

Lan-Oak Park District
Board Meeting
August 16, 2010

President Long called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Upon Roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flanagin, Gaffney, Kelly, Leck, Long. Also present: Director Wilson and recording secretary Edwards; guests John McGovern, Essie Lewis, Dortha Cittsin, Chris Cooley, Sandra Boyd, Gloria Davis, Celica Gibson, Vernessa Turner, Phyllis White-Winston, Kimberly McCloud, Angelo Mandvjano, Charles Stevenson, and Pam Smith.

Gaffney moves to accept consent agenda which included the Board meeting minutes of July 19, 2010; Finance & Personnel Committee meeting minutes of August 2, 2010; Planning Committee meeting minutes of August 9, 2010; Executive Session meeting minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting of August 2, 2010; AP Payment Selection Reports for Refunds & Payroll W/H of July 22 & August 5, 2010; AP Invoices of August 16, 2010; and Ordinance 16-8-10: An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Real Estate Exchange Agreement with Frederick J. Leep, Edgar K. Leep, & William L. Fulton & Authorizing the Conveyance of Land, Easement & Licenses; & Acceptance of Land. Second by Flanagin. Upon roll call the following voted "aye:" Flanagin, Gaffney, Kelly, Leck, & Long. No Nays. Motion Passed.

Long informed the Board that John McGovern from Recreation Accessibility Consultants (RAC) was in attendance as part of the Buildings & Grounds Committee report. Long requested to suspend from the agenda format and allow Mr. McGovern the floor to present his presentation. RAC was hired to perform an inspection of all park district facilities and amenities to determine if they conform to the ADA rules and regulations. McGovern gave a summary of their findings and recommendations that are also included in the report. The Director has been given the written report. A brief discussion ensued about how the Park District should proceed with the recommendations contained in the report.

Wilson presented his report as it appeared in the Board packet.

Gaffney reminds the board the new fitness equipment is coming in this following week and there was a question about the pool being closed at the same time. Wilson responded that the pool will be closed due to fitness lobby will be serving as one of the staging areas for the fitness equipment so the pool will be closed for the safety of the patrons. Gaffney also

questioned that with the new equipment will members receive an orientation. Wilson informed the board that Michelle Havran will be training the staff on the operation of the new fitness equipment and that there will be group orientations available for the members.

Other discussions center on the community garage sale and Wilson also added that the recent "date night" was a huge success with 70+ citizens in attendance. Flanagin reported that gym memberships are up for the year.

Kelly informs the Board there was another meeting to discuss the referendum and he encouraged the Board to invite members of the community to the next meeting on September 8, 2010 at 8:00pm at the Eisenhower Center. Kelly also updated the Board on Monaldi Manor Condo Association situation.

Discussion was held on the appointment of individuals to the Ethics Commission. Wilson indicated that he talked to at least four people. Long requested that the discussion be continued in executive session.

As for the upcoming NRPA Congress in Minneapolis, Gaffney indicated that it was the recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee that Board Members by pass the Congress this year in an effort to reduce operational costs. It was stated that if Board and Staff members want to pay their own way to the Congress, they have that right. The discussion continued then Kelly made a Motion that no Park District funds be spent for Commissioners or Staff to attend the 2010 NRPA Congress. Second by Flanagin. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gaffney, Kelly, Leck, Flanagin, Long. No nays. Motion Passed.

Gaffney makes a Motion to accept Treasurers Report and operating statement as presented for July 31, 2010. Second by Flanagin. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Leck, Flanagin, Gaffney, Kelly, Long. No Nays. Motion Passed.

Ken Verkaik from the Lansing Fire Department arrives to discuss the fire department use of the Bock Park Swimming Pool Facilities as a training area. The Board of Commissioners tentatively approved the use of the buildings for the training at a previous meeting but the Board wanted to hear exactly what the fire department would be doing in the buildings and how long they would be there. Verkaik explained to the Park Board what the Fire Department would be doing in the buildings and present the Board with an Agreement for the right to use the building. After some discussion, Flanagin made a Motion to allow the Fire Department to use building at Bock Park Swimming Pool for training purposes as explained and also based upon

the approval of the Agreement by the Park District's insurance carrier. Second by Kelly. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Flanagin, Gaffney, Kelly, Leck, Long. No Nays. Motion passed.

Flanagin inform the board that the Lan-Oak Park Foundation canceled the cruise night for August 28. The next cruise night will be held on October 9th. Flanagin also provided information that the park plaza bricks were ordered & should be arriving in four to six weeks.

