



MEETING MINUTES

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Thursday, November 17, 2016

7:00pm

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., Room 2404

Members Present: D. Barreto, B Logan, H. Garcia, D. Stein, J. Brown, J. Bryan,
D. Campbell

Members Absent: E. DeStefano, R. Mayne,

Staff Present: B. Dorneker, L. Hemingway, K. Hawk

Others Present: B. Janes, L Damoshek, R. Bady

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With a quorum present, J. Brown called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20

The motion to accept the minutes was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CIP MONTHLY REPORT

The Board received a written report of park and park facility capital improvement projects from L. Biggs of the Public Works Department.

PARK SCORECARD PRESENTATION

In August 2016, City Council approved the contract with The Lakota Group, to assess the cleanliness, safety, physical structures, appearance, and functionality of open spaces in all City parks, Ridgeville Parks, District 65 School sites and the Cook County Forest Preserve site. The survey portions of the project occurred during the months of September and October. Surveys were done to objectively and quantitatively measure the quality of park infrastructure and maintenance in order to ensure the highest level of service possible. Data collected was summarized into the Public Open Space Scorecard Report and presented to the Board. Each open space received a rating which is intended to be a guide for future park improvements, park maintenance standards and creation of park master plan documents.

The Public Open Space Scorecard report will be presented to City Council November 28, 2016.

HARLEY CLARKE VISIONING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The committee met on November 16, 2016. City staff prepared an analysis to determine minimum work needed to utilize Harley Clarke for existing programs previously held in the fog houses; and to determine what would be required to bring it up to code, since there will be a change of use of the building. The estimated cost for that work was \$660,000. Concerns were raised about the lack of sufficient funding to bring the building up to code. In addition, the most cost-effective renovation to the building may not be optimal for other uses of the building in the long term.

City staff also completed a detailed inspection of the fog houses and determined that the fog houses have deteriorated to the point that they are no longer safe to use for recreational programming unless some restoration work is completed. The estimated cost to complete the fog house roof and masonry repairs is \$400,000. There is no alternate location for the programming at the fog houses and the programs may need to be cancelled for 2017 if a solution is not found to complete needed repairs.

Due to the lack of funding to address code compliance requirements at Harley Clarke, staff's efforts are being redirected to making the building secure and ensuring that the fog houses can continue to be used for recreation purposes while the Harley Clarke Visioning Committee develops a long term operation plan.

Therefore Ald. Revelle and Ald. Wilson are planning to recommend to City Council that:

1. We keep the \$250,000 earmarked for Harley Clarke and that the life and safety building improvements needed to bring the Harley Clarke Mansion up to code be deferred until the Harley Clarke Visioning Committee determines a plan for future operation of Harley Clarke that meets with Council approval;
2. A portion of FY2017 CIP funds earmarked for security improvements to the Civic Center be redirected to roof and masonry repairs at the fog houses so that summer children's programs can continue in 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 8:20PM. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on Dec 15, 2016 at the Civic Center.