

**PARK 581 Park Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting**  
Kennedy Park Fieldhouse, 11320 S. Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60643  
Park Supervisor, Rebecca Medrano  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 6:30 PM  
ZOOM MEETING ONLY

**MINUTES**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 9

**PAC BOARD:**

Charles Williams	President	Lorraine Linnerud	Vice President
Ivette Williams	Secretary	Milton Chandler	Treasurer

**PAC Members:**

Dorothy Chandler	Danielle Jones
Maryann Drake	Dan Niersbach
Mary Dunneback	Jil Ross

I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER:

Welcome introduction and meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Charles Williams. Welcomed two new PAC members: Deidre Battle and Rebecca Stevens.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (12-12-23)

Dan Niersbach made a motion to accept Minutes, seconded by Ivette Williams.  
All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bank Statement: Bank Statement and Treasurer's Report attached with detailed information. Milton Chandler gave verbal summary of Treasurer's report and PAC's bank monthly activities from December 1-31, 2023.

December's beginning balance was \$1,469.91; December's ending balance was \$1,923.27.

Check cleared for \$75 made payable to Chicago Park Foundation (fiscal partnership fee).

SwipeSimple transaction fees totaled \$3.89.

The following deposits/credits were made to PAC account:

(1) \$500 check from Chicago Parks Foundation Grant as reimbursement for gardening tools purchased.

(2) \$32.25 check from GotSneakers as compensation for one bag received.

(3) \$16.23 credited back to account (Amazon unauthorized charge was reversed from last month).

In-kind donation of \$23.17 for purchase of website domain "ThePrairiePark.org".

IV. MOTION TO AMEND BY-LAWS:

Amend By-Laws per Chicago Park District Guidelines effective as of 12/1/23.

"ARTICLE VII – CONFLICT RESOLUTION ...If the allegation violates the Code of Conduct, or the PAC is unable to successfully remedy a complaint, or the complainant is dissatisfied with the response after being heard by the general membership, an incident report should be submitted to the Park Supervisor, Legislative and Community Affairs, and the PAC Governance Committee. A recommendation will be made within 10 days."

Maryann Drake made a motion to accept Motion, seconded by Dorothy Chandler.

All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Garden Committee: D. Chandler – First meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm on Zoom. Committee report will be provided next month. The committee plans to meet every first Tuesday of every month.

Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Committee Report is attached. Made some more progress this month. The Build Illinois Bond Grant request for Park No. 581 was initiated in October 2022. This past month we moved from Grant approval step #21 to step #23 (out of 26): the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) completed and approved (step #22) the Grant Agreement and sent it to the Chicago Park District (Grantee) for signatures (step #23). Next step is for the Chicago Park District to review, approve, sign, and send the Grant Agreement back to the DCEO to finalize. We are making steady progress. The award covers the top three priority improvements: walking path, lighting, and water source.

Park Naming Committee: M. Drake - The 45-day countdown has begun on the approval of our park name from Park No. 581 to "THE PRAIRIE PARK". The hearing is scheduled for February 14th at CPD Headquarters in Brighton Park at 11:30 am. All are welcome to attend. Below is an excerpt of the public notice that is included on the Chicago Park District site:

ABOUT THE PROPOSED NAMING: "Park No. 581 is an 8.74-acre property in the Morgan Park Community Area of Chicago. For many decades, there were few houses in the area, leading locals to refer to the space as "the prairie." Even though the space does not fit the technical definition of a prairie, a strong sense of community familiarity with "the prairie" remains, as many families have stayed in the neighborhood through successive generations. The land was originally owned by the Board of Education. When ownership was transferred to the Chicago Park District in 2016, the official number assigned was Park No. 581. However, many in the community continue to know this passive green space nestled in the neighborhood as The Prairie Park."

COMMITTEE GOALS: Committee Chairs will meet with respective committee members and provide recap of 2023 activities and list of goals for 2024 to include in Chicago Park District Annual Report being prepared by PAC President with final feedback from Board Members.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

PAC has met all requirements for the Chicago Parks Foundation.  
(1) Fiscal Partnership Agreement (submitted online 2/5/24).  
(2) \$75 Fiscal Partnership Fee paid by check 12/2023 (mailed to Emily Beach).  
(3) Financial Annual Report (submitted 1/8/24).

VII. STATUS OF GRANTS:

BUILD IL FUND (10/2022) – Rep. Slaughter/CPk District. Lead Contact: L. Linnerud, Park Investment Committee.  
***IN PROCESS.***

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS:

Chicago Park District: CPF's Third PAC Roundtable – January 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM on ZOOM on Fundraising.  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKAc6J9YH6qFoCeokK5CjvWXCUP4eQl9iGwBjZ8U4FsemPA/viewform>

IX. PARK SUPERVISOR:

Pet Waste Station: The 4th pet waste station was installed at The Prairie (116th Pl. & Oakley) behind the little free library.

Removal of Dead Tree: Rebecca, thank you for being so diligent in helping to facilitate the removal of the dead tree that fell at 116th Pl./Bell in the NE triangle.

X. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

None at this time.

XI. NEXT MONTHLY PARK 581 PAC MEETING: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024, AT 6:30 PM ON ZOOM.

Please visit the following pages:

Park #581 Facebook Group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984>

SwipeSimple Virtual Fundraiser at:

[https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3?fbclid=IwAR30bzt6HmBcT1TFwmRpn7r3eX9nfla3POMrUutH3d-zqWwRTPdRaiBOa88](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3?fbclid=IwAR30bzt6HmBcT1TFwmRpn7r3eX9nfla3POMrUutH3d-zqWwRTPdRaiBOa88)

The PAC Board meets each month the week before our monthly meeting to set the Agenda for the upcoming meeting. If you would like to add an item to our monthly Agenda, please contact one of the PAC Board Officers below prior to that Saturday.

President	Charles Williams	██████████@aol.com
Vice-President	Lorraine Linnerud	██████████@gmail.com
Secretary	Ivette Williams	██████████@aol.com
Treasurer	Milton Chandler	██████████@comcast.net

XII. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM. Motion to adjourn was entered by Lorraine Linnerud, and seconded by Maryann Drake.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, PARK 581 PAC Board Secretary

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Membership Application:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrq-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrq-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp_url)

SwipeSimple Donation Virtual Fundraising Platform for PAC 581:

[https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3)

Facebook Page:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984/?ref=share\\_group\\_link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984/?ref=share_group_link)