

**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, DECEMBER 10, 2024, 6:30-7:30 PM

## **M I N U T E S**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 14**

**PAC BOARD: (4)**

Charles Williams	President
Lorraine Linnerud	Vice President
Ivette Williams	Secretary
Dan Niersbach	Treasurer

**PARK SUPERVISOR: (1)**

Rebecca Medrano

**PAC Members: (9)**

Lisa Adams	Danielle Jones
JoAnn Altenbach	Birgit LaVoie
Dorothy Chandler	Jil Ross
Milton Chandler	Becky Stevens
Katrina Dillard	

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Charles Williams called the PAC Meeting to order at 6:40 PM. Robert's Rules of Order were in effect.

**II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

There were no new members or guests present. 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 11/12/2024.

**Motion accepted by Jil Ross; seconded by Becky Stevens. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.**

**IV. MOTION(S)**

There were no Motions entered for voting this month.

**V. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Bank Statement and Treasurer's Report attached with detailed information. Our newly elected Treasurer, Dan Niersbach, gave a brief verbal summary of Treasurer's report and PAC's bank monthly activities from November 1-30, 2024.

Beginning Bal. \$3,402.94; Total Deposits: \$87.00; Total Expenses: \$206.71 (check #1009 \$14.86 for Prairie "Fall Social" expenses cleared; there are no outstanding checks); Ending Bal. \$3,283.23).

**VI. PARK SUPERVISOR**

- Grant Project Updates: The Prairie Park project manager, Kat Katsma, has communicated that there are no further updates yet, but will get back to us when she has more information to share. Kat wanted me to assure the PAC that the Chicago Park District is diligently working on the project so that everything is being done on time. The deadline for the Build Illinois grant is October 31, 2025.

- Calendar & Park Requests: There are no park events currently scheduled on the calendar, or any permits in process or approved remaining for the rest of the year.
- Signage: I requested signage to be posted on north, south, east, and west ends of The Prairie Park with information: (1) when park closes; (2) permit is required; and (3) no barbecuing allowed. We do not know whether these will be 3 individual signs, or all the information will be posted on one sign. It is at the discretion of the Chicago Park District. PAC Vice President, Lorraine Linnerud, expressed concern about adding another 12 more signs in The Prairie Park and hopes that the three items (when park closes; permit is required; no barbecuing allowed ) can be placed on one sign (or existing sign) in one or each of the four (N,S,E,W) locations in the park.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Park Events Planning Committee: J. Altenbach – JoAnn Altenbach shared news with the PAC that Mary Dunneback has decided to step down as chair of this committee. Joann will be the new chair, and Ivette Williams has agreed to be the co-chair, unless someone else would like to volunteer. The entire PAC thanks Mary Dunneback for her hard work and dedication alongside JoAnn for the past year. We had a successful year thanks to their leadership. The entire PAC concluded with a round of applause.  
Committee members: JoAnn Altenbach, Maryann Drake, Mary Dunneback, Candace Evans, Andrienne Horton-Smith, John Smith, Ivette Williams. Committee Chairs: JoAnn Altenbach; Ivette Williams.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided by Lorraine Linnerud in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting of project milestones completed and updates, as well as list of questions for discussion with project manager at a future meeting in 2025. As discussed at last meeting, Lorraine reported that she contacted the Chicago Park District Office of Budget (who she worked with on the Build Illinois grant) to discuss the width of the path (5-feet vs. 6-feet) so that the walking path can be plowed by the Chicago Park District during the winter. The Chicago Park District communicated to Lorraine that they will update the asphalt walking path design to a width of 6 feet, which is the width of a standard sidewalk in the City of Chicago. As this change will impact the cost of the park development, the Chicago Park District will absorb this extra cost in their budget if necessary (approximately \$30,000). The Build Illinois Grant allows for \$150,000 for a 5-foot path Lorraine will verify that Project Manager, Kat Katsma, is in the loop. PAC President, Charles Williams, asked if Lorraine had received this commitment in writing to which she responded “yes, I’ll tell you later.” Lorraine also reported that although the Build Illinois Grant information includes that all grant funds must be expended by 7/1/2025, Park Supervisor Rebecca Medrano, provided information that our \$500,000 DCEO Award expires on 10/31/2025. Park Supervisor Medrano stated that she assumes there will be no issue if our construction is not completed by 7/1/2025. In addition, Ken Bergeron has stepped down as committee co-chair and away from the PAC. Current committee members include JoAnn Altenbach, Milton Chandler, Lorraine Linnerud, Charmaine Sevier, and Ivette Williams. Committee Chair: Lorraine Linnerud.
- Garden Committee: D. Jones – Full Committee Report was provided by Danielle Jones in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. We are still waiting for the chip drop we requested from the City to winterize the community garden at SE triangle. Recap of activities: the Garden Committee had a wonderful year and would like to thank all its members for their time, labor and plants donated: Lisa Adams, Dorothy Chandler, Milton Chandler, Danielle Jones, Madeleine Walsh, David Wilkerson-Lindsey. They were ready to work all the time. Special thanks to: David W., who donated so many plants; Lorraine L. for assessing damaged tree in the park; Mary D. for hauling truck with rain barrel to water plants. Participation of tree trimming event at park; learning activities with lots of seeds collected and processed; soil testing done and clean bill of health received; outings to Lake Katherine; Field Museum; Dan Ryan Woods; etc. Ongoing Cash Balance: \$38.27. Committee Chairs: Danielle Jone and Dorothy Chandler.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

BUSINESS SPONSOR: Special thanks to our second business sponsor this year, County Fair (Tom). Thanks to County Fair's generosity, we had a free drawing for a first prize of a \$50 County Fair gift card won by Lisa Adams. Second prize of a Christmas tin filled with cookies was won by Milton Chandler. We had a mini holiday celebration after the PAC meeting and took group photos.

**IX. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

APPEAL: Giving Tuesday & End-of-Year Tax Deductible Donations Appeal. Please consider donating in any of 3 ways: (1) CASH donations at our PAC meetings; (2) CHECK made payable to "THE PRAIRIE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL"; or (3) ONLINE donations on SwipeSimple (there are no processing fees & no credit card info. is ever stored) at [https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3). Thank you for your support!

THANK YOU: Rebecca Medrano thanked The Prairie Park Advisory Council for the generous monetary gift. Kennedy Park is beautifully decorated for the holidays with the purchase of Christmas trees; donations received of reindeers; decorations made; books donated; and cheerful environment for the children and families coming to attend activities at the park.

**X. PAST EVENTS**

BUDGET HEARING: The Chicago Park District Budget Hearing was held on Wed., 11/20/24, at 9:30 am. The General Superintendent & CEO presented the 2025 Budget to the Board of Commissioners @ Chicago Park District Administration Building, 4830 S. Western Ave. The public was invited to attend. PAC President, Charles Williams, attended, but did not sign up to speak. There is a newly elected Board of Commissioners for the Chicago Park District for 2025.

**XI. NEXT PAC MEETING**

ZOOM: The next PAC Meeting will be held on ZOOM on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 6:30 PM. ZOOM call-in information will be circulated by email in advance of meeting.

