

**PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF**

Thursday, April 21, 2011, 7:30pm  
Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: R. Mayne,

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

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Ayestaran, M. Gavin

PRESIDING MEMBER: B. Logan, President

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Belen has been working with a group (Evanston Parks Coalition) in efforts to revitalize Grey Park located at Main St. and Ridge Ave. She provided a presentation sharing many ideas the group has for the park. They're requesting a letter of support from the Board to assist with their fundraising efforts and seeking grant funds.

Mr. Sloane moved to approve a resolution recommending support of the visioning process of design and development of Grey Park contingent upon private funding, consultant study, and meeting city criteria. Mr. Casady Seconded. Staff will prepare a draft resolution and email to the Board for approval and submission to the Human Service Committee meeting in June.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2011**

Ms. DiMarco moved approval of the February 17, 2011 meeting minutes. Mr. Casady seconded. Minutes were approved 7-0.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Board Mission, By Laws and Name Change -**

Mr. Raffel submitted proposed amendments to the Board name, mission statement and by-laws.

Current Name: Evanston Playground and Recreation Board

Proposed Name: Evanston Park and Recreation Board

Current Mission: To provide for, maintain, supervise and direct all playground and recreation activity for the City of Evanston.

Proposed Mission: To advise for the planning, design and maintenance of all playground, parks, recreational facilities and open spaces owned and/or leased by the City of Evanston. And, to advise for the development, supervision and operation of all recreational programs and activities operated by the City of Evanston and/or authorized affiliates.

Ms. DiMarco moved to accept the proposed amendments to the Board name, Mission and By-Laws as proposed by Mr. Raffel, with added changes in the mission statement and with the exception "Section II B. Term of Office" in the By-Laws. Mr. Dorneker will verify in the city ordinance, whether or not there is a limit to the number of terms a member may serve on the Board. Once confirmed, the amendments to the Mission and Board Name will be presented to the Human Services Committee for consideration. Mr. Casady seconded. Motion approved 7-0.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Robert Crown Study -**

Prequalified teams have been selected. The environmental work is in progress. The marketing study is anticipated to begin later this month.

#### **Lakefront Master Plan -**

Mark Sloane has been appointed to the Lakefront Committee. The purpose of the committee is to review and evaluate the lakefront development plan proposed by Mike Vasilko, as requested by the Economic Development Committee, and provide comments to the City Council.

#### **Use of the Recycling Center -**

Mark Metz has been appointed to the West Oakton Development Committee. The purpose of the committee is to review potential re-use options of civic uses located along Oakton Street adjacent to James Park. These current uses include the former Recycling Center, Animal Shelter, Community Garden and City Yard Waste Collection Area.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Gaynor provided a brief status of current capital projects.

Mr. Dorneker announced the Dog Beach is open early this year Apr 1 – Oct 31. In May, the Dempster Street Beach Office will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 5pm. On Memorial Day, the office will be open 10am to 5pm. From May 31 through Labor Day, the office will be open seven days a week from 10am to 7pm. Beach tokens are being sold at the preseason discount price through Fri., June 10. Free beach tokens will be available to Evanston residents who meet income guidelines through the City of Evanston's Recreation Division and various community outreach agencies/organizations. The Levy electronic message board is working again.

### **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 May meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Casady complimented staff on how great the lakefront path looks, including the lighting. Mr. Metz said he attended Evanston 150 and a lot of great ideas came out of the meeting. Some of the ideas may end up coming through the Board. If anyone is interested in getting involved in that kind of planning they are accepting applications to be on the jury who will decide on the top 15 ideas to pursue. Mr. Logan thanked the department for the wonderful job they do every year hosting the annual FAAM Pancake Breakfast and Banquet.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is May 19 at the Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave.

Note: minutes are not verbatim