



MEETING MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Thursday, November 19, 2015

7:00pm

Chandler-Newberger Center, 1028 Central St.

Members Present: D. Stein, H. Garcia, R. Mayne, E. DeStefano, B. Logan, D. Campbell, A. DiMarco

Members Absent: J. Bryan, J. Brown

Staff Present: B. Dorneker, R. Doerner, K. Wallin

Others Present: J. Rizki, B. Janes, J. Ryan, J. Way

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of OCTOBER 16

The motion to accept the minutes as written was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

J. Rizki noted that City Council tabled the Harley Clarke item, which he felt was a political move to basically stop discussion on the whole thing. He also noted Northwestern is building property on the lake almost up to the line of conveyance. In a press release, Northwestern said Evanston residents can use the beach north of the line of conveyance with a token. According to the Illinois Department Natural Resources (IDNR), the State owns that beach - not Northwestern. So Evanston residents should have the right to use that beach.

B. Janes asked if the State owns the beach north of the line of conveyance, how does that effect Evanston. Does the State own all of Evanston beaches? It seems what's true to for this beach would be the same for all the other beaches. She also requested that the fence at the south end of the dog beach be secured, before the beginning of next year, so the dogs can't get up on the rocks and escape behind the fence.

CIP UPDATE

The Board received a written report on CIP updates.

DEMPSTER STREET BOAT RACK POLICY

B. Dorneker provided staff's recommendations for the 2016 Dempster Street Launch facility and registration process for boat racks and storage. One of the changes being that 2015 non-resident storage/launch permit holders will no longer be grandfathered in the renewal process. Residents will have preference for all vacant space first, then non-

residents will be added to a wait list. This was a hard decision for the Board but they finally voted to support the policy as written.

Action: The Board approved the motion to support the Dempster Street boat rack policy as written and to allow non-residents, formerly grandfathered in the renewal process, the opportunity to purchase daily launch permits at the resident rate.

GREENWOOD BEACH OPERATION

Greenwood beach abuts Dempster beach and staff had received complaints about individuals not being able to go back and forth between the two beaches. B. Dorneker provided a proposed layout that included relocating equipment to provide more consistent spacing and opening up room for sunbathing area; adding a new gate in fence between Dempster beach and Greenwood beach to provide access back and forth with appropriate pass; and removing sand mounds and dune grass on Greenwood beach, north of the entrance to provide additional beach space for patrons.

Action: The Board suggested moving forward with staff's recommendation as a pilot for the 2016 season then revisiting to see if we should continue or make changes.

EVANSTON WILMETTE GOLF COURSE ASSOCIATION

J. Way provided an update on future plans for the golf course, which includes developing and implementing a Master Plan for the course. He also announced that Canal Shores was selected by the United States Golf Association and the American Society of Golf Course Architects as the first publicly accessible course in the country to receive a pro bono evaluation under a new partnership of USGA and ASGCA. The program is designed to provide services to help public courses improve both design and maintenance, and ultimately deliver a better experience for users.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION POLICY

Staff received frequent requests from individuals wanting to use city parks to provide private instruction. B. Dorneker gave an overview of the newly developed Commercial Fitness / Athletic Instruction Permit Application and Guidelines, which will be used for this purpose.

STAFF REPORT

The Sheridan Square parking pilot program will sunset on November 30 after which the Public Works Dept will reinstall the original District 'R' signs. The Gibbs-Morrison Cultural Center will be open in December. CCS, the consultant firm hired to complete a fundraising study for the Robert Crown Center, will have a finished report in December. A full presentation is scheduled for the January 19, 2016 City Council meeting. The report card, reviewing Park and Recreation Properties, is funded for 2016 and staff will begin working on a request for proposal to hire a firm to begin that work.

OTHER ITEMS

D. Stein asked staff to look into how much could be bonded out for Robert Crown and provide an impact report on what different bonding amounts would cost the city. Also look into other revenue sources like TIF funds or hotel tax dollars.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved 8:15PM. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on December 17, 2015 at the Chandler-Newberger Center.