BOARD: 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]@icloud.com
Treasurer	Dan Niersbach	[REDACTED]@sbcglobal.net

**XII. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned by Charles Williams at 7:03 pm.

Submitted by: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary



**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, NOVEMBER 12, 2024, 6:30-7:30 PM  
**(SPECIAL ELECTION FOR BOARD TREASURER)**

## **M I N U T E S**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 13**

**PAC BOARD: (3)**

Charles Williams	President
Lorraine Linnerud	Vice President
Ivette Williams	Secretary

**PAC Members: (9)**

Lisa Adams  
Milton Chandler  
Katrina Dillard  
Maryann Drake  
Mary Dunneback

**PARK SUPERVISOR: (1)**

Rebecca Medrano

Danielle Jones  
Birgit LaVoie  
Dan Niersbach  
Becky Stevens

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Charles Williams called the PAC Meeting to order at 6:41 PM. Robert's Rules of Order were in effect.

**II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

There were no new members or guests present. 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 10/8/2024.

**Motion accepted by Maryann Drake; seconded by Dan Niersbach. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.**

**IV. SPECIAL ELECTION**

Vice President, Lorraine Linnerud, handed out ballots to the 11 eligible voting members present to fill the current vacancy of the Board Officer position of Treasurer. Rebecca tallied all votes cast and it was unanimously in favor of Daniel Niersbach as The Prairie Park Advisory Council's Board Treasurer for 2024-2025. 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.

**V. MOTION(S)**

**Motion #1:** Board President, Charles Williams, entered a Motion to hold virtual meetings on ZOOM in 2025 for the following two months: January (1/14) & February (2/11), and resume in-person meeting in March (3/11).

**Motion accepted by Maryann Drake; seconded by Lorraine Linnerud. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.**

**Motion #2:** Board President, Charles Williams, entered a Motion for The Prairie PAC to make a 2024 end-of-year gift of \$150 to our mother park, Kennedy Park, c/o park supervisor, Rebecca Medrano, to use at her discretion to support children's park programming (for example: the purchase of a Christmas tree, holiday décor, bookshelf for little free indoor library for children, etc.).

**Motion accepted by Lorraine Linnerud; seconded by Mary Dunneback. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.**

## **VI. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Bank Statement:** Bank Statement and Treasurer's Report attached with detailed information. Charles Williams, as Interim Treasurer, gave a brief verbal summary of Treasurer's report and PAC's bank monthly activities from October 1-31, 2024. Beginning Bal. \$3,508.91; Total Deposits: \$87.00 ("Fall Social" donations); Total Expenses: \$192.97 (\$32.72 bank fee for SwipeSimple, \$50.00 "Fall Social" door prize gift card; \$110.25 Home Run Inn pizzas for "Fall Social"); Ending Bal. \$3,402.94.

## **VII. PARK SUPERVISOR**

- **Grant Project Updates:** Rebecca has communicated with project manager, Kat Katsma, and she has confirmed that the sidewalk path will be at least 5 feet wide. The Build Illinois Grant expiration date is 10/31/25. Engineering firm has not been firmed up. Kat is not available for our December PAC meeting, but when there is a firm contract, she will meet (or Zoom) with our PAC in early 2025.
- **Park Requests:** There are no permits remaining for the rest of the year.
- **Calendar:** There are no park events currently scheduled.
- **Signage:** Signs will be posted around The Prairie Park with information: (1) when park closes; (2) permit is required; and (3) no open flames or barbecuing is allowed.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Park Events Planning Committee:** M. Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided by Mary Dunneback in advance of meeting and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. The "Fall Social" event on 10/15/24 was successful. The two door prize winners were Katrina Dillard and Dan Niersbach. The ping pong table was a big hit. Thankfully, we came in under budget. We received our first business sponsor: Home Run Inn. Later we received a second business sponsor, County Fair, and will have a free drawing at December's PAC meeting. We thank both our sponsors and all who participated and helped make this last event such a success. Committee Chairs: Mary Dunneback, JoAnn Altenbach.
- **Park Investment Committee:** L. Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided by Lorraine Linnerud in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting of milestones completed and list of implementation considerations/questions for discussion with project manager at a future meeting. Lorraine Linnerud gave an example of the quarterly schedule of "Update Meetings" for *The Midway Plaisance End Improvement Project*. Please see report for full details. Committee Chair: Lorraine Linnerud.
- **Garden Committee:** D. Jones – Full Committee Report (with links to articles) was provided by Danielle Jones in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Waiting for the chip drop we requested to winterize garden. Volunteers are needed. Breanne Heath has garden application on hold until water access is installed in the SE area of The Prairie Park. Please see report for full details. Committee Chairs: D. Jones, D. Chandler.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- **11/20/24, Wed. (9:30 am):** Chicago Park District Budget Hearing. The General Superintendent & CEO presents the 2025 Budget to the Board of Commissioners @ Chicago Park District Administration Building, 4830 S. Western Ave. The public is invited.

## **X. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Giving Tuesday & End-of-Year Tax Deductible Donations Appeal. Please consider donating in any of 3 ways: (1) CASH donations at our PAC meetings; (2) CHECK made payable to "THE PRAIRIE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL"; or (3) ONLINE donations on SwipeSimple (there are no processing fees & no credit card info. is ever stored) at [https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3). Thank you for your support!

**XI. PAST EVENTS**

The Prairie PAC “Fall Social” on 10/15/24 (5-8 pm) hosted by the Park Events Planning Committee; 2 door prizes; first business sponsor: Home Run Inn. Thank you!

Chicago Parks Foundation Zoom Roundtable “Fiscal Partnership” on 10/24/24 (1-2 pm); Notes attached from Emily Beach.

**XII. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The last monthly PAC Meeting for 2024 is on Tuesday, December 10, 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]@icloud.com
Treasurer	Dan Niersbach	[REDACTED]@sbcglobal.net

**XIII. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned by Charles Williams at 7:12 pm.

Submitted by: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary



**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, OCTOBER 8, 2024, 6:30 PM

**M I N U T E S**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 17**

**PAC BOARD: (2)**

Charles Williams - President, Interim Treasurer  
Lorraine Linnerud - Vice President

**PARK SUPERVISOR: (1)**

Rebecca Medrano

**PAC MEMBERS: (14)**

JoAnn Altenbach

Mary Dunneback

Gregory Pitts

Sarah Batka

Danielle Jones

Charmaine Sevier

Dorothy Chandler

Birgit LaVoie

Becky Stevens

Milton Chandler

Rodrick Myles

John Yanez

Maryann Drake

Dan Niersbach

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

No new members or guests were in attendance.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Garden Committee Chair Danielle Jones noted that the minutes incorrectly state 6:30 pm, instead of the correct 6 pm, start time for the Tuesday Garden Committee workdays. Board Vice President Lorraine Linnerud moved to accept the 9/10/2024 minutes as corrected. Motion seconded by Danielle Jones. All in favor, AYE. No one opposed.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Board President Charles Williams followed up, regarding the Next Level Dance Foundation event discussion from the September meeting, that the letters and petition mentioned were never sent, and DCASE was never contacted, and further that the Special Events Application (bottom of page 1) includes recommendation for community outreach to the PAC, which was not done early as stated in the application. Board Vice President Lorraine Linnerud noted that the community engagement recommendation (including contacting the PAC) is listed in the "Large Event Community Engagement" section of the permit application (10,000 or more daily attendance). The Next Level Dance Foundation was not a "large event." Park Supervisor Medrano suggested bringing this up at the annual PAC Conference.

