

Lan-Oak Park District
Board Meeting
November 17, 2008

President Flanagin called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flanagin, Long, Beymer, Leck and Reynolds. Also present were Primack, Wilson, Kuniej, Celmer. Guest: Doris Archer.

Motion made by Leck to accept the Consent Agenda which consisted of Board Meeting minutes of October 27, 2008; Special Meeting of November 3, 2008; Committee Meeting of November 3, 2008; Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting of October 30, 2008; Recreation Committee Meeting of November 11, 2008; Executive Session Meeting minutes of October 27, 2008 and November 3, 2008; and the release of the various Executive Session Meeting minutes for public inspection. Second by Beymer. Discussion ensued on the minutes.

Primack explained to the board that the Board Meeting minutes from October 27th and the Committee Meeting minutes from November 3rd had some changes that needed to be made.

Reynolds asked Wilson to clarify a statement that was in the Executive Session Meeting minutes from October 27th that to what participation the staff had last year in organizing the holiday party. Leck stated that Desjardins had volunteered to organize the holiday party. Reynolds stated that Desjardins was not asked to do so and that she had volunteered to plan and organize it. Wilson asked what Reynolds would like the minutes to state with Primack responding that the sentence “as they did last year” should be taken out.

Long wanted to make sure that all changes to the meeting minutes were made. Primack and Wilson discussed using a compare program to help make the changes to the minutes and the Board would be able to see the changes. Wilson questioned why all of a sudden there was a need to provide two copies of minutes since previous, for years, the method to revise meeting minutes was that Wilson would take the corrections from the board table and make the changes after the meeting with no return of the specific meeting minutes for the Board to review a second time. This now procedure seems to be killing a lot of trees. Wilson stated that he was not sure if the board would be comfortable if he only presented 1 revised copy to the board especially since it would be getting changed in the official minutes. Primack stated that Wilson could use the compare program and asked the board if they would take Wilson’s word that all of the changes were being made to the minutes and some board members stated yes. In light of the conversation, Wilson requested exact wording for any revisions of meeting minutes from board members.

Flanagin stated that the board should hold out on accepting the minutes from October 27, November 3 meetings and the Executive Session Meeting minutes from October 27.

Reynolds discussed with the board the Recreation Committee Meeting minutes from November 11. Reynolds explained that the statement made in the minutes that stated “the committee had recommended that a fee increase not be effective until May 1, 2009” was untrue. Reynolds explained that there were many things that had been discussed but that Commissioner Beymer and herself would be bringing up all of the information to the board to discuss-no recommendations or decisions had been made about anything as of yet. Reynolds explained that she did not realize the Committee Meeting minutes would be included in the board packet. She thought that she would discuss things with Beymer first and then be able to add her information to Desjardins. She stated that she must have completely misunderstood but she had thought that it was discussed that everything would be discussed with the board first before any decisions were made. Wilson explained that with all board and committee meetings the minutes are immediately prepared and presented to the Board as a matter of record for the board to review and take any necessary action. She explained that she wanted to finalize and present the information to the board because she had things that she wanted to add to the meeting minutes. Reynolds stated that she wanted the Recreation Committee Meeting minutes pulled from the packet. Primack stated that the minutes should not be approved and should be resubmitted.

The motion to accept the Consent Agenda items was stricken.

Motion made by Leck to accept the Consent Agenda items of the Special Meeting Minutes from November 3, 2008; Finance and Personnel Meeting Minutes from October 30, 2008; Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2008 and the various Executive Session Meeting Minutes for official release for public inspection. Second by Beymer. Upon roll call the following voted “aye”-Leck, Long, Reynolds, Beymer, Flanagan. No “nays”.

Wilson presented his report. Long asked him for a summary of his trip to the Restaurant Finance and Real Estate Development Conference in Las Vegas. Wilson explained that he had informational packets at the table for the board members to look at that was the same packet he passed out during the restaurant show. He stated that he was able to present a 30 second presentation about Lansing to the 250-300 people in attendance at the particular session. He stated that he had 5 individuals approach him after the brief presentation. He explained that he had attended seminars on economics and the future of the restaurant business. Wilson explained to the board that he made several good contacts that can point him in the right direction on who to contact and keep up with the effort of attracting a restaurant to the downtown.