Long broached the topic of renaming a little league field at Lions Stadium in honor of Tom Gavin. Gaffney indicated he had already discussed the idea with representatives of the Lansing Old Timers and he should be hearing from them soon. Flanagin suggested that the Board should attend a Lions meeting since they assisted with the construction of the park and provide them with the details of the proposed memorial. The matter was tabled until all entities have a chance to provide the Park Board with input.

Long opens floor to the audience. Chris Caldie presented concerns relating to Volunteers Park. He is concerned about the youth using the park to watch the residents; peeping through resident's windows; hanging out on private lawn furniture; and using the south corner as an escape exit. Gloria Davis adds that the park was originally intended for toddlers, which are very seldom seen using the park, because parents are afraid to bring their children due to the youth using the park to hang out, use vulgar language and deal drugs. Davis adds that in the event cops do show up, after stating on the phone "it's the park districts problem," the kids have escape routes including running through resident's lawns. Davis suggests signs be put up stating appropriate ages for the park; she adds the trash cans have no lids causing a rodent problem for the park as well. Vanessa Williams addressed the planter in the park which is over grown with weeds and looks bad but also the youth hide behind it from the police or to deal drugs. Kim McCloud reports that the youth always arrive at 11am every morning and generally don't leave until 10 pm or later. McCloud is concerned to let her 10-year-old son out to play because the crowds of youths are smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol and ask the younger kids for money. Linda Boyd discusses the cheat gazebo in the park and stated that there are no water fountains. Kathleen Wilson tells the board its emotional for her to see what the park is becoming, she has made many calls as late as 2am due to youths yelling & cursing, she is afraid to do too much in fear of being targeted. Phyllis White strongly backs everything the other citizens have stated and poses the question when will the park district have a formal park dedication.

Long addresses the concerns starting with the police. He informs the residents monthly the park district receives all the police reports regarding the parks for that month, every time they call and an officer comes out there should be a report filed, and that the park did not know of this problem because the district hasn't received any reports on the matter. From now on, when calling take down the call center name to try to track why the disturbances are not being conveyed to the police and the LOPD. In past instances when having a problem with a park LOPD has worked closely with the police to solve the problem. As for the garbage cans, planter, and grass - LOPD will try to get to it with a sense of urgency but is understaffed; the need is noted. As for the gazebo, water fountain, etc, - there was a plan for the park and the plan was followed as discussed with the residents during the planning process. Long states LOPD understands the residents disdain for the park but when the district is given land they have to do something with it. Long promises LOPD will work diligently to solve the problem and asks the residents to have patience and do their parts as far as calling the cops and recording names from the call center and adds the board really appreciates the residents concerns and vigor in solving this problem.

Motion by Flanagan to go 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) - (24). Second by Gaffney. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gaffney, Kelly, Leck, Flanagan, Long. No Nays. Motion passed.

Executive session at 9:07 pm.

The regular meeting was called back to order by President Long at 9:40pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flanagan, Gaffney, Leck, Kelly, Long. Also present was Director of Parks & Recreation Wilson.

Commissioner Leck made a Motion that the Director of Parks & Recreation's Employment Agreement be extended for one year which would make the expiration date April 30, 2013. Second by Flanagan. Upon roll call the following voted: "aye"- Flanagan, Leck: "nay" Kelly, Gaffney, Long. Motion failed 2-3.

Motion by Gaffney to release certain executive session meeting minutes as recommended by the Board Secretary with the exception of delaying the release of the two exceptions as discussed in executive session.

Second by Flanagin. Upon roll call the following voted "aye"- Leck, Kelly, Flanagin, Gaffney, Long. No nays.

Leck Motion to appoint Pam Smith, Kari Ann Legg and Stacy Hastings to the Human Rights Commission. Second by Flanagin. Upon roll call the following voted- "aye"- Flanagin, Leck, Kelly, Gaffney, Long. Motion passed. Wilson informed the Board that he would contact the individuals to arrange a meeting where terms can be established as per the Ordinance.

It was the consensus of the Board to wait until information was received back from Robinson Engineering relating to exploring any options available to construct the Pennsy Spur from Wentworth to Burnham Avenue.

Wilson will post a public notice regarding the Board's attendance to the Schultz Park Playground Dedication on August 28, 2010 at 9:30am.

There being no further business Motion by Flanagin to adjourn the executive session. Second by Leck. Upon roll call the following votes "aye" - Flanagin, Gaffney, Leck, Kelly, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 9:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Wilson, CPRP
Secretary to the Park Board