**V. MOTION(S)**

No motions were presented.

**VI. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Bank Statement: Bank Statement and Treasurer's Report provided in advance of meeting. Interim Treasurer Charles Williams gave a summary of the Treasurer's report and PAC's monthly bank

activities from September 1-31, 2024. Beginning Bal. \$3,559.77; Total Deposits: \$76.00 (PAC donations); Total Expenses: \$126.86 (\$41.88 bank fee for SwipeSimple, \$84.98 purchase of pet waste station bags); Ending Bal. \$3,508.91. New checks have been received.

#### **VII. PARK SUPERVISOR**

Grant Project Update: Park Supervisor Rebecca Medrano received an update from Park District Grant Project Manager Kat Katsma: The Park District is in the process of selecting an engineering firm. Once the engineering firm has been selected, Project Manager will meet with the PAC to provide more updates.

#### **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Park Events Planning Committee: Mary Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Lorraine reported that Willa Lang (Chicago Parks Foundation) said we could use the CPF Raffle License at the Fall Social event. Mary responded that instead of a raffle, there will be a gift basket drawing. Committee Chairs: Mary Dunneback, JoAnn Altenbach.
- Park Investment Committee: Lorraine Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Please see report for full details. Lorraine also asked if Board President Williams was able to find the Grant documents where he saw the path width specified, but he has not found that. Park Supervisor Rebecca Medrano will reach out to Project Manager Katsma again about the path width since we want to ensure that it is at least 8 feet wide so that the Park District will snow plow. Committee Chairs: Lorraine Linnerud, Ken Bergeron.
- Public Safety (CAPS) Committee: Charles Williams – President Williams did not attend the last CAPS meeting, but did provide the Crime Statistics report. In addition, “Community Conversation” meetings to discuss the 22<sup>nd</sup> District 2025 Strategic Plan will be held at the Beverly Arts Center at 5 pm on October 23 and November 12. To register: [chicagopolice.org/convo](http://chicagopolice.org/convo). Interim Committee Chair: Charles Williams.
- Garden Committee: Danielle Jones – No Committee Report for this meeting. Garden Committee workdays: Tues. 6:00-7:30 pm; Sat. 8-9:30 am. Committee Chairs: Danielle Jones, Dorothy Chandler.

#### **IX. SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE**

A “Special Election” for Treasurer will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 12th, to fill the vacancy for the Board Officer position of Treasurer for a one-year term (2024-2025). All PAC members are eligible to run for this position if you live in Chicago and have attended at least two PAC meetings from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024. As Treasurer, you will have to be fingerprinted by the Chicago Park District (free of charge). Please notify our Park Supervisor, [REDACTED] [@ChicagoParkDistrict.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@ChicagoParkDistrict.com) Park Phone 312-747-6198 I Desk Phone 312-747-0527 no later than Nov. 1st if you are interested. We have one candidate so far: Dan Niersbach.

#### **X. NEW BUSINESS**

- 11/13/24, Wed. (11 am): Chicago Park District Public Budget Hearing: The General Superintendent & CEO presents the 2025 budget to the Board of Commissioners at the Chicago Park District Administration Building, 4830 S. Western Ave. The public is invited. The Board will attend; Board President is registered to speak. Please let Park Supervisor Rebecca Medrano



know if you plan to attend. <https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/annual-budget-process>

- Videos will be available from the Park District Budget Forums held on 11/01 (online) and 11/03 (in person). Several members noted that they did not receive emails from Maria Stone (Chicago Park District Community Relations) about these events. Lorraine will ask Board Secretary Ivette Williams to send Maria Stone (CPkD) an updated PAC email list. <https://chicagoparkdistrict.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
- The new 2025-2030 Chicago Park District Strategic Plan can be found at <https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/about-us/strategic-plan>
- PAC members Charles Williams, Dan Niersbach and Lorraine Linnerud attended the Chicago Park's Volunteer Appreciation Celebration on Sunday Sept. 29, 2024 12-3 pm at the South Shore Cultural Center located at 7059 S. Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60649. It was an informative and enjoyable event with tours, entertainment and lunch provided.
- Port-a Potty: the Flag Football Port-a Potty was moved off the Parkway (no permit) into the Park, next to the Little Library at 116th Place and Oakley.
- PAC member Rod Myles asked about an upcoming "Soccer Gala" to be held in the Park. Park Supervisor Medrano will investigate.
- The Committee commended Park Supervisor Medrano on the nice appearance of the Park.

**XI. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 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 the large meeting room at Kennedy Park; suggested donation \$7 per person. Register online: <http://ThePrairiePark.org>

**XII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

None currently.

**XIII. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 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	████████@aol.com
Vice President	Lorraine Linnerud	████████@gmail.com
Secretary	Ivette Williams	████████@aol.com
Treasurer	Charles Williams	Interim Treasurer until November's Special Election

**XIV. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned by Board President Charles Williams at 7:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Lorraine Linnerud, The Prairie PAC Board Vice President

*Lorraine K. Linnerud*

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 116<sup>th</sup> 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 dark ink, appearing to read "Ivette Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "I" and a prominent "W".

**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, AUGUST 13, 2024, 6:30 PM (ZOOM ONLY)

## **M I N U T E S**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 22**

**PAC BOARD: (4)**

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

**PARK SUPERVISOR: (1)**

Rebecca Medrano

**GUESTS: (3)**

Andre Taylor  
Sandy Morrison  
Lola

**PAC Members: (14)**

Lisa Adams	Birgit LaVoie
JoAnn Altenbach	Dan Niersbach
Dorothy Chandler	Gregory Pitts
Katrina Dillard	Jil Ross
Maryann Drake	Charmaine Sevier
Mary Dunneback	John Smith
Danielle Jones	Becky Stevens

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Charles Williams called the PAC Meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

**II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

Ivette Williams welcomed the guests in attendance: Andre Taylor, Sandy Morrison and Lola; and two new PAC members: Katrina Dillard and Allie Dumas. The PAC membership has a total of 45 members to date.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Charles Williams asked for a Motion to accept Minutes from 7/13/2024.

