

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, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024, 6:30-7:30 PM (**BOARD ELECTIONS**)

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 15

PAC BOARD: (4)

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

PARK SUPERVISOR: (1)

Rebecca Medrano

PAC Members: (10)

Dorothy Chandler	Birgit LaVoie
Katrina Dillard	Rod Myles
Maryann Drake	Jil Ross
Mary Dunneback	Charmaine Sevier
Danielle Jones	Becky Stevens

I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Charles Williams called the PAC Meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS

Ivette Williams welcomed new PAC member, Sandy Morrison. The PAC membership has a total of 46 members to date.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charles Williams asked for a Motion to accept Minutes from 8/13/2024 (ZOOM Meeting).
Motion accepted by Maryann Drake; seconded by Mary Dunneback. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

IV. BOARD ELECTIONS

Park Supervisor, Rebecca Medrano, handed out ballots to 14 voting members present and tallied all votes cast. Majority votes for each office of President, Vice President and Secretary were received for 2024-2025 for Charles Williams, Lorraine Linnerud and Ivette Williams, respectively. The ballots will remain in custody of the park supervisor in an envelope and filed per the PAC By-Laws and Chicago Park District Guidelines. A Special Election will be held for the vacant Board Officer position of Treasurer.

V. MOTION(S)

Motion #1: Board Vice President, Lorraine Linnerud, entered a Motion to allow the Board President, Charles Williams, effective immediately to execute temporarily the functions of the vacant Treasurer position until a new Treasurer Officer is elected. Special election to be held at the November 12, 2024 PAC Meeting.

Motion accepted by Lorraine Linnerud; seconded by Dorothy Chandler. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

Motion #2: Board Vice President, Lorraine Linnerud, entered a Motion to increase the preliminary budget approved at last month's ZOOM PAC Meeting from \$250 to \$350 for The Prairie PAC "Fall Social" scheduled for 10/15/24 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Kennedy Park hosted by the Park Events Planning Committee (chaired by Mary Dunneback & JoAnn Altenbach).

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

PAC member Charmaine Sevier moved to amend the motion to add “Revised budget will be submitted in writing to the acting Treasurer prior to the event.”

Amended Motion seconded by Dorothy Chandler. 14 in favor/0 opposed/0 abstentions. Motion Carries.

VI. TREASURER’S REPORT

Bank Statement: Bank Statement and Treasurer’s Report attached with detailed information. Milton Chandler also gave a brief verbal summary of Treasurer’s report and PAC’s bank monthly activities from August 1-31, 2024. Beginning Bal. \$3,293.95; Total Deposits: \$344.00 (PAC donations); Total Expenses: \$78.18 (\$46.73 bank fee for SwipeSimple, \$31.45 purchase of bank checks); Ending Bal. \$3,559.77).

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Garden Committee: D. Jones – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Garden Committee workdays: Tues. 6:30-7:30 pm; Sat. 8-9:30 am. Committee Chairs: D. Jones, D. Chandler.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Committee Chairs: Mary Dunneback, JoAnn Altenbach.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Committee Chairs: Lorraine Linnerud, Ken Bergeron.
- Public Safety (CAPS) Committee: M. Chandler – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Last CAPS Meeting for the year is scheduled for 10/3/24 at 6 pm at 22nd District. Interim Committee Chair: Charles Williams.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- IRS PAC Name Change: C. Williams – Sent letter on 6/12/24 to IRS with bank statement ending 5/31/24 requesting name change name of PAC non-profit at IRS with existing EIN from “PARK 581 Park Advisory Council” to “The Prairie Park Advisory Council”. EIN remains unchanged. **(Pending confirmation letter from IRS.)**
- CPF ZOOM Summer Roundtable (8/22/24 @ 1 PM): “PAC Summer Challenges”. Please refer to Minutes which were attached in advance of meeting.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- 11/13/24, Wed. (11 am): Chicago Park District Budget Hearing at Headquarters. More details will be posted next month.

X. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 9/28/24, Sat. (9-11 am) “5K Wounded Warriors Race” – sponsored by Morgan Park Academy. Volunteers needed for water station table for approx. 250 runners at 116th Pl./Bell. Please contact L. Linnerud at lorrainelinnerud@gmail.com.
- 9/29/24, Sun. (12-3 pm) “Chicago Park District Volunteer Appreciation Day @ South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive. Family, fun & entertainment.
Register: <http://chicagoparkdistrict.com/volunteer-appreciation-day-event>
- 10/15/24, Tues. (5-8 pm) The Prairie PAC “Fall Social” hosted by the Park Events Planning Committee for adults only due to limited space in large meeting room at Kennedy Park; suggested donation \$7 per person. Suggested Donation: \$7. Register online: <http://ThePrairiePark.org>

XI. PARK SUPERVISOR

- Grant Project Updates: Rebecca received the following answers from the project manager:
 - Q: Is there a cost to request for engineering services to deal with the stormwater management requirements? If so, how much? Who is paying for the cost?
A: *The cost of engineering services is incorporated into the overall construction budget for the park.*
 - Q: How will the lights be controlled? Through the Chicago Park District (Electricians or Kennedy Park Supervisor) or the City of Chicago?
A: *Once installed, the lights will fall within the Chicago Park District’s jurisdiction.*
 - Q: What is the brand/style of the water source? (They know it will have a water hose connection)
A: *Our current standard for drinking fountains is Murdock.*
 - Q: Has the width of the walkway been determined? If so, what size?
A: *Once we have an engineer on board, the width of the walkway will be determined during the design phase and finalization of the documents.*
 - Q: Is asphalt plowable?
A: *Yes.*
 - Q: Is curb repair included with the construction? Who will repair them? City of Chicago Park District or Chicago Park District Contractors?
A: *City curbs fall within CDOT’s jurisdiction. The only curb repair that will be included with this project is any curb that must be removed in order to install new services to the park, such as water or electrical.*
- Questions Raised at Meeting by L. Linnerud: (1) Can the width of the walking path be changed to make it wider than what is stipulated in the Grant (for example 8 ft vs. 6 ft.)? (2) Can we set up a meeting for Board to meet with project manager before year-end? (3) Does the Board President have a copy of the grant document where it specifies the width of the walking path?
- Park Schedule: The calendar schedule for September & October has been emailed. The schedule for November & December has not been completed yet.
- Kennedy Park: We are accepting holiday decorations that are kid-friendly (Halloween, Christmas, etc.).
- Emails: I received an email from a Prairie PAC member who is interested in running for the vacant Treasurer position so that person’s name will be included on the ballot in November’s election. I have not received any other emails to date.

XII. OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER

On behalf of the Board, Ivette Williams presented a gift of appreciation to Milton Chandler for serving as Board Treasurer for 2023-2024. Closing remarks were then given by outgoing Board Treasurer, Milton Chandler, followed by comments made by PAC member, Katrina Dillard. As the meeting was abruptly adjourned, the Board President will briefly address their statements at next month’s PAC meeting under “Unfinished Business”.

XIII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None currently.

XIV. NEXT PAC MEETING

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 6:30 PM in person at Kennedy Park. 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	Charles Williams	Interim Treasurer until November’s Special Election

XV. ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned by Charles Williams at 7:35 pm.

Submitted by: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ivette Williams".