



MEETING MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Thursday, April 16, 2015

7:00pm

Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St.

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, R. Lloyd

Others Present: G. Rieger, Y. Borisova, E. Rieger, C. Rivera, L. Barski, M. Geary, C. Smith, J. Jones, R. Jones

Presiding Member: D. Stein, President

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of MARCH 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

G. Rieger read a letter from a Wilmette resident who brings their special needs child to Penny Park because it challenges her child to develop motor skills. He also described a conversation he had with someone from Play by Design regarding community build, professional build and hybrid build.

L. Barski announced that the Preserve Penny Park group has formed a spin-off group "the penny collectors". They're developing a website that will allow for anyone interested to sign up.

M. Geary, a Northwestern student, provided a summary on her thesis regarding American playgrounds and her case study on Penny Park.

C. Smith is concerned that parks are handled by public works. The emphasis in public work is very much on engineering and not a lot of park ascetics taken into consideration and he finds that to be an issue. He remembers when we had a parks department that took care of the parks. In his opinion public works should not be involved in parks.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

S. Robinson distributed and gave brief overview of the public works department organizational chart and the monthly park maintenance and CIP update. There had been a request for maintenance cost for Penny Park and she estimated \$10,000 a year

(2 hrs per week mowing, litter pickup, etc.). D. Stein said he's looking for the spring cleanup cost per year (sanding/staining the wood, etc.) not the day to day to maintenance cost. S. Robinson will provide the information.

S. Robinson displayed and gave an overview of the Fountain Square renovation options. A steering committee meeting will be held on Monday to determine the next steps in the design process. The goal is to submit an RFP to develop preliminary designs for two concepts. S. Robinson will present the two remaining concepts to the Board to make a recommendation to City Council.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Penny Park

We have an independent third party (Play by Design) who will assess Penny Park and have a report for the Board's review by the May meeting. The goal is to review the assessment and the existing contract with Leather's and Associate and prepare a recommendation for City Council by June 2015 on how to proceed with the park project.

Robert Crown

Two firms submitted a proposal for RFP 15-24: Robert Crown Fundraising Consultant. Staff will evaluate and make a recommendation to City Council in May 2015

Harley Clarke

The Harley Clarke Committee will hold a community meeting regarding options being considered by the committee at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 18. The Board is encouraged to attend. The Committee plans to make its report to City Council on Monday, June 8.

STAFF REPORT

Expanding City Code on Prohibition of Smoking to Include Evanston Parks.

The challenge with this item is enforcement. We have two residential homes in Evanston (Albany Care and Greenwood) where smoking is permitted by the resident home to occur in the neighboring park as it is medicinal for its residents.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on May 21, 2015 at Fleetwood-Jourdain Center.