Commissioner Long stated that he knew that in order to make money you have to spend money and he asked Wilson what his cost to go to the conference was with Wilson responding that it was around \$2,000 and he had given the board the cost of the trip a few months ago. Long asked Wilson if he could give a breakdown of the cost with Wilson responding yes, he could get that for

him. Long also asked Wilson if the park district was in charge of the Cyclocross event that had went on on Sunday, November 16th. Wilson responded “no”. Long asked if the park district benefited financially from the program with Wilson replying “no”. Long asked Wilson if there was any cost for the park district to have this event other than the bicyclists tearing up the park with Wilson explaining that there was no cost to the park district to have the event and that the people who run the event have a landscaping crew that comes in and does work after the event is over.

Flanagin stated that he had gone to the Park Plaza on Veteran’s Day and heard the chimes of the clock play God Bless America. He stated that Commissioner Long and Commissioner Reynolds father were also in attendance. Leck asked if the public knew about the event with Wilson replying “no” and further explaining that he is still unsure about the programming of the carillon and at this time would not be making programming of the carillon a public event.

Flangin asked Primack if he could transcribe the Executive Session Meeting minutes of November 3, 2008. Primack stated “yes”. Wilson asked Flanagin if the board could write up the minutes for the meeting since he and Primack were not in attendance at the meeting. Since there is a concern with the budgetary item, Wilson indicated that Primack would be charging for his time to listen to and then write up the meeting minutes. Long asked how many hours it would take for Primack to complete this work with Primack responding “how long was your meeting?”

Reynolds gave a summary of her minutes from the Recreation Committee meeting to the board. She stated that at the meeting it was discussed about residents and non-residents and how to get more members into the fitness center. She explained that one of the suggestions were in regards to offering non-residents a coupon to join the fitness center but that non-residents would still pay more than residents. Reynolds and Beymer stated that they thought the Recreation Committee meeting minutes would be included in the Committee meeting packet for review by the board. Reynolds asked Wilson why the Recreation Committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet. Wilson stated that he has done it that way for the past 9 years and that Committee meeting packets do not have any meeting minutes included in them.

Reynolds explained that she had several different proposals to raise the fitness center rates and she also had the information on how much each rate increase would make. The proposed rate increase was from 3-6%. Reynolds explained that she was given all of that information in a folder to hand out to the board. Reynolds stated that the Recreation Committee discussed getting rid or moving certain free special events because they cost a lot of money and do not have a lot of participants. Reynolds stated that if the event generated more people than that would be a different story. Leck asked Reynolds if she had a list of the events that needed to be looked at with Reynolds replying yes. Reynolds also explained the Recreation Committee has asked for budget cuts from the Superintendent of Recreation.

Beymer stated that he wanted to go back and discuss the Recreation Committee minutes where it stated, "Desjardins asked if fitness specials would return to a staff function?" Beymer asked why the staff is not making those decisions now. Wilson stated that at the April Board meeting the Commissioners decided that the fitness specials would now be their decision. Beymer stated, "The board will plan all of the specials?" Long explained that while the board may hear suggestions, they have the final say in the decision. Beymer stated that he did not realize the board had taken control of the fitness center specials. Wilson stated that is why he kept asking the board for a fall special. Beymer stated that he thought the board agreed that all the fitness specials stayed the same except for the January special. Long stated no that that was not what was decided.

Flanagin stated that he just had one notation in regards to the letter that had gone to the Planning and Zoning Board in regards to the Heritage Development recommending that the developer put in wider sidewalks. Beymer stated that 8 feet wide sidewalks are normal. Wilson explained that the 8 feet wide sidewalk would allow a bike lane going both ways with a 1 foot 6 inch safety area in the middle. Asking for a wider sidewalk would allow additional room and also provide sufficient room for wheelchairs, walkers and cyclists. Flanagin stated that they were also looking for a financial contribution from the developer.

Kuniej presented her report. Kuniej stated that there is still a shortage of \$355,000 due to tax receipts that are coming in slow. Primack stated that it was a significant amount of money not to have collected yet. Beymer stated that the county might have waited until after the election with Primack stating that that did not happen because the bills were out in October with a due date of November 1. Primack asked Kuniej if her cash position figures had included the \$355,000 in tax money that was due. Kuniej replied that her figures did not include the \$355,000.

