



MEETING MINUTES

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Thursday, July 19, 2018

7:00pm

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., Room 2402

Members Present: J. Bryan, D. Barreto, D. Michelin, H. Garcia, E. DeStefano

Members Absent: D. Stein, J. Brown, D. Campbell

Staff Present: B. Dorneker, R. Dollins

Others Present: R. Bush, R. Parker, G. Huerta

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19 AND MAY 24

Action: the motion to accept the minutes was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

SPECIAL RECREATION STAFF UPDATE

The Board was introduced to Ryan Dollins, the new Special Recreation Inclusion Program Coordinator for the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department. He replaced Myra Gorman who retired in May. Ryan grew up in Broadview and earned a B.A. in Education with a concentration in Special Education from Elmhurst College and a second B.S. in Recreation Administration with a concentration in Therapeutic Recreation from the University of St. Francis in Joliet. Since 2014, Ryan has been a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). Prior to joining the City of Evanston, he worked at the Elmhurst Park District as an Inclusion Aide/Coordinator, the Symphony of Lincoln Park as a Director of Life Enrichment and the Little City Foundation as a Recreation Therapist. Ryan is excited to be joining the City of Evanston and is looking forward to working with our community.

HARLEY CLARKE COACH HOUSE

No update.

ROBERT CROWN UPDATE

The Robert Crown groundbreaking event was very well attended and had lots of news coverage. On July 9 City Council approved the contract with Bulley & Andrews to provide construction management services for the Robert Crown project. Sometime in August the site will be totally fenced off so the work can begin.

CIP WRITTEN REPORT

B. Dorneker gave a brief overview of the capital improvement project report.

STAFF UPDATES

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department has been named a finalist for the National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management for the second consecutive year. The winner will be announced at the NRPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis next month.

Garden Park – A public meeting was held on May 3 to discuss the Garden Park design project. Proposals for professional services are under review. Staff is planning to make a recommendation in September/October. The Board should attend the community meetings to voice their concerns regarding the parking challenges that conflict with the beach usage.

Priority Based Budgeting – The Youth and Young Adult Division was removed from the evaluation list. Church / Dempster boat launch – Staff is putting together a cost analysis and comparison of surrounding communities are charging for boat rentals and will make recommendations on fee increases and modification. We will also look at costs for city sponsored and non-city sponsored special events.

Lincoln St Beach – The Lincoln Street Beach has reopened after being closed for several years while construction was under way in the area. The beach is located at the far east end of Lincoln Street, just north of Northwestern University's Ryan Fieldhouse and is managed and operated by Northwestern. Lifeguards will be on duty from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. through September 3, Labor Day. Beach visitors can park for free in the North parking garage, 2311 Campus Drive, on weekends and after 4 p.m. on weekdays. An \$8 daily rate applies outside of these hours.

Summer Programs – So far this year we've sold 21,000 beach tokens; given away 2,579 free beach tokens; and received \$10,860 in donations for tokens. In addition to Robert Crown, there is now a soccer pitch at Beck Park, which is being heavily used. The World Art & Music Festival takes place this weekend at the lakefront. Our "Let's Play" Mobile Recreation Trailer is stocked with toys, games and activities for all ages. Throughout the summer, a team of recreation staff will make stops at parks, block parties and other special events that are free and open to the public, to provide fun, supervised activities.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

D. Barreto announced that she and L. Hemingway will be headlining an all-star panel seminar session at the 2018 NRPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis next month. She invited the Board to attend a practice run of their session entitled: Pardon The Interruption: Parks and Rec Edition Live!

H. Garcia invited the Board to Celebrate "Jalisco en Evanston" on Thursday, August 30, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., in the Evanston Township High School auditorium. The free event will include live mariachi, folkloric dance performances and artisans straight from Jalisco.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 7:39PM. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on September 20, 2018 at the Robert Crown Center.