



MINUTES OF LINCOLN PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL March 11, 2009 MEETING

The session convened at 6:45pm at the Notebaert Museum with President Vickie Matthews, presiding.

Meeting

There was no program presentation this evening.

Agenda Approved

The agenda was moved and seconded, approved without comment.

Report from Park Staff

Jennifer Bice, supervisor of Margate Park (312-742-7522) and Cindy Jahraus (312-742-7726), Lincoln Park Cultural Center Supervisor, gave activity reports. Derrick Martin, Area Manager (312-287-3410, derrick.martin@chicagoparkdistrict.com) promised to get back to the council on the list of outstanding information requests we had made:

- Can we get a list of permitted activities for Lincoln Park on a regular basis?
- Can we get a list of violators (e.g. permit holders who make a mess and do not clean up)?
- What is the Latin School's usage of the new soccer field?
- How will ongoing lack of garbage collection at Montrose soccer fields be handled?
- Unrelated to permitting process, but related to overall service in park, the council asked for a list of budget cuts and how those cuts would affect Lincoln Park.

Park Liaison Report

Randi Doeker reported that the Park District board met and revealed that the CPD budget is \$15 million off from projections and that funds from the lease of the Monroe Street garage had been used to cover short falls last year. There is a hiring freeze in place. We also heard a report that Friends of the Parks is asking the CPD to put their agenda on line earlier than three days in advance as well as a 30-day advance notice for any fee increases for museums on park land.

Minutes

Minutes from the February meeting were approved with minor corrections, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Council's net assets were \$1,633.64. Our fiscal year ends April 30 and all members must have their dues paid up by then. Report approved without comment.

Report on Standing Task Forces

The standing task forces listing in the minutes are dormant. These are Park Planning, Coordinating, Traffic & Parking, Recreation & Culture, Permits, Concessions and Special Projects. Coleen Blake volunteered to chair a new park survey effort.

Nominating Committee Report

Betsy Altman, Coleen Blake, Veronica Cook. Chuck Goes and Lorraine Hoffman are working on a slate to present to the Council at the April meeting. There can be nominations from the floor at that meeting.

President's Report

- Have contacted the History Museum and the Zoo to see if they will send organizational representatives to the Council.
- Have registered LPAC with the CPD according to the registration instructions online.

New Business

Betsy Altman proposed the following language as a bylaw amendment:

ARTICLE TWO, Section Four – Meeting Notice

Notice for all membership meetings shall be posted on the LPAC website at least 5 days before the meeting. The program speakers and topic will be posted when they are confirmed. Any special business will be detailed, if known. The Notice is for informational purposes only, and does not prohibit the Council from hearing and acting on business brought before it that is not included in the Notice.

- There was discussion regarding the best method of communicating with members. There was a suggestion that all members (especially new ones) get a letter explaining how the Yahoo email list works. Terry Leja volunteered to look into email systems for membership communication.

Old Business

Mark Kramer reviewed plans for fixing the area on Dickens/Webster/Stockton by the Cummings playground. Says this area has been degraded by construction and salt. There is a donor who will repair the area and endow a maintenance fund but is concerned that the area would just be degraded again going forward. He says CPD personnel have been promising to repair this area, but so far no action has been taken. He wants to restore the area using the Lincoln Park Conservancy as a conduit for the funds. The Council made no objections to this plan.

Olympic Impact Discussion

Following up the Olympic Forum the Council hosted at its January meeting, Tom Tresser made the following motion: "The Lincoln Park Advisory Council opposes the 2016 Olympics on the grounds of its financial, environmental and social impacts to Lincoln Park." Seconded by Joan Levin. After some debate a straw poll was taken: 12 for the motion, 10 opposed. The President cited a provision of the Council's by-laws that calls for controversial issues that have strong support for both sides to be referred to a task force for study and then re-visiting before the full Council. Tom Tresser agreed to chair the Park Planning Task Force that will look at the impact of the Olympics on Lincoln Park and report back to the full Council.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Tresser, LPAC Board Secretary
Revisions made by Betsy Altman

Next meeting on April 8 at 6:45pm at Margate Park.