ages in our programs. The brochures will be arriving at residences this weekend and she informed the Board that the childcare discount had increased by 98 children from this time in 2019.

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. Parks and Planning Committee

1. Rehm Professional Services.

Commissioner Wick moved and Commissioner Wollmuth seconded for the Board to approve the authorization to engage Altamanu, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, for a total cost not to exceed \$96,650, to create project bid specifications and to provide oversight of construction for the Rehm Park Improvements. Altamanu, Incorporation’s fee is \$69,650, and will serve as the lead consultant and SMP Group Design Associates, LLC, will be the sub-contractor with a fee of \$26,000. Executive Director Arnold reminded the Board that Altamanu, Inc. updated the master plan for Rehm in 2016. The budget of \$1,200,000 was comprised of \$800,000 in the budget with a \$400,000 OSLAD grant. The improvements to the park include: a new playground, entrance, picnic pavilion, restroom, and bags and table tennis games. The Board questioned the process with IDNR and was informed that they ensure plans are ADA accessible and have a variety of equipment/plans for all ages. SMP Group Design Associates, LLC, will work with the design elements and in compliance with ADA. The Board discussed the timeline,

and were informed the trains would be closed from July through December but would be back and that Fallfest would be moved to Maple Park. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

C. Administration and Finance Committee

1. Information Technology Services

Commissioner Worley-Hood moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve engaging Noventech, Inc., of Wood Dale, IL, for information technology services and support for \$8,850 per month. Staff request approval for a one-year contract with the ability to extend based on service delivery. The Board was reminded that staff have been reviewing options for the needs of the District with the resignation of the IT Manager, Michael Elden, for several months. Noventech was chosen due to their staff of nine with multiple skills, having a designated tech on site a minimum of 16 hours per month, and the cost savings. This company has other Park Districts as customers, the owner has written the code for our Mpower data for the past seven years, and staff our confident with his responsiveness. This will be on a trial basis for six months and will only be extended if the PDOP is completely satisfied. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

2. Intergovernmental Agreement - Parking

Commissioner Worley-Hood moved and Commissioner Wick seconded that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the VOP and PDOP Intergovernmental Agreement for parking effective April 1, 2020. The Board was reminded that with the transfer of the property for the CRC, the VOP's parking lots were now owned by the Park District. This new IGA for the parking allows the Village to continue to sell permits for Lot 44 until construction begins. Staff will be given parking on Adams at the time of construction for the CRC. The Board were pleased that the Village was able to continue offering parking spaces to the residents with this IGA. **The motion passed with a roll call vote of 4:0.**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Recreation Department Report

Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Mike Loszach, Program Manager-After School, Early Childhood, Day Camp, and Teens; and Chad Drufke, Program Manager – Sports and Fitness; reviewed the 2019 Comprehensive Program Participation Report and answered questions pertaining to the data presented including: wellness, martial arts, youth and adult sports, teens, fine arts, early childhood, nature & environmental, community events, and general programming. The Board discussed the holiday special events and their support to Sarah's Inn and Beyond Hunger, how well moving the Day in the Village event to Mills Park worked, and they wondered if we could partner with some businesses between Mills Park and Scoville Park that day for more enticement to Mills Park. The Board was also informed that a planned event at Scoville Park for Unplug Illinois will take place this summer. The Board asked for clarification on possible duplications with OPYB/S and were informed that the Park District runs an instructional 3-5 year old program which leads into OPYB/S's T-ball league, and prior to them having a coach's pitch league, the Park District ran an instructional league that helped the kids adjust from the T-ball to the ball being pitched over the plate. Most of the programs run by the District run in July on a once a week basis to let kids explore their desire to play baseball before going into the much more scheduled OPYB/S league. The Board thanked staff for their reports. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

2. Annual Special Facilities Report

Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Special Facilities, Kayla Fauria, Program Manager – Aquatic and Rink, and Jamie Lapke, Program and Operations Manager – GRC, presented the 2019 Annual Special Facilities Report. Items discussed were the pools' past season, weather and its effects on attendance for the pools, life guards, passes, and the swim lessons. The ice arena operations were presented including: hockey and their numbers and the changes in the program format from just doing skills to more playing and having fun, camps, lessons, and open skates. The Board was informed of changes made to the adult hockey league's standards to make it safer for everyone. Jamie said that the gymnastic center had been open six years as of October. She discussed their programs and different levels, meets, open gym, and special programs, including: increased family activities, Ninja programs, and their first Adult Gymnastic Competition which was a huge success! The Board was informed with the drop of the fee for resident's dog park passes, the passes jumped from 300 to

642. Discussion took place on the decline of participation in hockey and what plans the Park District had to increase interest; they discussed the revamping of the leagues for more play, marketing of the leagues in surrounding towns, and discounts for programs when passes were purchased. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

3. Annual Report

The Board was informed briefly of the information on the Annual Report and that it would be an insert in the spring brochure going out next weekend. **No action is needed by the Board on this item.**

4. Wenonah and Randolph Park Construction Contract Approval

The Park District has gone out to bid for these projects on February 6. Twenty-six registrations to download the packet has taken place. A pre-bid meeting was held which no one attended but staff are confident we will receive a good amount of bids. The Board confirmed that both projects were being bid together and were reminded that it was for rolling hills and outdoor exercise equipment at Randolph and a new rubberized surface, the removal of the sand, a new swings at Wenonah. **This will be brought to the Board under the regular agenda at the Continued Board Meeting on March 5.**

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Wick** – Thanked the people that came in for public comment, saying the Board appreciates their comments. He attended FOPCON's meeting the past Monday and they are working hard on getting the EL stop name changed to the Oak Park Conservatory stop which is no cost to the Park District but would improve visibility. He also attended the IGOV tax forum and stated it was a great event with Senator Don Harmon in attendance along with Ali ElSaffar, Township Assessor, and Fritz Kaegi, Cook County Assessor there. He also wanted to confirm communication is brought to Park District patrons regarding the Lake Street construction.
- **Commissioner Porreca** – Absent.
- **Commissioner Wollmuth** – Thanked the residents in attendance for their public comments made and said he hopes it is the starting point for more communication and it is great for getting different perspectives.
- **Commissioner Worley-Hood** – Attended the Pleasant Home meeting last week and said they are working on their strategic plan and their renewal of their contract with the Park District. He also attended the Active Adults Committee meeting and said they have grown so much they are bursting at the seams. It is great to attend their meetings and see all the spaces being used by programs in progress.
- **Commissioner Lentz** – Said she had attended the IGOV meeting as well and said it was just great to see the residents being able to get questions answered in one on one discussions at the end of the meeting.


X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:32pm Commissioner Worley-Hood moved and Commissioner Wick 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 9:58pm a motion was made by Commissioner Wick and seconded by Commissioner Worley-Hood to adjourn the Closed Session. **The motion passed a voice vote of 5:0.**

XI. Meeting Adjourned

At 10:18 the Regular Board meeting was continued to March 5, 2020. **The motion passed with a voice vote.**



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners



President
Board of Park Commissioners

March 19, 2020

Date

March 19, 2020

Date