



**Lincolnwood Park and Recreation Board Meeting**  
**Lincolnwood Village Hall – Council Chambers**  
**August 8, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M.

**PRESENT AT MEETING**

Park Board Members: Laura Tomacic, Grace Diaz Herrera, Victor Shaw, Art Lovering, Reese Gratch, Carol Orah

Parks and Recreation Department Staff: Laura McCarty, Katie Gamroth

Village Board Liaison: Mayor Barry Bass

Village Staff: Charles Meyer, Assistant to the Village Manager

Audience: Ari Kirshner, 6644 N. Drake

**NOMINATION FOR A NEW PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD CHAIR**

McCarty- With the resignation of Sarah Hardin from the Park Board we need a nomination for a new Parks and Recreation Board Chair.

On motion Lovering/Tomacic approve Reese Gratch to assume the role as Parks and Recreation Board Chair effective 3 at the August 8, 2017 meeting. 6-0, motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion Diaz Herrera/Tomacic approve the meeting minutes of the June 13, 2017. 6-0, motion passed.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Board Discussion:**

- Questions if there was any feedback about Lincolnwood Fest
- Asks about the condition of the fields

McCarty- Comments on having heard the event went smoothly and staff did not receive any complaints. Notes that the fields are coming along and in good shape.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Design Proposals for the Renovation of Central Park playground**

McCarty- Provides background of park replacement program, Central park and replacement of equipment through Move With Us:

- Current equipment at Central Park was installed in 1994
- 2004 the strategic plan was implemented and playground replacement plan started.
- Currently have the opportunity to leverage funding through Move With Us, up to 100% matching funds for organizations who have not purchased a Burke playground in the past three years

McCarty- Provides background on Burke

- Burke is high quality equipment with good designs
- Lists off surrounding communities who have Burke playgrounds

McCarty- Speaks to the playground replacement process

- No request for proposals were completed for designs due to the grant opportunity
- Last week day camp looked at the designs and provided feedback, approximately 200 kids
- Park designs were brought out to the park on August 8, 2017 from 4-6pm for community input

- Park Board will make a motion on the design and then the installation bid will be released
- In September staff will come to the Park Board with a recommendation for installation
- The replacement will take place in November with the removal of the existing playground equipment and install of the new

**McCarty- Informs board of the two playground options received**

- Both for kids ages 2-12 and
- New equipment will fit in the existing footprint
- Five different color schemes
- The shade structures are not included

**10 minute break to review designs**

**McCarty-Presents design feedback collected thus far**

- Younger camp kids like design #2
  - Older camp kids like design #1, it offers more climbing
  - Yellow and blue color scheme is the front runner
  - Design #1 is the front runner
- Additional playground design comments*
- Looks like there is more to do on design #1
  - Like to see more swings
  - Like to see tunnels
  - Like shade structures
  - Like pour and play surface
- General park comments*
- Known as the blue park
  - Several people would like the sandbox to go
  - More benches are needed
  - Suggestion to replace the sandbox with a splash pad
  - Suggestion to turn the park into a toddler only park
  - Suggestions to update and improve security around the basketball court. The ball can roll into the alley easily
  - Mention that the basketball court brings in non-residents

**Kirshner- Comments on the park and playground**

- Central park is an anchor of this community and very heavily used
- Currently six or seven benches and it is not uncommon to have 20-30 families out on a weekend
- Would like to see additional seating for adults and children incorporated
- Would like the board to consider the safety of the basketball courts and a possible renovation
- Comments that the sandbox is not one of the more heavily used items
- Either of the proposed designs would be fantastic

**McCarty- Presents overall price breakdown.**

**Board Discussion:**

- Notes the popular vote was design #1
- Bigger bang for the buck with design #1
- Comments on two schools of thought for colors; bright and flashy or more natural tone
- Additional seating is something that could be within reach
- Reach out to the community with the bench donation program to help with additional expense
- Not opposed to removing the sandbox if that is what the community would like
- Notes that if the less expensive design is chosen there would be additional funding to address the seating requests
- Comments on past issues with the basketball court, and questions if there has been a rise in phone calls to the police recently
- Suggests continuing the barrier that is currently at the basketball court, that will help to visually stop someone

**Gamroth- Recalls a light going in near the park in the past few years to help reduce late night happenings at the park, and has not heard of a rise in police phone calls recently**