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

**IV. MOTION(S)**

After Mary Dunneback's presentation, Charles Williams entered the following Motion for a PAC vote on behalf of the Park Events Planning Committee:

- **Motion to approve a preliminary budget of \$250 for the Prairie PAC "Fall Social" event on 10/15/24 (5-8 pm) at Kennedy Park.** *(Event description: Indoor mini "Meet & Greet" for adults only due to space limitations (30-35 cap.); pizza, refreshments, cookies, etc.; raffle drawing and/or split the pot if allowed by Chicago Park District; pre-registration needed; suggested donation \$7 per person. Activity request form was submitted for large meeting room at Kennedy Park to Rebecca Medrano and approved.)*

**Motion accepted by Lorraine Linnerud; seconded by Dorothy Chandler.**

**All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.**

## **V. 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 July 1-31, 2024. Beginning Bal. \$3,087.44; Total Deposits: \$445.00 (PAC donations in SwipeSimple); (\$3,532.44); Total Expenses: \$238.49 (\$109 for liability insurance for the "Prairie Park Purge" on 8/10/24; \$84.98 for pet waste station bags donated by L. Linnerud; \$44.51 bank fees; Ending Bal. \$3,293.95. With Board approval, M. Chandler to place order for bank checks with new PAC name "The Prairie Park Advisory Council" through Costco (200 checks for \$30.04).

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Garden Committee: D. Jones – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Danielle Jones thanked David Wilkerson-Lindsey and his mother for generous plant donations (bee balm, etc.) for the community garden; and Lorraine and Mark Linnerud for finding nice big tree stumps for the community garden as a seating area and beautify the garden naturally. July clean-up went smoothly, garden is looking great. Lots of native plants are thriving: bergamot, milkweed; etc. Soil testing has been completed with an "all clear" to grow edibles. Field trips: (1) Lake Katherine Outing: Members of our Garden Committee had an inspiring trip to Lake Katherine in July. We toured their grounds which contain a wild array of plants, diverse types of beds/plantings, insect habitats, and great garden decorations! We also did a short jaunt on the Cal Sag Trail which is a wonderful and accessible trail in our area. We have already started incorporating what we saw from this trip into our own garden; (2) IL Extension Field Day: Members from our Garden Committee attended the IL Extension Field Day at "It Takes a Village Farm". We toured their gorgeous farm and their farmer, Paul, was eager to answer all our questions. We also met growers and gardeners from the area & representatives from the USDA to discuss funding opportunities. There was a focus on cover crops with seeds and lots of information shared with attendees; and (3) we have a CCGA Seed Collection planned event this Friday. Garden Committee workdays: Tues. 6:30-7:30 pm; Sat. 8-9:30 am. Committee Chairs: D. Jones, D. Chandler.
- Grant Committee: I. Williams – \$500 Grant "Connecting Communities" received from Chicago Parks Foundation; I. Williams provided a detailed list of all purchases made with pictures, prices, and invoices of garden tools, including 2 garden hoses donated by Willa Lang, CPF; and a Keurig donation made to PAC by C. & I. Williams. All are in possession of The Chandlers for safekeeping and quick access for park cleanups, beautification & community garden maintenance. Committee Chairs: Jil Ross, Ivette Williams.
- Marketing & Fundraising Committee: I. Williams – Postponed report for following month. Committee Chairs: Ivette Williams, Charmaine Sevier.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting and verbal summary given at meeting. Mary Dunneback reported that this year there were 29 registered participants for the "Prairie Park Purge" on Sat. 8/10/24. Donations collected totaled \$525.00 (minus liability insurance -\$109), plus \$35 cash collected at the event by participants, the total profit generated was \$451.00. The weather was wonderful, and the event was well attended by participants, members, residents & community. The event was well publicized by email, Ald. O'Shea's email blast, The Villager and Beverly Review, patch.com, PAC Facebook page, Prairie PAC website, word of mouth and posting sign in park. Thank you to Jil Ross (Mother McAuley Alumni & others) and Sarah Batka (19<sup>th</sup> Ward) for publicizing event as well. Future planning: Place signage on Western with balloons to attract more people to park. We may consider moving date to coincide with sports schedule so there is more traffic, yet does not interfere with games, we will adjust location of our event to maximize use of both sides of sidewalk on Oakley using both parkway and inside of park so shoppers can walk on sidewalk to browse from both sides. Consider looking into the cost of getting a port-a-potty. Katrina Willard said she paid \$480 for two for the dance and music festival in July. Jil Ross to ask her husband, Jonathan, about the port-a-potties. 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. Lorraine Linnerud provided copy of congratulatory letter received from State Rep. Justin Slaughter; he was impressed with the dance and music festival in July and is looking forward to updates on park improvement progress at The Prairie Park provided by the \$500,000 Build

Illinois Grant. Committee member Charmaine Sevier went over our park improvement project implementation questions, including: Water fountain – Will it have a spigot? Has location been decided? Lighting – What is the schedule? On/off automatically? Controlled by park supervisor? Walking Path – 8 feet width path is requested since it can be plowed. Curbs – will the park have newly installed or repaired curbs (not included in grant); who absorbs the cost? Chicago Park District, CDOT? 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. Meeting welcome by Officer Beamon & Sister Pat Facilitator, 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Representative Ruby Wilson. Calls for service 597. The higher the number of calls, the lower the crime stats. Police urge residents to keep calling in suspicious activities and reporting crimes. 7/1-31/24 crime stats for our park Beat 2212: shooting (1); criminal sexual assault (1); armed robberies (2); burglaries (3); arrests (14); thefts (37); please see report for more details for Beats 2211 & 2212. National Night Out 2024 on 8/6/24 from 5-8 pm at Beverly Park, 2460 W. 102<sup>nd</sup> St. Next CAPS Meeting is scheduled for 9/5/24 at 6 pm at 22<sup>nd</sup> District. Committee Chairs: Milton Chandler, Dorothy Chandler.

## **VII. 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.)**

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9/10/24 BOARD ELECTIONS – During September’s PAC Meeting, Board Elections will be held in person only at the Kennedy Park fieldhouse only. No voting by proxy, write-ins or absentee ballot is allowed; nor voting on virtual platform. If you are interested in running for a Board officer position, please let our Park Supervisor, Rebecca Medrano at [REDACTED] [@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@chicagoparkdistrict.com), know by 8/31/24. Eligibility requirements are that a candidate must be a PAC member, be a resident of Chicago, and have attended at least two PAC Meetings during the twelve (12) consecutive months (September 1st from preceding year to August 31st of current year) before the election is held. All Board members must fill out a Volunteer Application Form with the Chicago Park District and be fingerprinted (free of charge).

## **IX. PAST EVENTS**

- 8/10/24 “Prairie Park Purge” (Prairie PAC event hosted by Park Events Planning Committee)
- 7/20/24 “Dance & Music Festival” (DCASE grant - hosted by Next Level Dance Foundation)
- 7/18/24 “Jazz in the Park” (sponsored by Ald. O’Shea & other elected leaders)
- 7/05/24 “Post Holiday Park Clean-up” (Pitch in for the Parks)

## **X. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 8/22/24 (1 pm) “PAC Summer Challenges” by Chicago Parks Foundation Summer Roundtable Zoom.
- 10/15/24 (5-8 pm) 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.

## **XI. PARK SUPERVISOR**

- Grant Project Updates: Rebecca received update from the project manager, Kat Katsma: “We are finalizing the request for services to send out for engineering to deal with stormwater management and will sending it out soon.”



