

**Park District of Oak Park** [www.pdop.org](http://www.pdop.org)

Park District of Oak Park Board information: [www.pdop.org/about/park-board/](http://www.pdop.org/about/park-board/)

May 19, 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.

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

**Approval of the Agenda:**

The Board approved the agenda.

**Visitor/Public Comments:**

Karen Mansfield noted that the proposed swimming pool for the community center isn't large enough for serious lap swimmers; they need a 50 meter pool.

Joshua Klayman also commented on the inadequacy of proposed plans for the pool and offered written suggestions for the pool planning.

**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 April, 2016; approval of minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting April 7, 2016; approval of Closed Session minutes from February 18, 2016, and April 21, 2016; approval of the Fourth of July GALA; approval of the Bi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes; and approval of the Mills Park Sculpture Walk Intergovernmental Agreement.

**Staff Reports:**

**A. Executive Director's Report.**

A walk through of the Sculpture Walk was held. Installation will begin on June 2. Austin Gardens will officially open on June 11. This year pool passes increased. Rehm is ready to go. There was lifeguard training during the weekend of May 21- 22. Day Camp begins June 13.

**Old Business**

**A.** Recreation and Facility Program Committee – None

**B.** Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance – None

**C.** Administration and Finance Committee –

The Board of Commissioners approved the Intergovernmental Agreement with Oak Park Township Youth Services for Youth Interventionists/Coordinators for two years commencing on July 1, 2016 and extending through June 30, 2018.

(Support increased by 5% this year.)

**New Business**

Audit Presentation: two auditors present

According to the auditors, the performance of pension liability with IMRF seems better than the budget. Special Education has increased, and the program needs more funding. Cheney Mansion funds are increasing – a positive step forward. (The accounting system is new this year.)

The outcome of the 2014 Master Plan showed that the Park District has space constraints.

Collaboration is important to the OP community, and seniors and adults want activities.

In the top five new facilities, large spaces are needed.

A large, centralized, multi-generational community hub is needed as a supplement to existing centers.

Analyses showed population growth, more households with children, more seniors. Oak Park has a higher average income than the national average.

Private service providers aim at older adults.

Information was drawn in part from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Examples of underserved: The Library needs more space; teens need a gathering spot.

District 200 does not have enough facilities, for example swimming pools.

The township is interested in more than simply recreation. Health and wellness are important factors.

WSSR (West Suburban Special Recreation) would prefer to be in Oak Park rather than other towns because of the strong partnership that exists.

There are three planning strategies. The consultants looked at multiple empty sites, in terms of size, existing structures and potential costs. They also considered current ownership and complexity of acquisitions as well as parking requirements. At present they are looking at the least expensive plan of the three.

Things to be considered: How to finance the site chosen? How to address parking? How does a new center fit into sustainability goals? How will it compare with other existing facilities? In addition, they must continue community outreach. Costs are going up.

The final report is due June 16, 2016.

### **Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Wick

He has gotten positive responses about process and results so far.

Commissioner Guarino

Asked about a possible dome.

Commissioner Lentz:

Mentioned the Pleasant Home fundraiser.

President Aeschleman

Mentioned One-Government activities

### **Adjourn Meeting**

President Aeschleman adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm.