

Park District of Oak Park www.pdop.org

Park District of Oak Park, Board information: www.pdop.org/about/park-board/

Regular Board Meeting, August 18, 2016

Joan Fiscella, Observer

The meeting was held at the Hedges Administrative Center.

Present: Commissioners Paul Aeschleman (President); Victor Guarino (Vice President); Sandy Lentz (Secretary); Kassie Porecca; David Wick (Treasurer). Executive Director Jan Arnold.
Kyle Cratty, Director of Finance.

President Paul Aeschleman opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Approval of the Agenda:

The Board approved the agenda.

Visitor/Public Comments: None

Consent Agenda - Commissioner Wick

The Board of Commissioners approved the Consent Agenda, which included the Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of July 2016; approval of minutes from the Continued Regular Board Meeting, July 7, 2016, Committee of the Whole minutes July 7, 2016, Annual Park Board Retreat, July 12, 2016, and Regular Board Meeting, July 21, 2016.

Staff Reports:

A. Executive Director's Report.

The swimming pools are now open fewer hours because schools are going into session.

Rehm Park master plan is being revised to include year-round rest rooms. There is a possibility that the firehouse will be attached to the park and this will be addressed in the master plan. The park trains have been running during the summer.

Barrie Fest will be held September 10; if possible, Park Board members could attend to talk to residents and answer questions.

B. Updates and Information

C. Revenue/Expense Status Report

Old Business

A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee: None

B. Building and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee: None

C. Administration and Finance Committee – Commissioner Wick

New Business

1. 2015 Audit Report

The Park Board of Commissioners approved the 2017-2021 Capital Improvements Plan.

The money for capital improvements comes from property taxes. The Park District had received OSRAD [Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development] funding which has already been added to the budget, but not yet spent. The budget includes the possibility of a property tax freeze for 2018. It is likely that such a freeze would be for two years, not permanent.

Operating fund transfers are also available.

The Board is not anticipating TIF (tax increment financing) availability.

The Board reviewed updates on the Park District Master Plan. (The 2015-2024 Comprehensive Master plan is available at <http://www.pdop.org/about/comprehensive-master-plan/> .)

This year there are higher fund balances than usual; they are not huge, but will be useful and give the District some flexibility. There are plans for projects in many of the parks.

Andersen Park includes plans for ball field improvements, fencing, landscaping to be done by 2020.

Barrie Park's master plan is not completed. The funds for projects for 2020 include sport court improvements.

Carroll Park is heavily used, including preschool, afterschool, and day camp programs. It isn't large enough to meet the needs of the population of the area. The master plan was revisited in 2014; it has money in 2019 for restrooms.

Euclid Square renovation has been in process since 2009. Among the projects is a new playground. Work is to be done in 2017 spring and summer. OSRAD money may be used.

Field Park and Center plans include walking paths, lighting and landscaping. Work will start in 2017. The center will be deconstructed.

Fox Park plans will address deferred maintenance; staircases will be redone.

Longfellow's ball field is to be improved, and there is a plan to do the stairwells.

The Conservatory exterior improvements are done. Inside improvements continue, including a new boiler for heating.

The Pleasant Home roof must be replaced and is planned for 2018; funding will come from various sources.

The requested grant to fix Rehm Park pool was not approved. The plan for 2018 includes pool and gutter repairs. There are other structural needs. (It has been reported that some users are not residents, and the Park District staff are trying to fix this.)

Stevenson has projects planned for 2019. The roof must be fixed to prevent "creatures" from getting in.

Taylor Park work was done in 2010 and 2011. The planned addition will reduce the amount of mowing needed.

Other improvements are not site specific. For example, replacing vehicles as needed; using vehicles instead of trucks inside the parks; turf replacement; property acquisition; and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) improvements (often sidewalk grades). The Park District is planning approximately \$2.1M for future needs.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Lentz

She mentioned her concern about the shade study regarding the height of the new building on Forest and Lake. Jan Arnold has talked to the Village regarding the effect of 80- foot high buildings on the parks.

Commissioner Wick

He said he would not be at the Barrie Fest Sept 10, but suggested some information be available.

Closed Session

The Commissioners voted to adjourn to closed session for the discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for use of the District.

Adjourn Meeting