- Park Schedule: The calendar for park events schedule will be ready when classes are in session. There are no requests yet for use if The Prairie Park. Mike Martin will be hosting flag football again in the fall. Someone contacted her about a soccer tournament, but he may have changed his mind since she has not heard back from him. Rebecca asked us to be on the look out — and let her know at once — for a camp using the park without permission (approx. 15-18 people). Kennedy Park’s fall programming will begin after Labor Day. There is a waitlist for Senior Stretching classes; pickleball is available.
- Bicycle Rack Status: Five bicycle racks were installed at 116<sup>th</sup> Pl./Oakley near the little free library. We were not informed in advance by the Chicago Park District or given choice of location, but it was pending on list for a while and the bicycle racks look nice, and placement is suitable not impeding sidewalk usage (as they do not take up much space) & upcoming park improvements.

**XII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Jil Ross shared the following community concerns:

Walgreens at 118<sup>th</sup>/Western – the most recent brazen robberies in August (which she and her husband both witnessed in broad daylight), breaking of front glass door in attempt to steal ATM (they did not succeed), lack of security, trash around the area, and people loitering outside all contribute to the high risk of the store closing its doors affecting our senior community who rely on getting their medications there. We should consider signing a petition as a community to help keep this Walgreens open and contact our Alderman for added support.

**XIII. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 6:30 PM. 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**

Motion to adjourn was entered by Charles Williams at 7:39 pm.

Motion was accepted by Dorothy Chandler; seconded by Mary Dunneback.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

**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, June 11, 2024, 6:30 PM

## **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 21**

**PAC BOARD:**

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

**PARK SUPERVISOR:**

Rebecca Medrano

**GUESTS:**

Katrina Dillard	7/20/24 Festival Organizer
Sharia Jones	7/20/24 Festival Organizer
Frank (Security)	7/20/24 Festival Organizer

:

**PAC Members:**

Lisa Adams	Renee Murphy
JoAnn Altenbach	Rod Myles
Ken Bergeron	Gregory Pitts
Dorothy Chandler	Becky Stevens
Maryann Drake	Timothy Murphy (Non -PAC Member)
Jan Favia	Astor Rogers (Non-PAC Member)
Danielle Jones	

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM by Charles Williams.

**II. NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

Ivette Williams welcomed new member, Rochelle Davis, bringing our PAC membership total to 43 members. Charles Williams welcomed the following guests: 7/20/24 Festival organizer, Katrina Dillard, creative director, Shartia Jones, and head of security, Frank, to the PAC meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Charles Williams asked for a Motion to accept Minutes from 5/14/2024.

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

**IV. 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 May 1-31, 2024. Beginning Balance: \$2,991.45. Total Deposits: \$445.35; Expenses: \$412.29. Ending Balance: \$2,986.53

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Garden Committee: D. Jones – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, and verbal summary given at meeting. Plant share during Earth Day event on 4/20 was a success despite the rain,

they bravely weathered it. Thanks to all the volunteers, Sarah Batka and Gotham Greens for all the donations.

- Marketing & Fundraising Committee: I. Williams – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting but skipped due to time constraints.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Full Committee Report was provided, in advance of meeting but skipped at meeting due to time constraints.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting, meeting but skipped at meeting due to time constraints.
- Public Safety (CAPS) Committee: M. Chandler – Full Committee Report was provided in advance of meeting but skipped at meeting due to time constraints.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- IRS PAC Name Change: C. Williams - Awaiting bank statement ending 5/31/24 in order to request 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.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- Chicago Outdoor Fitness and Dance Festival: 7/20/24 Sponsored by DCASE event taking place from 8 am until 7:30 pm by Next Level Dance Foundation. Community outreach was not done in April as stated in permit application. Apparently, the permit application was submitted in January, but we were never informed as a courtesy to let our community know. A PAC member saw a lawn sign on May 31st at Monterey/Davol, otherwise we would have probably never known about it until the day of event. Status of permit approval is unknown at this point.
- The Event organizers were invited to attend PAC meeting to talk about the dance fitness festival. The event organizer, Ms. Katrina Dillard, addressed our group providing more details and answered many questions from various PAC members and some guests who attended. She indicated community outreach was being planned for June 16, 2024. We voiced our community concerns for the length of time of the event, amount of people attending the event and loud music in a quiet neighborhood. She indicated that she would consider shortening it a few hours if the event became bigger than anticipated or was disruptive in any way, but she does not foresee anything to go wrong. It was a mixed consensus at the meeting with attendees being half in favor and half against the event.

## **VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 7/05/24: (8-10 AM) “Post Holiday Park Clean Up” @ The Prairie, 116<sup>th</sup> Pl./Oakley.
- 7/18/24: (7-9 PM) “Jazz in the Park” sponsored by Ald. O’Shea. (Set up @ 6 pm; end @ 10 pm)

## **IX. PARK SUPERVISOR**

- Grant Project Updates: Rebecca talked to project manager, Kat Katsma, on 5/30/24. An outside engineering firm is being hired. Inspection of stormwater requirements — does it apply to the length of the park? Kat will confirm number of water sources grant covers. Things are moving along. Kat will let Rebecca know when next follow-up meeting is necessary.
- Park Festival: Katrina Dillard stopped by Kennedy Park in January inquiring about getting a permit for the park for the dance fitness festival at The Prairie Park. Rebecca gave her the information needed to apply. Katrina went back in March to meet with Rebecca to follow up. Rebecca kept checking the website for status and the permit had not been approved yet.  
We did not have a chance to discuss items below due to time constraints in order to keep meeting to an hour.
- Park Schedule: Schedule of events at park — PAC-related, sports teams, schools, alderman-sponsored, and any other events scheduled by community organizations/individuals, etc.?

- Ridge Water Fountain: Did you get more information from park supervisor?
- Bicycle Rack Status: Any word on installation of bicycle rack at 118<sup>th</sup>/Oakley across from school parking lot?

#### **X. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Other Park concerns? Questions?

#### **XI. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, July 9, 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	██████████@aol.com
Vice-President	Lorraine Linnerud	██████████@gmail.com
Secretary	Ivette Williams	██████████@aol.com
Treasurer	Milton Chandler	██████████@gmail.com

#### **XII. ADJOURN**

Unfortunately, because the meeting ran an an hour long and we did not want to extend time, we did not have a chance to go through the rest of the agenda after the first Committee Report was given since we skipped to New Business out of courtesy to allow guests to discuss the park festival; therefore, meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM. The remaining items unaddressed on agenda have been moved to the following month's agenda. Motion to adjourn was entered by Charles Williams, accepted by Becky Stevens; seconded by JoAnn Altenbach.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

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Please visit the following pages:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ➤ <b>THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:</b><br><a href="http://ThePrairiePark.org">http://ThePrairiePark.org</a>  | <b>FACEBOOK PAGE</b><br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984</a>  |
| ➤ <b>SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION</b><br><a href="https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3">https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3</a>   | <b>INATURALIST (COMMUNITY GARDEN)</b><br><a href="https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581">https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581</a> |
| ➤ <b>PAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b><br><a href="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</a> |  |

