

Lan-Oak Park District  
Planning Committee  
Building & Grounds Committee  
June 29, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. Upon roll call the following were in attendance: Committee members: Commissioner Kelly, Leck, Long. Others in attendance: Commissioner Gaffney. Staff present: Wilson.

Wilson provided information on the following topics with discussion ensuing between committee members:

- 1) Winterhoff drainage: background information was provided and a copy of the letter authored by Robinson Engineering was reviewed indicating that the park district's work in Winterhoff Park was not responsible for the recent flooding of property adjacent to the Pennsy Greenway at Burnham Avenue.
- 2) Pending Grants for the bike path: A review of all grants and other funding received to date along with grant funds received and not started was reviewed with Wilson explaining each grant specifications and purpose of the grant. Funding received to date - one IDNR Bike grant (acquisition of Pennsylvania Railroad ROW by the Village, authored by the Park District), two CMAQ grants, one enhancement grant, member initiative funding from Congressman Jackson, and one OSLAD grant for the Meekma Park Development.
- 3) Monaldi Manor Condo Association: Wilson shared with the committee members the most recent response from the Condo Association relating to the route of the Pennsy Greenway. Several options were discussed relating to an alternative route of the bike path. It was decided that time should be devoted to work with ComEd and Monaldi Manor to secure the most desirable and safe bike route. Wilson will contact Mayor Abbott for Long, Kelly and Wilson to meet with him to discuss the project and to solicit his assistance on this matter.
- 4) Lansing/Munster Connection: an update was provided by Wilson relating to the "golden spike" celebration of the Pennsy Greenway bike path being connected at the state line. The event is being planned tentatively for National Trails Day in 2010.
- 5) Community -Wide Bike Plan: the committee discussed the plan as prepared by the Active Transportation Alliance for the Park District.

The plan is currently in a draft format. The discussion concluded with the plan being placed on the July Board agenda for review and comment by board members, a meeting with the Bike Committee, then the plan would be placed on the August Board agenda for the Board's consideration of approval.

- 6) Drainage at the Park Plaza: Wilson provided background information to the members about the drainage problems at the Plaza. Wilson will be contacting the building owner who has a sump pump draining into the plaza to resolve this situation. Previous conversations with the building owner and the Building Commissioner for the Village were discussed. Wilson will keep the Board updated on the progress and a timeline on any repair plans. Along with this situation, the drainage problem created by the drain pipe from the Legion parking area was discussed. This matter should be resolved with the pending parking lot project along West Street.
- 7) Clock Tower: information was provided regarding the final payment of the clock tower and Wilson indicated that the clock/carillon has been working properly and the only outstanding matter is the mechanics of the control cabinet door.
- 8) Park Plaza design: discussion centered on the overall design of the Park Plaza. Wilson indicated that the Park District has settled on the schematic design that was provided to the members in the meeting packet. A question was raised about the Park Plaza design that appears on the Lan-Oak Park Foundation web site. Wilson omitted that he was unaware of the design on the web site but he would check it out. The schematic design that was in the meeting packet was plan by Cody-Braun & Associates dated August 2007.
- 9) Overall Improvements to the Parks: discussion and review of the document as authored by Wilson ensued. The document lists each park in the system and possible park improvements. Noting that the greater majority of the District's parks need major attention. The committee agreed to table this matter at the present time and to review the document and discuss it in detail in the very near future.
- 10) Risk Management Plan for each Park: a plan authored by Wilson and the District's Risk Manager, this document outlines the liability issues with the playgrounds as they are compared to the 1991 Consumer Safety Product Guidelines. Updating the progress, Wilson informed the committee that the playground at Bernice Park has been totally

removed with Potts and Schultz Parks on the agenda to have various pieces of play equipment removed.

- 11) *Mowing Equipment*: Wilson updated the committee members on the situation relating to the District's mowers. The current mowers are nearly 10 years old and the District is spending major dollars on repairs created by wear and tear over the years. The staff was investigate the purchase of trim mowers and will be looking at larger mowers within the next 7-10 days. No plan to purchase is in place, but the financing of purchasing the equipment has been discussed between Wilson, Primack and Kuniej. The discussion turned to the amount of mowing the District performs above and beyond the parks. The District also mows property for the Village, School Districts 158 & 171, and one private school. Wilson informed the committee that he discussed the costs of mowing with a private landscaper and re-worked the costs associated with the private contactor to establish a fair cost for mowing property other than the parks. Wilson use \$70 an hour based upon 26 and 32 mowing a season. The total expense to the Park District was estimated at \$27,000 - \$33,000 yearly that is spent on mowing other property above and beyond the parks. Discussion ensued and in the end, Long will be contacting various individuals in the schools to inform them of this and to arrange a meeting with all parties in the near future. Kelly suggested that Wilson be a part of those meetings with Long
- 12) *Greenway Classification*: Wilson shared information about the request to the Village to establish a *Greenway* zoning classification. A letter was sent to the Village and also to the Planning and Zoning committee.

There being no further business, the committee members adjourned the meeting at 10:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted

John W. Wilson, CPRP  
Secretary to the Park Board