**Board Discussion:**

- Comments on the budget and keeping within it while giving the community what they want
- Questions how many people came out to the park today and the breakdown of design choices
- Alley behind the tennis courts is concerning, people cut straight through and could be a traffic issue
- Notes that could be a Village issue, with traffic and possible opportunities to generate more funding for later changes in this park
- Questions if additional swings could be added

**Gamroth** – 21 people today chose design #1 and 14 chose design #2, with more adult feedback than kids

**McCarty**- Currently we are not able to add an additional if we are to stay within the footprint.

**Board Discussion:**

- Questions if a design is chosen are adjustments able to be made
- Could an item be removed to use the money for something else
- Questions if we want design #1 and the additional seating, would the board be comfortable with choosing design #2 to stay within budget
- Suggests not committing more funding than what is allocated, and that additional funding can be addressed with the Village Board
- Agrees to go with what design the community liked and add to it at a later date

**McCarty**- We can take design #1 to bid and add seating and basketball resurfacing and fencing as an alternate.

On motion Tomacic/Lovering move to approve design one for Central Park Renovation. 6-0, motion passed

On motion Tomacic/Oraha move to amend approved design one for Central Park Renovation to include color scheme number 5 (blue and yellow). 6-0, motion passed

**B. Bus Shelter Advertising Program**

**Meyer**- As noted in presentation

**Board Questions**- Location at McCormick and Touhy

**Meyer**- Southeast Corner

**Lovering**- Comments that this right by bike path, and is a dangerous area. This could be a visual obstruction. Questions if the shelter could be on the west side where there is no bike trail and less pedestrian traffic. If it cannot, than it should be recessed on the southeast corner

**Board Questions**- What buses would be utilizing the stop

**Meyer**-Pace 290, and CTA 96,11 and 82

**Board Discussion:**

- Could the shelter be moved half a block south
- Could it be moved north? Could it stop after the light instead of the right of it?
- For the proposed shelter on Pratt Avenue would that be in the sculpture park?
- Questions if the sign will be lit
- Questions who approves the signage

**Meyer:**

- Comments that the bus at times goes through the mall
- Confirms the shelter would not be lit with signage
- Village Board approval for the signage
- Agrees that the McCormick and Touhy could be an obstruction, if so they would not move forward with placement at that location
- Next steps are the committee of the whole for the Pratt and Keeler locations, if approved the project will take 6-9 months to complete

**C. Consideration of a Request from M-NASR to hold Trivia Craze Fundraiser at the Community Center on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 6:00-10:00pm**

**McCarty**- Second year of the event, with no issues recorded from last year's event.

On motion Lovering/Tomacic to approve a request from M-NASR to hold Trivia Craze Fundraiser at the Community Center on Saturday, January 18, 2018 from 6:00-10:00pm 6-0, motion passed

**D. Approval of a Resolution to Close a Portion of the Valley Line Trail between Pratt Ave. and Touhy Ave. on Saturday, October 7 from 9am – 10am for the My First Marathon Program Culmination**

McCarty- looking to close valley line trail for My First Marathon. First year of program, looking to close this area from 9-10 am for the culmination of the event.

On motion Oraha/Shaw to approve a resolution to close a portion of the Valley Line Trail between Pratt and Touhy Avenues on Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 9:00-10:00am for the My First Marathon Program culmination event.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT –**

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS –**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT –**

**McCarty:**

- Notes we are officially sold out of non-resident pool passes this year. We have sold out at 2,100. Overall we are up 82 pass holders.
- August 14 is the start of post season pool hours, weekend hours will remain the same
- Congratulations to Melissa Rimdzius who is off preparing for her upcoming wedding on Friday
- Friday is the last day of camp, and Last Hurrah is next week
- Lincolnwood Fest was a success with little damage to the fields with a \$25,000 estimated net profit. Financial statements will be provided soon
- School district is holding a solar eclipse event
- Over 10 people registered for Turkey Trot

**STAFF REPORTS**

- A. **SUPERINTENDENT OF RECREATION – GAMROTH**  
As noted in report
- B. **SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS AND FACILITIES – RIMDZIUS**  
As noted in report
- C. **RECREATION SUPERVISOR – ANTOSZ**  
As noted in report
- D. **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MARKETING COORDINATOR – VERING**  
As noted in report
- E. **YOUTH PROGRAMS COORDINATOR - FLETCHER**  
As noted in report

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Park Board Minutes prepared by: Katie Gamroth, Superintendent of Recreation

Park and Recreation Board President:

  
Signature

  
Date