**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

## **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 17**

**PAC BOARD:**

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

**PARK SUPERVISOR:**

Rebecca Medrano

**GUEST:**

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 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 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 118<sup>th</sup>/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	██████@aol.com
Vice-President	Lorraine Linnerud	██████████@gmail.com
Secretary	Ivette Williams	██████@aol.com
Treasurer	Milton Chandler	██████████@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

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Please visit the following pages:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ➤ <b>THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:</b><br><a href="http://ThePrairiePark.org">http://ThePrairiePark.org</a>  | <b>FACEBOOK PAGE</b><br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984</a>  |
| ➤ <b>SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION</b><br><a href="https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3">https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3</a>   | <b>INATURALIST (COMMUNITY GARDEN)</b><br><a href="https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581">https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581</a> |
| ➤ <b>PAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b><br><a href="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</a> |  |

**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, April 9, 2024, 6:30 PM

## **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 18**

**PAC BOARD:**

Charles Williams      President  
Ivette Williams      Secretary

Lorraine Linnerud      Vice President  
Milton Chandler      Treasurer

**PARK SUPERVISOR:**

Rebecca Medrano

**GUEST:**

Renee Murphy      Blackwelder Park

**PAC Members:**

JoAnn Altenbach  
Rosa Barajas  
Dorothy Chandler  
Maryann Drake  
Mary Dunneback  
Rod Myles

Dan Niersbach  
Joe Richmond  
Jil Ross  
Charmaine Sevier  
Becky Stevens  
John Yañez

**I.      WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM by Charles Williams.

**II.      APPROVAL OF MINUTES (3-12-24):** Charles Williams asked for a Motion to accept Minutes.

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

**III.      NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS**

Charles Williams welcomed new guest, Renee Murphy from Blackwelder Park. She is interested in starting a PAC at her park. Newest member to join our PAC is Gregory Pitts, which brings our PAC membership total to 41 members as of March 2024.

**IV.      MOTION**

Lorraine Linnerud explained to members present the following Motions proposed for a PAC vote:

1) The first Motion proposed is to amend the PAC By-Laws document throughout to reflect our new park name approved on 2/14/2024. The By-Laws will be revised as follows: "Park No. 581" will be changed to "The Prairie Park" and "Park 581 Park Advisory Council" to "The Prairie Park Advisory Council", respectively.

Charles entered a Motion to make these changes. Motion was accepted by Dan Niersbach; seconded by Charmaine Sevier. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

2) The second 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.

Charles entered a Motion to make these changes. Motion was accepted by JoAnn Altenbach; seconded by Rebecca Stevens. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.



## **V. 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 March 1-31, 2024. March's beginning balance was \$2,035.20 & ending balance was \$2,365.20. The following deposits were made by check: 1) \$100; \$20. There were no debit/credit transactions or outstanding checks written. SwipeSimple donations were 1) \$200; 2) \$10. There were no SwipeSimple transaction or processing fees for the month of February.

After Milton Chandler's Treasurer report, Charles Williams entered a Motion to keep the SwipeSimple fee turned off. Motion was accepted by Lorraine Linnerud; seconded by Mary Dunneback. All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Garden Committee: D. Chandler – Committee report attached. The Garden Committee met on 4/2/24 via Zoom. We discussed upcoming joint event with Parks Events Planning Committee for Earth Day/Arbor Day on Sat., 4/20/24 from 9-12. Openlands TreeKeepers (Jim Battistoni & his team) will be focusing on tree trimming on Oakley and we will assist by hauling branches and placing in neat piles for pickup by park services. In honor of Earth Day, please bring your own mug for coffee so we are not using disposable cups and helping the environment at the same time. Soil testing recommendations and costs were discussed for the community garden and for the new garden in The Prairie when application is approved after we get a water source installed. It is expensive so we will be careful by using a mask to minimize exposure of any lead, chemical toxins, etc. we may be exposed to if digging in the ground. We will not be planting any vegetables for the public this year. Cold stratification process and growing native plants from seeds are currently underway by Dorothy and Danielle. Permanent plant signage is in process by Danielle and her Mom using her Cricut machine to include both scientific plant names & common names. A QR code was generated for the iNaturalist site Danielle created, which has lots of pictures and information of plants currently in the community garden and serves as a place to record our observations. Names for community garden were discussed as an informal affectionate name to refer to it as the caretakers. We cannot give it a permanent name because it is not part of the park and is owned by CDOT. We will gather as a group in person to assess the community garden later in the month or early May. Next meeting will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Committee report attached. The committee met on Zoom on 3/26/24 to finalize plans for the kite fly event on 4/6/24 (12-2pm) and briefly discussed the joint event with Garden Committee for Earth Day/Arbor Day on 4/20/24 (9am-12pm) with assistance from Openlands TreeKeepers. We enjoyed a beautiful kite fly event with approximately 35-40 people attending (20 adults signed participation waiver). Two kites were raffled off for free (congrats to Chaia & Bobby) and coffee, water, donuts, cookies and fruit snacks were provided. No event insurance was purchased so we saved money there, especially since price went up to \$200 per event. Expenses incurred totaled \$170.24, only \$84.13 receipt for Dunkin' Donuts was submitted for reimbursement, and the remaining balance was donated by Mary Dunneback and Ivette Williams. Money collected during event totaled \$280. A big thank you to the committee and PAC members who assisted in the park cleanups prior to the event and during the event. The event was well publicized, and we had a great turnout, which made for a very successful and fun kite flying day — the winds were in our favor.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Committee report attached. A press release, including a group photo with Rep. Slaughter and our PAC, was submitted to the Beverly Review and The Villager newspapers to announce the Build Illinois grant award for The Prairie Park. Attached is the press release that was published in the Beverly Review. We are currently waiting on a project manager to be assigned. Planned park improvements include a walking path, lighting and a water source, as stipulated in the grant. Once we find out who is assigned to our park, next steps include scheduling a Zoom meeting with the project manager, Board and Park Investment Committee.

## VII. PAC BUSINESS

- FIFTH THIRD BANK Account Name Change: Charles Williams and Milton Chandler went to the bank in person to get name changed on PAC account from Park 581 Park Advisory Council to The Prairie Park Advisory Council.
- IRS PAC Name Change: Waiting on bank statement 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

- PAC T-Shirts: Marketing Committee to order PAC t-shirts with new park name and our logo. Getting cost estimates from various vendors. Goal is to create our first t-shirt to use for ribbon cutting ceremony, so we all look uniform in group photo. Other design choices will be created later. Trying to keep cost down to \$20 per t-shirt and make a small profit for fundraising purposes.

