



MEETING MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Thursday, March 19, 2015

7:30pm

Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd.

Members Present: D. Stein, B. Logan, J. Brown, A. DiMarco, H. Garcia
J. Bryan, M. Casady

Members Absent: R. Mayne, D. Campbell

Staff Present: J. McRae, B. Dorneker, M. Gorman, K. Hawk, J. Maiworm

Others Present: G. Rieger, T. Gronner, R. Rivera, C. Rivera, L Barski,

Presiding Member: D. Stein, President

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With a quorum present, D. Stein called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of FEBRUARY 19

It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as written. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Rieger will look into the number of people who would be interested in being part of a community build for Penny Park.

C. Rivera recently moved from south Evanston to the Penny Park neighborhood and was concerned when she heard the park would be torn down and rebuilt into something different. She believes it's important to make the park handicap accessible but we should also keep as much of the original park design as possible.

Ms. Barski announced that Preserve Penny Park group signed up with the City's Adopt a Park program adopting Penny Park. They plan to make an effort to involve the whole city. Last month there was a request for Public Works to provide an analysis and breakdown of how much it costs to maintain Penny Park over the past years. It would also be helpful to see a breakdown of some of the other comparable parks.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

J. Maiworm said Public Works is in transition gearing up for spring. There will be special focus on the lakefront, swim beaches and dog beach. He has researched different types of ADA decking which he will demo to see how well they work and make plans to cycle out some of the old pieces. The Board received a copy of the department's turf management program for athletic fields which included a field maintenance schedule. He also shared a prototype of the 311 park signs to be installed soon.

STAFF REPORT

K. Hawk gave an update on programs occurring at the Ecology Center and Levy Center. M. Gorman gave an update on the Downtown Farmers Market Program. B. Dorneker provided a report on the free beach token program. We currently have 110 residents and 31 nonresidents on the waiting list for boat rack space. Summer camp registration is going very well; some even have waiting lists. Save the date: June 6, 2015 is the date for the Arrington Lakefront Lagoon reopening. Request for Proposals for concessionaire at the lakefront are due March 23. Upon receipt staff will see if they would be interested in adding shade umbrella/chair rental as part of the contract. If so, staff will bring before the Board in April.

Robert Crown

Request for Proposals for the Robert Crown Fundraising Consultant is due April 8, 2015. Two firms attended the mandatory pre-proposal meeting on March 18, 2015

Harley Clarke

A. DiMarco explained that the Harley Clarke Citizens' Committee is tasked with evaluating ideas that come from the public regarding what to do with Harley Clarke. So far they've developed criteria on how to evaluate the different ideas. Some of the ideas submitted include demolish mansion and convert to green space; renovate the building; sell the property to a developer; and so on. She encouraged the Board to offer any comments/suggestions.

Penny Park

J. McRae said because the park assessment will be less than \$20,000 we don't have to do an official bid but we will have to obtain 3 quotes, which staff is in the process of obtaining. If the weather holds up there's a possibility that at least one phase of the assessment can be done by the April Board meeting. Public Works is working on the maintenance cost for the park over the last few years, which we hope to have at the April meeting. Staff was asked to look into the nature of the existing contract with Leathers and Associates to see if it could be broken, if that were the recommendation from the Board. The City does have the right to break the contract with a 7 day notice. The contract is for \$38,000 of which \$10,000 has been expended. Before the Board makes a recommendation to Council on how to proceed with the contract we should wait for the information from the assessment.

ACTION ITEMS

Park and Recreation Board Year End Report

Action: It was moved and seconded that staff submit the year-end report as written. A voice vote was taken and motion passed.

Changing the Board meeting start time

Action: It was moved and seconded that the meeting start time for the regular scheduled Board meetings be changed from 7:30pm to 7pm. A voice vote was taken and motion passed.

Levy Advisory Board Appointments

Action: It was moved and seconded that Kanta Khipple and Karyl Wade be appointed to the Levy Advisory Board. A voice vote was taken and motion passed.

Board Office Election

Action: It was moved and seconded that Dan Stein would continue serving as the Board president for another year and Jeff Brown would serve as Vice President. A voice vote was taken and motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on April 16, 2015 at the Robert Crown Center.