

THE PRAIRIE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETING
Kennedy Park Fieldhouse, 11320 S. Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60643
Park Supervisor, Rebecca Medrano (312-747-6198)
Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 6:30 PM

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 17

PAC BOARD:

Charles Williams	President
Ivette Williams	Secretary

Lorraine Linnerud	Vice President
Milton Chandler	Treasurer

PARK SUPERVISOR:

Rebecca Medrano

Willie Williamson

PAC Members:

JoAnn Altenbach	Renee Murphy
Dorothy Chandler	Rod Myles
Maryann Drake	Jil Ross
Mary Dunneback	Charmaine Sevier
Candace Evans	Becky Stevens
Danielle Jones	

I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Charles Williams.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charles Williams asked for a Motion to accept Minutes from 4/9/2024.

Motion accepted by Maryann Drake; seconded by Mary Dunneback. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

III. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS

Charles Williams welcomed new member, Renee Murphy from Blackwelder Park, and guest, Willie Williamson. He accompanied Renee Murphy. As of May 2024, our PAC membership total is 42 members.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Statement: Bank Statement and Treasurer's Report attached with detailed information. Milton Chandler also gave verbal report of Treasurer's report and PAC's bank monthly activities from May 1-31, 2024. May's beginning balance was \$2,365.20. Total deposits (PAC donations and T-shirt purchase orders) were \$775.00 bringing subtotal to \$3,140.20. Expenses totaled \$148.75 (\$84.13 & \$37.98-park events; \$26.64-SwipeSimple fees). Ending balance was \$2,991.45.

V. MOTION

Lorraine Linnerud explained to members present the reason we are rescinding one Motion made last month:

The Motion proposed to amend PAC By-Laws (ARTICLE V – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY. Section 4: Meetings) to state the 3-day advance publication of agenda and prior month's meeting minutes applies to all PAC meetings, not just virtual meetings. This Motion had been proposed and accepted on January 9, 2023.

Motion was accepted by Lorraine Linnerud; seconded by Charles Williams. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Garden Committee: D. Chandler – Full Committee Report was provided and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. Next committee meeting is on Tues., June 4, 2024, at 6 pm. Contact: Dorothy Chandler, chandler.dorothy@gmail.com.
- Grant Writing Committee: I. Williams – Full Committee Report was provided and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. No other grant applications have been submitted.
- Marketing & Fundraising Committee: I. Williams – Full Committee Report was provided and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. First orders went in for a total of 48 T-shirts. Will place orders on a rolling basis.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided, and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. Next committee meeting is on May 24, 2024 at 6:30 pm at Kennedy Park. Contact: Mary Dunneback, dunnebk@gmail.com.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. Point of contact for Build IL Grant with project manager, Kat Katsma, will be park supervisor, Rebecca Medrano. Minutes of Zoom call on 4/17/24 were also provided.
- Public Safety (CAPS) Committee: M. Chandler – Full Committee Report was provided and verbal summary given at PAC Meeting. Milton brought booklets with 911 info. For demonstration that were provided at CAPS meeting. Milton will try to pick up some more booklets to give out at the Meet & Greet event on June 1st.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- IRS PAC Name Change: Waiting on bank statement through 5/31/2024 to reflect new park name in order to submit name change with IRS from “PARK 581 Park Advisory Council” to new name: “The Prairie Park Advisory Council”. EIN will remain the same.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- CPF Fundraiser: To schedule call with Willa Lang regarding water fountain. (**PENDING**)

IX. STATUS OF GRANT(S)

- **CPF GRANT (\$1,000)**: The Chicago Parks Foundation “2024 Connecting Communities” grant application was submitted in February. Winner was not announced on 4/17/2024. The Prairie Park did not receive this award. (I. Williams)
- **AARP FLAGSHIP GRANT (\$10,000) & MICROGRANT (\$2,500)**: The AARP grant applications were submitted in February. Winners were announced on 5/10/2024. The Prairie Park did not receive either of these awards. (I. Williams)
- **BUILD Illinois Fund (\$500,000)**: Approved on 1/2024; joint effort of Chicago Park District & State Rep. Justin Slaughter. Preliminary assessment of park done. Landscape designer took measurements throughout park marking utility, water lines, path, trees, etc. on 4/10/2024. The goal is to minimize disruption to existing trees in the park. Zoom call was held on 4/17/2024 with PAC Board, Park Supervisor, Maria Stone and Kat Katsma. Project scope: top 3 priority park improvements: walking path, lighting, and a water source. (**GRANT APPROVED; WORK IN PROGRESS**)

X. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6/1/2024: (8-10 am) “It’s Your Park Day” Clean-up event to tidy park for next event at noon. Registration:
- 6/1/2024: (12-2 pm) “Meet & Greet” hosted by Park Events Planning Committee and “Plant Share hosted by Garden Committee. Registration:

- TBD (April/May): Once Chicago Park District signs for our park are made and installed, Maria Stone will let us know when we can schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony so entire community is invited.

XI. PARK SUPERVISOR

- Park Signage: Rebecca confirmed that the 4 park signs that were installed are permanent per her boss.
- Bicycle Rack: No word yet on installation of bicycle rack at 118th/Oakley across from school parking lot.
- Other Updates. Received email update from project manager, Kay Katsma: project planning is underway, and documents are moving along. Rebecca will update us as she receives more information.

XII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Lorraine Linnerud mentioned that new laminated parking signs are needed to be posted at the pet waste stations again; the rain ruined previous ones.

XIII. NEXT PAC MEETING

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 6:30 PM in person at the Kennedy Park Fieldhouse. The PAC Board meets each month two Saturdays before the monthly meeting to set the Agenda for the upcoming meeting. If you would like to add an item to the Agenda, please contact one of the PAC Board Officers below:

President	Charles Williams	[REDACTED]@aol.com
Vice-President	Lorraine Linnerud	[REDACTED]@gmail.com
Secretary	Ivette Williams	[REDACTED]@aol.com
Treasurer	Milton Chandler	[REDACTED]@gmail.com

XIV. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM. Motion to adjourn was entered by Charles Williams, accepted by Charmaine Sevier; seconded by Lorraine Linnerud.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

Please visit the following pages:

- **THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:**
<http://ThePrairiePark.org>
- **FACEBOOK PAGE**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984>
- **SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION**
https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3
- **INATURALIST (COMMUNITY GARDEN)**
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581>
- **PAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrq-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp_url