## IX. STATUS OF GRANT(S)

- **BUILD Illinois Fund (\$500,000)**: Approved on 1/2024; joint effort of Chicago Park District & State Rep. Justin Slaughter. Waiting on next steps for project manager to be assigned to start work. Project scope: top 3 priority park improvements: walking path, lighting, and a water source. L. Linnerud (**APPROVED**)
- **CPF GRANT (\$1,000)**: Chicago Parks Foundation “2024 Connecting Communities” grant application was submitted online in February. Received prior approvals from Ald. O’Shea and park supervisor. Winners to be announced on 4/24/24 at their Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at South Shore Cultural Center. Project scope: creation of a prairie-like native & pollinator community garden and Monarch waystation at The Prairie Park in an underutilized site that would not interfere with sports or other activities across from existing community garden at SE triangle that was revitalized. I. Williams (**IN PROCESS**)
- **AARP FLAGSHIP GRANT (\$10,000) & MICROGRANT (\$2,500)**: AARP grant applications were submitted online on 2/2024. Winners will be announced in mid-May. AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages (grant range is \$500-\$50,000). I. Williams (**IN PROCESS**)

## X. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/20/2024: (9-12) Earth Day/Arbor Day joint event by Garden and Park Events Planning Committees with assistance from Openlands TreeKeepers. More volunteers are needed to assist hauling branches, park clean-up. Please RSVP at: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdS68\\_ULa6ZTDiuoEa1I\\_-bCh6yOfS95IxmYVRXw\\_-Cn2eSyA/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdS68_ULa6ZTDiuoEa1I_-bCh6yOfS95IxmYVRXw_-Cn2eSyA/viewform?usp=pp_url)
- 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

- Parking Notice re Permit 170: Rebecca to send the parking notice by email to coaches to give to sports parents. Notices were emailed to PAC members and community, posted on our Facebook page, pet waste stations and little free library. In addition, notices were hand delivered to residents around The Prairie Park.

- Sports: Coach Mike Martin's flag football league to start on 4/28/24 (9 am). Soccer season begins around same date (11 am). Rebecca Medrano provided sports schedule. She will update with times for games. So far, there is only one day on 5/11/24 that all 4 fields (2 for soccer; 2 for flag football) will be used for sports games.
- Bicycle Rack: Rebecca communicated with Ray at Chicago Park District inquiring about work order status for bike rack installation at 118<sup>th</sup> & Oakley (across from St. Walter parking lot). Ray did not have a timeframe yet but will find out and get back to her.
- Park Name Signs: Rebecca has not received any news yet when the park signs will be installed at The Prairie Park.
- Other Updates: Kennedy Park Pool opens on 6/17/24. There are no other updates for now.

## **XII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

None at this time.

## **XIII. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, May 14, 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 7:36 PM. Motion to adjourn was entered by Charles Williams, accepted by John Yañez; seconded by Dan Niersbach.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

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Please visit the following pages:

- **THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:**  
<http://ThePrairiePark.org>
  - **SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION**  
[https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3)
  - **PAC 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)
- FACEBOOK PAGE**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984>
  - INATURALIST (COMMUNITY GARDEN)**  
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581>

**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, March 12, 2024, 6:30 PM  
IN-PERSON MEETING ONLY

## **M I N U T E S**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 20**

**PAC BOARD:**

Charles Williams      President  
Ivette Williams      Secretary

Lorraine Linnerud      Vice President  
Milton Chandler      Treasurer

**PARK SUPERVISOR:**

Rebecca Medrano

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE:**

Guest: Rep. Justin Slaughter, 27<sup>th</sup> District

**PAC Members:**

JoAnn Altenbach  
Rosa Barajas  
Dorothy Chandler  
Maryann Drake  
Julie Karstrand  
Birgit LaVoie  
Tom Lavoie

Rod Myles  
Dan Niersbach  
Gregory Pitts  
Charmaine Sevier  
Becky Stevens  
Guest: Mike Martin, Flag Football Coach  
Guest: Kevin O’Kelly, St. Barnabas Soccer Coach

**I.      WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Charles Williams.

**II.      APPROVAL OF MINUTES (2-12-24)**

Dorothy Chandler made a motion to accept Minutes, seconded by Milton Chandler.  
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 also gave verbal summary of Treasurer’s report and PAC’s bank monthly activities from February 1-29, 2024. February’s beginning balance was \$2,039.39 & ending balance was \$2,035.20. There were no deposits, debit/credit transactions or outstanding checks written. SwipeSimple fees for previous month activities totaled: \$4.19.

**IV.      MOTION**

Lorraine Linnerud explained the new guidelines in effect regarding fingerprinting to the PAC. Charles Williams proposed a motion to add the following language to our PAC By-Laws per Chicago Park District Guidelines:

**“ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. Requirements.**

The PAC shall consist of at least three (3) members, including the elected officers as defined in Article IV. Every member must complete a membership application. Any member whose work involves contact with children or any finances must submit a volunteer application to the Chicago Park District and will be asked to submit to a criminal background check.

All PAC officers and any frequent PAC members who volunteer should submit a volunteer application to the Chicago Park District, if they have not already done so, and complete the background check. Any volunteers who volunteer in PAC activities no more than two times a year should fill out the one day volunteer waiver.”

Motion accepted by Dorothy Chandler, seconded by Milton Chandler.

All in Favor, AYE. No one opposed.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Garden Committee: D. Chandler – Committee full report attached. The Garden Committee is partnering with the Park Event Committee for Earth Day/Arbor Day on Sat., 4/20/24 from 9-12. Openlands TreeKeepers (Jim Battistoni & his team) will be focusing on tree trimming on Oakley and we will assist by hauling branches and placing in neat piles for pickup by park services. Field trips to be planned include: Hope Center in Blue Island (Lisa Adams), Field Museum Pollinator Gardens (Danielle Jones), Lake Katherine in Palos (John Smith). Jan Favia recommended we visit the MSI Exhibit running “The Blue Paradox” about the impact of plastics on our planet & steps to address it. Committee meeting to be scheduled soon at triangle to assess the garden. Received seeds from Sarah Batka, IL Extension and elderberry cuttings from Danielle Jones. QR code link to inaturalist site created by Danielle Jones displaying our garden with photos and the all the plants by scientific/common names. Link at bottom of page.
- Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Committee full report attached. Rebecca Medrano has accepted all activity requests submitted for 2024 so far, which include: 4/6 kite fly; 4/20 Earth Day/Arbor Day park clean-up & providing assistance with tree trimming; 6/1 Meet & Greet & quick park clean-up an hour before; 7/5 post-holiday park clean-up; 8/10 Prairie Park Purge community garage sale in the park. Charles Williams will submit requests for liability insurance for events that require it.
- Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Committee full report attached. Request for BUILD Illinois Bond Fund was initiated in 10/2022. In August 2022, Charles, Williams, Lorraine Linnerud, Ivette Williams met with Rep. Slaughter at Ald. O’Shea’s office to discuss OSLAD & BUILD Illinois grants and logistics on how to proceed. When OSLAD grant was not approved last year, the BUILD Illinois was fast tracked to move forward by the Chicago Park District, sponsored by Rep. Slaughter in Springfield. In February, 2024, we received word that the \$500K grant was awarded for our park. Everything has been signed off and is in the queue awaiting a project manager. It is not a matching grant, but would cover the top three improvements: walking path, dim lighting, and a water source. Next step is waiting for project manager to be assigned to handle design and construction. A press release was included with group photo with Rep. Slaughter in the Beverly Review and The Villager newspapers.
- Park Naming Committee: M. Drake – Park signs with new name are in process since name was officially approved on 2/14/24. The Chicago Park District will let us know so we can schedule ribbon cutting ceremony. Rebecca Medrano to inquire about the status.
- Public Safety Committee: M. Chandler – CAPS Meeting full report attached. Milton and Dorothy Chandler attended the CAPS Meeting on 3/7 in person at 22<sup>nd</sup> District facilitated by Officer Beamon and Sister Pat. Stats provided year to date from 1/1/24-3/6/24. Crime has significantly been reduced by comparing stats from 2023 during same period for better comparison. Vehicle safety event is being held on 4/27 at Jiffy Lube providing steering wheel locks to residents on a first come first-serve basis. Everyone is encouraged on creating a smart 911 profile and including your vehicle information. Speed cameras going up at 3 locations: St. John Fisher School, King Lockhart Memorial Park and Ridge Park/Beverly Montessori School. Meeting handouts included: community concern, sheet robbery prevention, anonymous tips/rewards, beat map, robbery prevention and package theft prevention tips. Next meeting is on May 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6 pm at 22<sup>nd</sup> District.

