

**PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF**

Thursday, July 21, 2011, 7:30pm
Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Burns, B. Logan, A. DiMarco,
M. Casady, D. Stein M. Sloane, M. Metz

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: R. Mayne, L. Raffel

STAFF PRESENT: D. Gaynor, B. Dorneker, P. Belcher

OTHERS PRESENT:

PRESIDING MEMBER: B. Logan, President

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

B. Logan called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF June 16 and 29, 2011

The meeting minutes were approved 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Work Plan Presentation -

The Board's work plan is due to the Rules Committee December 2011. M. Casady and L. Raffel are working on the plan and hope to have it ready for the Board's review by September or October.

West Oakton Development Committee -

M. Metz reported that there are 4 site concept ideas being discussed by the committee. A presentation to City Council is tentatively schedule for September.

Option A: Indoor Sports Facility Concept

Option B: Commercial Retail Concept

Option C: Municipal Services Center (salt facility)

Option D: Municipal Services Center with Amenities (salt facility and storage building)

Robert Crown Study -

Prequalified teams have been selected. The environmental work is complete. The marketing study is nearing completion. An RFP to the prequalified teams is anticipated in late summer or early fall 2011.

Lakefront Master Plan -

Construction of the bike path is near completion.

The Lakefront Committee is tentatively scheduled to present a report to the Economic Development Committee in September regarding Mike Vasilko's proposed lakefront development plan.

STAFF REPORTS

As part of the Mayor's Safe Summer initiative to promote safe and fun activities for Evanston teens, the City created 10-punch passes for free beach admittance. The pass is valid for entry to any of Evanston's five public swimming beaches through Labor Day. Evanston youth age 13 to 18 years of age may pick up a pass at Robert Crown, Chandler, Fleetwood or the Library. Passes will be available Monday through Friday, during each facility's office hours. So far 350 passes have been distributed.

Other new free activities include open swim, open skating, beach volleyball, open basketball. Youth and teens who want to attend safe summer activities this summer, but don't have transportation, can take a City of Evanston bus between City facilities for free. The shuttle bus will run between 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. through August 12. An updated list of activities and the City of Evanston bus schedule can be found on the city's website.

The City's free summer food program is doing very well, serving 770 lunches daily. James Park is serving 120 lunches per day. Mason Park is serving about 50 lunches. Fleetwood is serving about 250 lunches per day. Robert Crown Center found it necessary to increase their meals from 300 to 350 to meet the demand.

The beaches have been very busy. All of the Dempster boat racks have been sold and there is a waiting list. Approximately 30 kids turned out for the Fishing Frenzy in Lovelace Park. The department received a \$10,000 grant from the National Parks and Recreation Association to build a community garden at Fleetwood. The garden will be a joint project with the kids at Fleetwood and seniors from the Jacob Blake Manor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sale of Park Land / Open Space –

The proposed ordinance establishing guidelines for the sale of City-owned real property and/or facilities designated for park use, was put on hold until after the July 11 discussion on Chandler-Newberger. The Board voted 7-0 to move forward with recommending the ordinance for consideration of approval by the Human Services Committee at their September meeting.

Athletic Team Participation Fees –

This item is on hold until September.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Everyone welcomed D. Stein to the Board. B. Logan thanked the Board for their participation at the Council meeting in support of Chandler-Newberger. He was unable to attend due to a funeral. B. Burns has kids in summer camp at Chandler. They are having a wonderful time and she wanted staff to know that they are doing a wonderful job. A. DiMarco thanked staff for all they did to make sure the Grey Park food truck event was a success. There were more than 300 people who attended.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is September 15 at the Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St.

Note: minutes are not verbatim