

**PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF**

Thursday, January 20, 2011, 7:30pm
Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Casady, L. Raffel, A. DiMarco, M. Metz,
B. Burns, R. Mayne, B. Logan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Sloane, C. Thompson

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

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Blanchard, N. Werd, T. Kihn, D. Campbell

PRESIDING MEMBER: M. Metz, President

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Metz called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010

Mr. Casady moved approval of the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes. Ms. DiMarco seconded. Minutes were approved 7-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Robert Crown Center - (Metz, Sloane, Casady)

Mr. Gaynor reported that three pre-qualified teams have been selected. Staff has issued two Requests for Proposals to perform investigative environmental work and a marketing study to better understand the project's overall cost and viability. The environmental work and marketing study is anticipated in spring/summer 2011. A Request for Proposals to the pre-qualified teams is anticipated in summer 2011.

Lakefront Master Plan - (Burns)

No report.

Board Mission and Name Change - (DiMarco, Raffel, Burns)

The Playground and Recreation Board will not be consolidated with the Ladd Arboretum Committee, Lighthouse Landing Committee and the Playground and Recreation Board, which leaves the other issue of changing the Board's name to more accurately reflect what it does. The subcommittee will review, discuss and formulate a new mission statement and /or name for the Board. No report at this time.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Gaynor reported that at the February 7 Human Services Committee meeting, staff will provide a presentation on the Youth and Young Adult Job Training and Employment Program. At the February 14 City Council meeting, staff will provide a presentation on senior services provided by the department.

The Board received a monthly status report on the department's current CIP projects.

Gary Silkaitis, Recreation Maintenance Supervisor, is retiring after 37 years with the department. Gary's last day is January 28.

Mr. Dorneker announced that skating rinks have been created at three parks: Ackerman Park, Dawes Park and Baker Park. There will be no attendants on duty to supervise the rinks and shelter houses will not be open.

Friday, January 28, Evanston residents can start mailing in their registrations for summer camps. Phone-in, walk-in and online registration for both residents and nonresidents starts Monday, February 21, at 9am.

Over 600 youth have signed up for the 4th and 5th grade basketball program taking place at Robert Crown, Chandler-Newberger and various school sites. The recoating of Robert Crown's gymnasium floor was completed on Thursday, January 13 and is now available for use.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Athletic Team Participant Fees – Every affiliate sport organization pays athletic team participant fees. However there are some organizations that run camps where there is no fee placed on the individuals in the program. Staff will take a look at how much revenue would be generated by charging participant fees for these camps; some of which are for profit.

At the December 2010 meeting, the Board directed staff to look into the issue of private contractors using park property for profit and the possibility of incremental increase of the current athletic participant fees. Staff is still working on this item.

Sale of Park Land / Open Space – At the November Board meeting Mr. Metz noted that there doesn't appear to be an ordinance on the books that prohibits the sale of park land or open space. After further discussion the Board directed staff to begin research on the state law and city ordinances and report findings at the December or January Board meeting. Staff is still working on this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Use of the Recycling Center - The Board received a proposal from Evanston Baseball and Softball Association Board members B. Blanchard, N. Werd, T. Kihn and D. Campbell, outlining their thoughts on the use of the recycling center as a youth sports facility. After further discussion the Board voted 7-0 on a Resolution to endorse the Evanston Recycling Center proposal presented on Thursday, January 20, 2011, by the Evanston Baseball & Softball Association and encourages the City Council to direct staff to work with the consortium of youth sport organizations to develop a detailed plan of action to implement the proposal. The Resolution will be presented at the January 24 City Council meeting.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is February 17 at the Chandler-Newberger Center, 1028 Central St.

Note: minutes are not verbatim