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MEETING MINUTES

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Thursday, Sept 20, 2018

7:00pm

Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main Street

Members Present: J. Bryan, D. Barreto, D. Michelin, E. DeStefano, D. Stein

Members Absent: J. Brown, D. Campbell, H. Garcia

Staff Present: L. Hemingway, B. Dorneker, J. Lasik, S. Levine, D. Stoneback

Others Present:

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With a quorum present, J. Bryan called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 19

Action: the motion to accept the minutes was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CIP UPDATE

S. Levine, Senior Projects Manager in the Public Works Department, gave a brief presentation on the Garden Park renovation project. On October 8, Public Works staff will recommend City Council's approval to execute a contract with Teska Associates, Inc. 627 Grove Street, Evanston, IL, for landscape architectural and engineering services related to the Garden Park renovation project.

D. Stein said he still struggles with the City redeveloping a park that won't have parking access. The City needs to revisit their decision to restrict parking spaces at Garden Park. He feels strongly that twenty-two resident only parking spaces should be changed back to no parking 9pm to 6am like the rest of the street parking in the area. L. Hemingway will make a request to have members of the Board added to the next Transportation and Parking Committee meeting agenda to share their concerns.

D. Stein also suggested that in the future, parks, recreation and community services department capital improvement projects should come to the Board for discussion before going to the public.

ROBERT CROWN CENTER UPDATE

Construction is in progress. The Board was encouraged to sign up for the weekly construction updates, which includes a project webcam that shows time lapse video of the project in action.

The Robert Crown Advisory Board has planned two fundraising activities for the new Robert Crown Center. Funds collected from both activities will be deposited into the Friends of the Robert Crown Center financial account. The first activity is a skate-a-thon where they anticipate raising several thousand dollars. The second activity consists of a 3ft by 3ft mosaic that will be created using stained glass pieces. Each stained glass piece is a \$100 donation. The completed artwork will hang in the new Robert crown center.

D. Stein said he loves the fact that the Advisory Board is in support of the Crown project and want to help with fundraising but he has concerns with individual groups adding design features to a building that might not be within the character or the look and feel of the building. There needs to be some type of policy in place so we're not dealing situations like this on case by case basis.

STAFF UPDATES

Gold Medal Finalist-

The department has been named a finalist for the National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management for the second consecutive year. Other finalists include Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department (Bloomington, IN), Greeley Culture, Parks and Recreation (Greeley, CO), and Lawrence Parks and Recreation (Lawrence, KS). The winner will be announced live during the NRPA General Session at the 2018 NRPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, September 25-27, 2018.

2019 Department Budget / CIP-

There is a \$7.5 million gap in the budget. Staff will receive proposed budget cuts within the next two weeks. The Board received a brief overview of the 2019 proposed parks capital improvement plan.

End of Summer Report –

We had a very busy summer. \$146,901 worth of camp scholarships; 42,872 summer meals served; 21,341 beach tokens sold; 5,370 campers enrolled; 1,894 theatre tickets sold; 474 seasonal staff hired; and 321 park permits issued. Free beach access: 614 beach tokens given to non-profit agencies; 864 teen 10-punch beach passes distributed; 2,714 tokens given to income eligible residents; and \$11,043 in donations received for beach tokens.

LEVY ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Action: The motion to appoint Bruce Hirsch to the Levy Center Advisory Board was approved.

PRCS BOARD REAPPOINTMENT AND VACANCY UPDATE

Hector Garcia and Jeff Brown will not seek reappointment for a second 5 year term on the Board. John Bryan will seek a second term. The Board currently has 3 vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 8:31PM. The next scheduled meeting is 7pm on October 18, 2018 at the Ecology Center.