

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF
Thursday, February 17, 2011, 7:30pm
Chandler-Newberger Center, 1028 Central St.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: L. Raffel, M. Metz, C. Thompson
R. Mayne, M. Sloane,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Casady A. DiMarco, B. Burns, B. Logan

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

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Watkins

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 JANUARY 20, 2011

Mr. Mayne moved approval of the January 20, 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Sloane seconded. Minutes were approved 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Robert Crown Center -

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 -

The department received a commitment from an Evanston resident willing to donate funds toward the improvements of the lakefront lagoon.

The lakefront path did not meet the compaction standards. The contractor will place another layer on the path, at their own expense, which will comply with standards. This will be done at the beginning of spring.

Sheridan Road construction will start back up this spring. Work will begin at the intersection of Davis Street and Forest Avenue. The major work for this year will occur between Clark Street and Burnham Place. Rough estimate for completion is the middle of August. Northbound Forest Avenue/Sheridan Road traffic will continue to travel through the construction site. Southbound Sheridan traffic will be detoured down Chicago Avenue at the intersection of Chicago Avenue and Sheridan Road. The official detour route for southbound traffic will be Chicago Avenue to South Boulevard and then east on South Boulevard back to Sheridan Road.

Board Mission and Name Change -

Mr. Raffel submitted proposed name change and mission language to the Board for review. This will be a special order of business at the March meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Gaynor provided the Board with a copy of the Youth and Young Adult Job Training and Employment Program presentation that was presented at the February 7 Human Services Committee meeting, and a copy of the Senior Services presentation that was presented at the February 14 City Council meeting.

The CIP budget was adopted by the City Council. There is a special City Council meeting scheduled for March 22 to discuss FY2012 Budget issues and community priorities.

Mr. Dorneker reminded everyone that the next Recreation & Arts Activities Guide will be a combined Spring/Summer issue. The department will continue with the free beach token program, distributing 1,050 to qualified Evanston residents through the department and social service agencies. The department will also continue with the beach token fund established by the Board in 2009. In 2010 beach token donations totaled \$4,187.50.

Staff completed approximately 2,300 summer camp pre-registrations for Evanston residents. Phone-in, walk-in and online summer camp registration for both residents and nonresidents starts Monday, February 21, at 9 am. A number of camp programs are filled to capacity and have waiting lists.

The Evanston Youth Hockey Association is hosting a state hockey tournament at the Robert Crown Center. The first game will be held tonight.

The Mason Park program has had good attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Athletic Team Participant Fees – Staff will collect the data and have a report for the Board at the September meeting.

Sale of Park Land / Open Space – The Board requested information regarding the existing regulation of the sale of park land. In addition, they requested proposed language that would amend the ordinance to add regulations in order to sell park land. Staff provided recommended language for the Board's review and consideration. Members will provide Mr. Dorneker with any comments or suggestions for further discussion at the April meeting.

Use of the Recycling Center - The Evanston Baseball and Softball Association made a presentation to City Council outlining their thoughts on the use of the recycling center as a youth sports facility. A subcommittee is being formed to consider use of the recycling center.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for William N. Erickson Funds - Mr. Sloane moved approval of the Evanston Baseball and Softball Association's (EBSA) request for \$800 from the William N. Erickson Fund. Mr. Mayne seconded. The request was approved 4-0. Mr. Metz abstained from voting as he is a member of the EBSA Board.

Rotation of Officers - Mr. Sloane moved approval of the 2011 rotation of officers as follows: Bill Logan as President; Randall Mayne as Treasurer; and Larry Raffel as Secretary. Mr. Raffel seconded. The 2011 rotation of officers was approved 5-0.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Raffel congratulated staff on the Levy Senior Center accreditation. Mr. Metz said the City did an absolute, unbelievable job with the snow storm. He received constant updates and helpful information from the city through phone messages and emails. From a customer service prospective it was outstanding; a very service orient approach. Mr. Gaynor added that 17 Parks/Forestry staff assisted Public Works with snow removal.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is March 17 at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St.

Note: minutes are not verbatim