



LPAC Minutes  
February 9, 2008  
Margate Field House

**North Park Framework Planning Discussion**

Presenting from the Chicago Park District:

Bob Foster, Planning

Dana Zilinski, North Lakefront Manager

Alonzo Williams, Lakefront Manager

The North Park Addendum framework recommendations and map provided are a compendium of comments agreed on at previous framework planning meetings. Items on the list were discussed with meeting attendees. Issues participants identified were:

- 1) ASCO condo association objected to the natural area plantings at Kathy Osterman beach; they feel the plantings attract rats. The nature area steward for that spot responded that these plantings are less likely to attract rats than are lawns and garbage that people leave.
- 2) Montrose Beach House has been fully renovated (rather than replaced) but should remain on the list to document that certain points in the framework plan have been achieved.
- 3) Lighting at and around the Margate Dog Park needs to be improved. Users don't feel safe walking to the park.
- 4) It's not clear where a record of the comments from framework planning meetings is kept. Per Bob Foster, the comments are incorporated into the next set of planning documents.
- 5) Will we see the plans for improvement when funding for some projects becomes available?  
Answer: when CPD embarks on major projects there will be public hearings, but not for ongoing daily operations (i.e. placing garbage cans, doing landscaping). Some projects, like Montrose dunes restoration, have their own funding and plans.
- 6) Overuse of the lakefront parks for permitted events is a continuing problem - to find out who is getting permits one needs to submit a FOIA request.
- 7) Closing streets into the parks in busy periods results in huge traffic back ups in adjacent neighborhoods. Alonzo Williams said that Chicago Police Dept would work toward a solution with Park Security.
- 8) Inadequate signage, particularly street signs, is a problem. If one calls 311 or 911 the operator asks for a street address, which is not clear inside the park. The park has rules on installation of signs but

doesn't take account of the need for people to know where they are (i.e. 4000 north, 200 west, etc.). There is too much emphasis on aesthetics of signage and not enough on usefulness or practicality of existing signage.

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The LPAC business meeting was called to order at 7:50 pm following the extensive presentation on the framework plan for the north end of Lincoln Park.

The CPD staff reports were enthusiastic details of active programs, filled with students, winning awards for their creativity and winning trophies, too.

Randi Doeker gave a report on the Board meeting, which had no direct impact on Lincoln Park.

We approved the October and November minutes.

Vickie Matthews gave the Treasurer's report.

Jill Niland gave the President's report which was edited because of time. She reported that Pshift continues to host the website and the Lincoln Park Zoo will take over the maintenance of the website. She asked for volunteers to compose a Nominating Committee. We need to nominate a new President, Secretary and possibly Treasurer as well as two Board members. Becky Rossof, a new member, and Mary Gray offered to join the committee and Jill asked Betsy Altman to chair it.

Submitted by Jill Niland and Betsy Altman.