DECLARATION OF QUORUM
With a quorum present, E. DeStefano called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16 and JUNE 20
Action: The motion to accept the minutes was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
R. Bush reminded staff and the Board that meeting agendas must be posted at the location of the meeting 48 hours before the meeting. He also suggested that staff consider Lincoln Ave Beach as an option for a Dog Beach or having the City subsidize a portion of Evanston residents’ non-resident fee to use the dog beach in Wilmette.

LEVY SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY BOARD BY-LAWS
Action: The motion to accept proposed amendments to the Levy Center Advisory Board By-laws was approved.

STRATEGIC PLAN
A request for proposal for a Strategic Plan to be used as a tool in planning for future park and recreation improvements and programmatic implementation will be published late October/early November. The Board will receive a copy once finalized.

STAFF UPDATES
Capital Improvement Projects – Improvements to the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center entrance should be completed by the end of November. There is moisture under the gym floor at Fleetwood that has caused the floor to buckle in some areas making it unsafe for basketball. Staff is recommending Council approve a contract with RRJ to continue with the investigation of the moisture source. The FAAM basketball league will be displaced until the floor is repaired. The design work for Harbert Park is complete and the bid is out for the construction. The Foster Field project (improvements to the baseball fencing, perimeter
fencing and maintenance access drive) is under construction. The new Robert Crown building schedule is: January 6, 2020, building B & C (ice operations) will be open; January 27, 2020, building A (all other operations) opens; Spring 2020 demolition of the existing building & new turf field construction begins; July 2020 the fields open and project completed. The Board is invited to attend a walk thru of the building on October 10, 2019.

Potential Dog Park – Staff was asked to do an assessment of where we could potentially have a dog park in Evanston. Sometime this Fall, staff will begin a community engagement input process to identify potential locations for a dog park. L. Hemingway will share the criteria to be used in the input sessions.

Gibbs-Morrison Center Café - The Litehouse Whole Food Grill was the selected vendor to operate the café at Gibbs-Morrison. They will have their grand opening at end of September.

2020 Department Budget - Originally staff was asked to put together a status quo budget. Last Friday staff was asked to find additional revenue opportunities as an option in case cuts need to be made. There will be a reduction in the department’s budget due to the social services reorganization. The City’s budget will be released on October 4, 2019.

Social Services Reorganization - Staff was directed to conduct a comprehensive review of social services to identify opportunities to implement performance measurements based on needs and outcomes; and improve service delivery systems and funding allocation. The recommendation is to house all social services staff in one department and provide a reorganization plan for the 2020 budget. We will lose the Youth and Young Adult Division staff, the Senior Services staff (the Ombudsman and her assistant), and the Youth Advocate staff.

OSLAD Grant Application for James Park – Staff submitted a $400,000 grant application for State funding through the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant program for the James Park renovation project to include a new playground, picnic pavilion, tennis courts, and basketball courts. We will be notified in November.

Beach Condition / Erosion Issue – We’re starting to see erosion on parts of the lakefront where we haven’t experienced before and could cause real problems. L. Hemingway invited the Army Corp of Engineers to do a walk thru of the lakefront to do an assessment and provide a professional opinion on a long term strategy.

End of Summer Review – 42,872 free summer meals served; 20,134 beach tokens sold; 5,471 campers enrolled; 1,897 theatre tickets sold; and 632 park permits issued. Staff is working on a formal end of summer review presentation that will be shared at the next Board meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD
None.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting ended at 7pm. The next scheduled meeting is 6pm on October 17, 2019 at the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center.