



PARK DISTRICT of OAK PARK

**Park District of Oak Park
Annual Park Board Retreat
Hedges Administrative Center
218 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois
Thursday, July 14, 2020**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

I. Roll Call

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

Park District Staff Present: Jan Arnold, Executive Director; Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance; Bill Hamilton, Superintendent of Special Facilities; Chris Lindgren, Superintendent of Parks and Planning; Diane Stanke, Director of Communications and Marketing; Maureen McCarthy, Superintendent of Recreation; Paula Bickel, Director of Finance; and Karen Gruszka, Executive Assistant.

Others Present: Reesheda Graham-Washington, RGW Consulting.

II. Public Comment – None

III. Equity Workshop

Reesheda Graham Washington met with the Board and staff on equity to expose them to an inclusive posture for thinking about race equality in the park district, working with the residents, and other governmental agencies. The Board and staff discussed hard questions and positions in our community and how to address them with equity.

IV. Lunch Break – Lunch break took place from 1:00pm through 1:30pm with the Leadership Team and Reesheda Graham Washington departing the meeting.

V. Board 2021 Goals

The Board discussed their goals for 2021-2025 and were informed of what the Park District will most likely look like at the end of the year due to Covid 19. They were also informed the Park District will not have access to the schools this fall for evening programming due to the sanitization of the schools. Executive Director Arnold added that we will need to provide space for students during the school days when they are not scheduled in school and that the Park District could handle approximately 300 students. The Board was also informed of steps being taken to decrease administrative costs and overhead in the District. The Board discussed ways to continue our current strategic goal of collaboration with the other agencies while maintaining the standards of our Gold Medal agency. 2021 Board goals include: 1) looking for operational efficiencies, 2) looking for collaborations and partnership opportunities with other Oak Park government entities and 3) explore ways to increase diversity and social equity with citizen committees.

VI. Budget Priorities

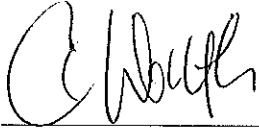
Executive Director Arnold and Mitch Bowlin, Director of Finance, reminded the Board of the 2.3% levy the Park District can take equaling approximately \$230,000, and that for budget planning, the Board would need to give direction of what the Board would like to capture. The Board discussed the different options from not taking the levy, taking a portion of it, to taking all of the levy and the effects of each option on the District along with the effects for residents. The Board asked that they look at the option for a portion of the levy being captured. The Board was reminded the CIP for 2021-2025 would be

brought to them at the July Regular Board Meeting. This will be brought to the Board for approval at the July Regular Board Meeting.

VII. New Business – None

VIII. Adjourn

At 3:33pm the meeting adjourned.



Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

August 20, 2020

Date



President
Board of Park Commissioners

August 20, 2020

Date