

**PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF**

Thursday, May 19, 2011, 7:30pm  
Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: A. DiMarco, M. Sloane

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

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Vehovsky

PRESIDING MEMBER: B. Logan, President

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

J. Vehovsky is and Evanston resident with three children ages 6, 5 and 3, who have participated in various programs at the Chandler-Newberger Community Center. She and a group of neighborhood residents are very much opposed to the proposal to close Chandler-Newberger. A meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm on May 25 at Chandler-Newberger to form a committee in support of keeping Chandler-Newberger. Playground and Recreation Board members are invited to attend.

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

M. Casady moved approval of the April 21, 2011 meeting minutes with noted changes. M. Metz seconded. Minutes were approved with changes 6-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Robert Crown Study -**

Prequalified teams have been selected. The environmental work is in progress. The marketing study is in progress. An RFP to the prequalified teams is anticipated in late summer 2011.

**Lakefront Master Plan -**

Construction of the bike path is near completion.

**STAFF REPORTS**

D. Gaynor provided a brief status of current capital projects. On Saturday, June 4, 2011, the City will host a safe summer summit to reduce violence in Evanston. The Summit will be held from 10 am to 12 pm at the Levy Center. Approximately 150 kids have been hired through the summer youth employment program. Most of the summer camps are filled. Beach tokens sales are slow; probably due to the bad weather we've been having. The free beach tokens have all been given out. Approximately 30 tokens were given out through the donation program. The Evanston Parks Coalition will be sponsoring a clean-up day at Grey Park, May 21st from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Resolution Supporting the Proposal of the Evanston Parks Coalition to Conduct a Visioning Process for the Design and Redevelopment of Grey Park -**

The Board approved Resolution 36-R-11, which will go before the Human Services Committee on June 6, 2011.

**Board Mission, By-Laws and Name Change -** At the April 21 Board meeting there was a question regarding the number of five year terms a Board member could serve. It was found in the 2010 City of Evanston Rules and Organization of the City Council of the City of Evanston, that a Board or Commission appointee may be reappointed only once.

Section II. b. Term of Office will read as follows:

Each member shall serve a five (5) year term of office. A member may serve a maximum of two consecutive five year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the Mayor with approval of the City Council shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term of the departing member.

A proposed ordinance changing the Board name to "Evanston Park and Recreation Board" will go before the Rules Committee on June 6.

**Sale of Park Land / Open Space –** At the April 21 meeting, Board members 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 were to provide B. Dorneker with any comments or suggestions for further discussion at the May meeting. Staff provided revised language based on Board member comments. A proposed ordinance to establish guidelines for the sale of city owned park land will go before the Human Services Committee on July 6.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**BCC New Member Orientation –** D. Gaynor provided the Board with a copy of the New Member Orientation Presentation.

**BCC 2 Year Work Plan Presentation (Due to Rules Committee Dec 2011) -** The Rules Committee has requested that each Board/Council/Commission develop and present a 2 year work plan, every 2 years. The work plan should be based on enabled legislative advancement of the Board in support of the City and request made by the City Council, along with any budget requirements necessary to accomplish those tasks. The work plan should list major projects and initiatives. Staff is only responsible for coordinating any approved recommendations brought before City Council. In order to assist the Board with this responsibility a (suggested) Work Plan template and Guidelines has been provided. L. Raffel and M. Casady will serve on a subcommittee to develop a 2 year work plan, which is due to the Rules Committee in December 2011.

**COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

M. Metz spoke about how important recreation is, how important our parks are and how much it contributes to the quality of life in this town and what it will do to the fabric of this community; not to mention the property values and other institutions and tax revenues and everything else, if we let it crumble. He encouraged members to talk with their Alderman about the Board's concerns. R. Mayne missed last month's meeting but wanted to go on record to say that Craig Thompson cared deeply about our youth and his contributions to our community need to be recognized.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is June 16 at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave.

Note: minutes are not verbatim