

Lan-Oak Park District
Committee Meeting
May 5, 2008

President Flanagin called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Flanagin, Beymer, Reynolds. Leck arrived at 7:12pm. Long arrived at 7:22pm. Also present were Primack, Wilson, Desjardins, Havran, Rushmeyer, Celmer.

Desjardins presented her report. The Pennies for Parks can design was shown to the Commissioners and the can design label was chosen. The cans, which have been donated by Gus Bock Ace Hardware, will be located in Chamber of Commerce stores around Lansing, with an expected kick-off date of July 26th. This date would coincide with the car show and sidewalk sale that is planned for that date. Leck will also talk to school Superintendent Veronda Cottle to see about putting the cans in the local schools. Reynolds said that if the park district makes collecting the pennies a contest within the schools, that it could be a success. She explained how the schools had just had “penny wars” to raise money for a local cause and how much of a success it was. Desjardins explained how the park district might reward the school/class that earns the most money with a pizza and movie party. Reynolds also offered to help Leck with contacting the PTA’s within the local schools. Leck would like to see the money go toward the Memorial Gardens, honoring fallen Lansing soldiers and law enforcement officers. Flanagin explained that it would be better not to earmark the proceeds toward any one group, that the money should go into the Park Plaza where the community could see the end result of their collection efforts. Leck asked if the fundraiser has to go through the Lan-Oak Park District Foundation or the park district with Primack responding that it could be either group since both groups are tax exempt. Wilson explained that he would rather have the fundraiser go through the Foundation with the cans displaying Lan-Oak Park Foundation name displayed at the bottom. He felt this would be better since most businesses pay property taxes to the park district.

Havran presented her report. Reynolds began by congratulating Havran on a doing a great job with the Little Run. She said that even though the numbers were down

from last year, that the race seemed much more positive. Havran stated that this year they had around 85 participants. Flanagin asked Havran about the availability of personal trainers and how a person would sign up for a session. Havran explained that all the personal trainer session pack information is in the program book, and that they would just have to fill out the registration form at the front desk of the Eisenhower Center. Flanagin also asked if the park district has gift certificates available for massages with Havran responding yes. Reynolds asked Havran how the soccer season was going and if there were any more problems with the referees. Havran responded that everything was going well, and that the referees had been informed not calling fouls every time a player falls down.

Rushmeyer presented her report. She reported on the Playskool's recent field trip and that it went well. Beymer asked how many participants there were, with Rushmeyer responding that the trip on May 5th had 66 people in total and that the trip scheduled for May 6th had 43 people going. Leck stated that the playskoolers Blast Off Pajama Party sounded like a lot of fun for the kids, with Desjardins responding that it is a big hit every year. Reynolds asked who would be running softball this summer with Desjardins explaining that Co-Ed softball will be going and that Rushmeyer will be handling all of the details. Long inquired whether or not the officials are certified, with Desjardins responding that all officials have been checked out and are certified.

Desjardins, Havran and Rushmeyer left the meeting at 7:30pm.

Wilson presented his report. Wilson asked who would be going to the upcoming convention and that he would need to know soon because of the availability of rooms. Wilson reported on the condition of Heritage Field. Long stated that he did not go and look at the field to see what condition it was in, with Flanagin stating that he had been out there a few weeks ago and it looked like it had been graded.

Wilson discussed the upcoming Clock Tower project with a dedication ceremony tentatively planned for July 26th, which will coincide with the Cruise Night and the sidewalk sale. Pete Krilich from Public Works has been contacted regarding the syncing of the downtown streetlights to the light system of the Clock Tower. The RTA will be moving the bus stop shelter on Ridge Road during the week of May 5th. Wilson explained that the planning calendar for the Clock Tower project would have to be looked at in mid-

June, to determine if everything will be finished by July 26th. Wilson explained that in addition to the Clock Tower the Park Plaza will have two renaissance style benches; 3 concrete ballasts to memorialize the Park Plaza - one for the Village, one for the Park District and one for the Park Plaza which would provide a brief history of the plaza. These bollards would be adjacent to Ridge Road and would also act as a safety barrier. The plaza will also have two yellow bike racks. Wilson showed the Commissioners the Anniversary brick color choices, with a black brick being chosen for it's old-fashioned weathered look. Wilson is also looking into purchasing smaller paperweight bricks to be given out to the board members and village trustees. Wilson stated that the clock will be 6 feet in diameter and that he is getting an estimate to have "Park Plaza" placed on the face of each clock. Wilson also informed the board that the Pennsy Greenway signage had been chosen and the signs would have a railroad type font. There would be a total of 24 signs, with 2 entry signs into the village along the Pennsy Greenway route. The board also discussed the Village's plan for a Firefighter Memorial and the moving of the Christmas tree from the north side of Ridge Road to the Park Plaza.

The board discussed the proposed personnel policy, with Wilson hoping for a target date of adopting chapters 1-11 in June. Flanagin responded that since the Board will be meeting once per month beginning in June for the summer months, all questions need to be directed to the Finance and Personnel Committee members by the end of May. All board members agreed on a new proposed adoption date of July. Beymer inquired about the changing of vacation time from 1 week to 2 weeks after a full-time employee has been employed for a year. Wilson responded that the proposed new policy would reflect the benefit standards associated with similar size park districts within the Chicagoland area. Long asked about the change of sick days to personal days with Wilson responding that the park district does not even have a policy on sick days and that the new policy would allow employees to be absence from work for either sick or other personnel matters the same number days annually as if they were called sick days. Associated with the proposed personal days policy, would be the opportunity for employees to store up to a maximum number of hours and after that point would lose those hours above. Flanagin stated that Finance and Personnel issues would be discussed in Executive Session at the May 19, 2008 board meeting. Wilson informed Beymer of the

revised FOIA policy, stating that the Commissioner roster, 2008-2009 budget information, and organizational chart have been updated.

The board discussed the new board meeting schedule, which will be on the agenda for the May 19th, 2008 meeting. Flanagan stated that he would be the elected official for the IAPD Key Contact Program if no one else were interested.

Motion by Flanagan to go into Executive Session for the discussion of land acquisition, personnel, probable litigation and/or other subject matters as allowed by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2.(c)(1)-22.(e). Second by Leck. Upon roll call the following voted "aye"-Beymer, Leck, Reynolds, Flanagan, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Executive Session at 8:05pm.

Flanagan called the regular committee back to order at 9:25pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Reynolds, Beymer, Leck, Long, Flanagan. Also present was Primack.

Motion was made and second to close the committee meeting. Upon roll call all present voted "aye". No nays.

Adjourned at 9:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Wilson, CPRP
Secretary to the Park Board