



MINUTES

**Committee of the Whole Meeting of the West Chicago Board of Park Commissioners
in the Park District ARC Center Meeting Room 105
201 W National Street, West Chicago, IL 60185.**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Bass, Gunderson, Lenertz, Spencer, Turney (6:21 p.m.), Voelz and Zaputil.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – President Lenertz

III. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

IV. Approve Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Volez motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Zaputil seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

V. Prospective Commissioner Interview

The Board of Commissioners interviewed Mr. Ken Driscoll. Mr. Driscoll has been a resident of West Chicago for over 20 years and he and his family have utilized and enjoyed the District's programs and facilities. Mr. Driscoll has served as President of the Willow Creek HOA Board of Directors as well as co-chair and membership in various other councils and groups. Mr. Driscoll believes a great deal of improvement has taken place in the District over the years and would like to serve his community, promote District services, and provide input and guidance by joining the Board of Park Commissioners.

VI. Director Major

- A. Review 3-year plan derived from Commissioner and Staff Retreat – Director Major reviewed the 3-year plan (Appendix A) with the Board. Commissioner Zaputil inquired if the Pioneer Gazebo project noted to take place under “November 1, 2021 through October 1, 2022” should be moved up? Director Major explained that items can and will be moved as needed.
- B. Tree Inventory Update – Superintendent Gasparini updated the Board on the District’s Tree Inventory (Appendix B)
- C. Capital Projects – Director Major updated the Board on the following Capital Projects:
 - Wilson Road Paving Project
 - Grant of OSLAD
 - Storage Bin Project
 - Pool Liner Project
 - Equipment Purchase

VII. Miscellaneous

- A. Review / Discussion – Resolution R19-01; Reduction in number of Commissioners – The Board Resolution R19-01. The Resolution will be placed on the agenda of the December 10, 2019 meeting for possible approval.
- B. Review / Discussion - 2020 Meeting Schedule – The Board discussed the 2020 meeting schedule and asked for additional dates to be added in order to prepare for an Executive Director search.
- C. December 2019 / January 2020 District Meeting and Event Reminder – The Board reviewed the District Meeting and Event Reminder
- D. Review / Discussion - Community Events – The Board discussed attendance by Commissioners at Community events.

VIII. Adjourn Open Meeting

Commissioner Voelz motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Bass seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

West Chicago Park District

Three Year Plan derived from October Commissioner Vision Meeting

November 1, 2019 through October 1, 2020

- Rebuild class programming for West Chicago Park District. This will essentially allow the staff to scrap the current programming offerings and begin anew
- Emphasis on Outdoor Outreach programs such as Picnic in the Park, possible fishing derbies, nature walks, and other to be determined offerings for the community
- Explore the possibility of technology- oriented programming as well as possible Esports activities
- Emphasis on Activity Based Programming philosophy
- Explore possible reintroduction of Spooky Trail and scary venue
- Eliminate the transportation business which relates to programs
- Install Turtle Splash pool liner
- Replace Turtles Splash roof
- Refurbish Turtles Splash 'Turtle'
- Submit grant request for Phase III of Kress Creek
- Repave Wilson St. entering into Kress Creek Farms
- Initiate environmental consultant to determine possibility of insulation addition at Park Maintenance Facility. Also, determine cost of replacement/refurbish of Lions Pavilion
- Initiate Community Needs Survey
- Develop new rental rates for rooms
- Purchase/lease new 580D Lawn mower

November 1, 2020 through October 1, 2021

- Evaluate results of Grant submittal for Kress Creek Farms, fine tune final plans for development
- Secure finance plan for Kress Creek Farms project for next year. Should include Bike Park project and two playground installations at Cornerstone and Prince Crossing
- Develop Turtle Splash master plan for 10-year renovation and maintenance
- Plan for demolition of Preschool along with the movement of Preschool to ARC Fall of 2021
- Initiate plan to relocate the Lions Pavilion in Reed Kepler Park
- Demolish home at Kress Creek Farms
- Begin field development at Kress Creek, northwest side
- Evaluate and react to Community Needs Survey

November 1, 2021 through October 1, 2022

- Tear down Pioneer Gazebo, and replace with alternate feature
- Complete construction on primary Kress Creek project
- Replace Lions Pavilion
- Finalize timeline and location for Bike Park install
- Installation of two playgrounds at Cornerstone and Prince Crossing Parks

WHY THE TREE INVENTORY WAS NEEDED?

- Identified a problem with how we were managing the aging trees and our urban forests
- Began contracting out a large amount of our pruning
- Weren't getting the results fast enough and feared for safety hazards
- Decided to create a tree inventory to help manage tree work

HOW WAS THE TREE INVENTORY USED?

- The Park District's tree inventory was completely updated in October 2018
- The tree inventory showed what trees the District had and where improvements were needed
- 256 Trees were identified by the 2018 tree inventory report to be removed
- A priority plan was developed
- Maintenance plans were developed

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

- Within the first year 120 trees equaling 1,361 diameter inches were removed
- 49 stumps were removed
- The tree inventory allowed us to show qualifications that The District was in fact an Arboretum and the District attained level II Arboretum status
- The District now operates a self-guided tree tour
- The first phase tree removal contract was awarded to remove 31 trees equaling 767 diameter inches. The largest, and most dangerous trees to remove are priority number 1

MOVING FORWARD

- In 2020 the District's urban forests will be a manageable asset in which risk is minimal to the patrons and staff that occupy its parks
- The second phase of the removals will take place removing the remaining trees deemed to be removed by the 2018 tree inventory report.
- Exploring arboretum grant opportunities for reforestation
- The District has committed to the continued growth of our Arboretum with resources and technology