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Regular Board Meeting, September 24, 2015

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 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 Commissioners approved the Consent Agenda, which includes Cash and Investment Summary and Warrants and Bills for the month of August; Regular Board Meeting Minutes, August 13, 2015; and the new Park District logo.

Discussion of the new logo had taken place in the Committee of the Whole meeting. All Commissioners voted in favor of the new logo in the role call vote at this meeting.

Staff Reports:

• **A. Executive Director's Report.**

Work on Austin Gardens is progressing, including underground utilities. Framing of the building is next. The middle school project is behind schedule (fields for the school and other users).

Work is progressing on the final closeouts as well as humidity issues at Ridgeland Common Recreation Area. The tour of the parks will be on October 3. Splash pads will be closed September 30, and water fountains will be turned off soon.

Mike Grandy is retiring January 1, 2016. He was thanked for his long and important service.

Several staff and Commissioners Aeschleman and Lentz attended and participated in the Annual Conference of the National Recreation and Park Association September 14-17 in Las Vegas. At the conference, the Park District was officially informed of its National CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) accreditation, scoring 100%.

The American Academy for Park and Recreation Association (AARPA) in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) awarded the Park District of Oak Park the Gold Medal Award at this conference. Executive Director Jan Arnold emphasized the work of the current and past staff and Commissioners for their contributions that helped make these awards possible.

• **B. Revenue/Expense Status Report**

None

Old Business

- **A. Recreation and Facility Program Committee**
All Commissioners approved the Agreement with the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and a funding allocation of \$6,500. The Collaboration provides training and assistance for pre-school teachers.
- **B. Buildings and Grounds/Facility Maintenance Committee.** None
- **C. Administration and Finance Committee:** None.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Lenz:

Spoke of the recent award for meeting national standards as showing the quality of staff and the park district.

Commissioner Guarino

Spoke of the garden near the Conservatory: children are using it. He also congratulated Mike Grandy, and he acknowledged the work of the staff through the years.

Commissioner Porreca:

Congratulated Jan Arnold and the staff; she is proud to be a member of the Board. She announced that the Western Suburban Special Recreation Association is hosting a fundraiser on Oct 16, 7-11 pm. She also attended the opening of the Discovery Garden; the Conservatory is happy with the garden. A Gala is planned for 30th anniversary. She attended a sewing workshop, which was very good.

Commissioner Wick

Extended his congratulations and thanks to the staff for their work.

President Aeschleman

Congratulations to Mike Grandy on his coming retirement and thanks for all his contributions. Mentioned that the Gold Medal given to the Park District was a surprise, and that the speakers mentioned the social equity dimensions of Oak Park parks. He also recognized the Village taxpayers who voted for funding that allowed the District to get the awards. He mentioned that he and Victor Guarino attended a Chicago Edge meeting and participated in a community forum.

Executive Session

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.