Kuniej explained to the board that there was a big disbursement to SSSRA. Kuniej also explained that she had changed the Treasurer's Report to better understand the cash position as per the direction of the Finance & Personnel Committee. She stated that looking at the adjustment column should help to get to the cash position. Kuniej explained that the cash balance by fund is on the top of the report and the balance by account is on the bottom of the report. Wilson asked where the deferred revenue went. Kuniej explained that the balance sheet had an adjustment in fitness for \$56,650 and that it was the deferred revenue for contracts plus the net of capital assets. Primack stated that that gives a true cash figure. Wilson asked if the report could show the deferred revenue. Kuniej stated that she could add another column for those figures. Flanagin stated that it might give a better picture of balances. Kuniej stated that she could also add those figures back to the bottom of the report. Kuniej explained that that could be used as the cash statement and that she could explain that on the bottom of the report or add another column. Wilson stated that it would be better to add another column. Primack stated that it did not matter either way with Kuniej replying that she would

do both to see which would look better. Motion made by Beymer to accept the Treasurer's Report and Operating Statement as presented. Second by Leck. Upon roll call the following voted "aye"-Long, Reynolds, Beymer, Leck, Flanagan. No "nays". Motion passed.

Primack suggested that the board make the Presentation of Levy available today for posting and public inspection. He stated that the Truth In Taxation Hearing would be published in the newspaper on November 20, 2008. The meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2008 at 7:00pm at the Eisenhower Center. Motion made by Long to make available to the public the 2008 Tax Levy. Second by Beymer. Upon roll call the following voted "aye"-Reynolds, Beymer, Leck, Long, Flanagan. No "nays". Motion passed.

Flanagan discussed the idea of asking the tax payers for a 2nd referendum for capital improvements since the most recent referendum was defeated 74% to 26%. Flanagan asked the board if they wanted to review the information or think about the next election in April 2009. He also discussed educating the public and waiting until the 2010 election. He asked for any thoughts from the board. Leck stated that she thought the board should educate the public and ask again. She stated that she had talked to a Times journalist who stated that she would work with the park district in putting notices in the paper in regards to the referendum. Reynolds asked when the next election was with Flanagan replying that it is in April 2009. Reynolds asked if there would be enough time to educate the public by April. Flanagan stated that there might not be enough time to put it in the brochure and that it needed to be discussed. Reynolds asked Wilson when the next brochure would be coming out with Wilson stating that it would be late April. Flanagan stated that the public needed to be educated as to what the money would be used for. Flanagan explained that there were unfunded mandates that impact the capital improvement budget and that the park district needs to have a good public relations campaign.

Flanagan stated that the Governor of Illinois has upped the minimum wage, more than the Federal, which is another unfunded mandate. Flanagan also stated that the park district could buy paint for the parks but that would not last long. He explained that the risk manager could come out and take out equipment due to the liability factor. Reynolds stated that it should be put on the referendum to see what people are thinking. Reynolds asked the board if the public could be educated by April. Wilson stated that he had wanted to discuss the referendum with the public months ago and stated that if they start tomorrow there could be enough time. Flanagan explained that both he and Wilson had set up a time for a meeting with the media to explain the past referendum. He explained that only the Times newspaper came out and that article came out 2 days before the referendum. Beymer asked if there was a limit on the number of times to ask for a referendum. Primack stated no, there is no limit. Wilson stated that if it were asked too many times, the park district's reputation would suffer with the public. Leck stated that there was a lot of voter turnout this year for the

election. Flanagan explained that there was a lot of early voting, before anyone knew about the referendum. Beymer stated that there were more no's because of the presidential election.

The consensus of the board was to table the discussion on the referendum issue and re-visit the topic at the December Committee meeting and if necessary, sometype of formal action would be taken at the December Board meeting.

Motion by Leck to going into Executive Session for the discussion of land acquisition, personnel, probable litigation and/or other subject matters as allowed by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2.(c)(1) – 22.(e). Second by Beymer. Upon roll call the following voted “aye” – Reynolds, Beymer, Leck, Long, Flanagan. No nays.

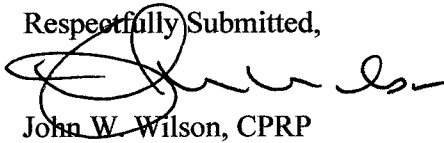
Executive Session at 8:40pm.

Flanagan called the regular meeting back to order at 8:44pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flanagan, Long, Beymer, Leck and Reynolds. Also present were Primack, Wilson.

There being no further business Motion by Beymer to adjourn. Second by Reynolds. Upon roll call all present voted “aye”. No nays.

Adjourned at 8:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John W. Wilson', written over the printed name below.

John W. Wilson, CPRP

Secretary to the Board of Commissioners