## VI. PAC BUSINESS

- FIFTH THIRD BANK Account Name Change: Charles Williams and Milton Chandler to go to bank in person with supporting documentation (Chicago Park District Hearing Minutes 2-14-24, website name change, etc.) to request name change of PAC account to reflect our new park name, The Prairie Park.
- IRS PAC Name Change: Park advisory name change from “PARK 581 Park Advisory Council” to new name: “The Prairie Park Advisory Council”. Waiting on bank account name change and statement (3/-31/24) with new change to process with IRS.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- PAC Logo Pens: Ivette Williams created a pen using our PAC logo and new park name, with new website/email information to gift to PAC members and send out with fundraising letters. Gift to PAC from Charles & Ivette Williams. Not submitting for reimbursement or in-kind donation. Any future orders will be processed through PAC account by Treasurer. Ivette was handing out pens to PAC members in attendance when Rep. Slaughter showed up to our meeting.
- PAC T-Shirts: Out of courtesy, due to Rep. Slaughter’s visit, this item has been moved to our **NEXT PAC MEETING** for discussion. Ivette Williams created a draft design using the online creator tool of Marketing Sportswear in Blue Island (it’s the same company BAPA, Smith Village, local businesses use). Marketing Committee had reviewed draft and preferred the blue design. We may switch to lighter color if PAC logo can be incorporated, problems with lettering and too many colors in design increase price). Nothing is decided yet. Goal is to create our first t-shirt to use for ribbon cutting ceremony so we all look uniform in group photo. Other design choices will be created later. Trying to keep cost down to \$20 per t-shirt.

## VIII. STATUS OF GRANT(S)

- **BUILD Illinois Fund (\$500,000)**: Approved on 1/2024; joint effort of Chicago Park District & State Rep. Justin Slaughter. Waiting on next steps for project manager to be assigned to start work. Project scope: top 3 priority park improvements: walking path, lighting, and a water source. L. Linnerud (**APPROVED**)
- **CPF GRANT (\$1,000)**: Chicago Parks Foundation “2024 Connecting Communities” grant application was submitted online in February. Received prior approvals from Ald. O’Shea and park supervisor. Winners to be announced on 4/17/24 at their Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at South Shore Cultural Center. Project scope: creation of a prairie-like native & pollinator community garden and Monarch waystation at The Prairie Park in an underutilized site that would not interfere with sports or other activities across from existing community garden at SE triangle that was revitalized. I. Williams (**IN PROCESS**)
- **AARP FLAGSHIP GRANT (\$11,900) & MICROGRANT (\$2,500)**: AARP grant applications were submitted online in 2/24. Winners will be announced in mid-May. AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages (grant range is \$500-\$50,000). I. Williams (**IN PROCESS**)

## IX. UPCOMING EVENTS

- TBD (MARCH/APRIL?): Once Chicago Park District park 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.
- MARCH: Chicago Park District’s Strategic Plan Townhall Meetings: ([chicagoparkdistrict.com/strategic-plan](http://chicagoparkdistrict.com/strategic-plan)): 3/18 (6-8 PM)-John Shedd Park; 3/20 (5-7 PM)-Marquette Park; 3/21 (6-8 PM)-Hamilton Park.

**X. PARK SUPERVISOR**

- Sports: Coach Mike Martin’s flag football league to start on 4/28/24. Soccer season begins around same time. Rebecca Medrano invited coaches to PAC meeting (flag football & soccer). She will provide spring schedule of games/activities to PAC once finalized.
- Bicycle Rack: Rebecca to inquire about work order status for bike rack installation at 118<sup>th</sup> & Oakley (across from St. Walter parking lot).
- Fingerprinting: Question raised by one PAC member: Does being fingerprinted cross over to another park? Rebecca Medrano to inquire.

**XI. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

No other additional business was discussed. Residential Zone Parking was briefly discussed after committee reports. Coaches agreed to talk to their sports parents before season begins regarding parking restrictions, no blocking of residential driveways or fire hydrants, and for all to adhere to zone parking and only park on street side of the park only. Rep. Justin Slaughter was invited to the PAC meeting and he stopped by to visit as we were starting to discuss new business so the Board then ceded the floor to Rep. Slaughter to address the PAC. Rep. Slaughter graciously took a group photo with us afterwards, which was included in a press release prepared by Lorraine Linnerud and subsequently submitted to the Beverly Review and The Villager newspapers. It was a celebratory meeting for our new park name received on 2/14/24 and recently learning that the park had been awarded the Build IL grant for \$500,000 spearheaded by Rep. Slaughter and Chicago Park District for the top three priority park improvements.

**XII. NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, May 14, 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

**XIII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM. Motion to adjourn was entered by Lorraine Linnerud, and seconded by Dan Niersbach.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie PAC Board Secretary

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Please visit the following pages:

- **THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:**  
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- **SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION**  
[https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3)
- **PAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrg-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrg-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp_url)
- FACEBOOK PAGE**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984>
- INATURALIST (COMMUNITY GARDEN)**  
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/the-prairie-previously-park-581>

**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, February 13, 2024, 6:30 PM  
ZOOM MEETING ONLY

## **M I N U T E S**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 11

**PAC BOARD:**

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

**PARK SUPERVISOR:**

Rebecca Medrano

**PAC Members:**

Dorothy Chandler	Mary Dunneback	Danielle Jones
Rod Myles	Jil Ross	Charmaine Sevier

**I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1-9-24)**

Dorothy Chandler made a motion to accept Minutes, seconded by Mary Dunneback.  
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 also gave verbal summary of Treasurer's report and PAC's bank monthly activities from January 1-31, 2024. January's beginning balance was \$1,923.27 & ending balance was \$2,039.39; Debit transactions totaled: \$100.96; Deposits: \$217.08.

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Garden Committee: D. Chandler – Committee verbal report given. Danielle, Ivette and I worked on the summary for last year. We were amazed of all that the Garden Committee accomplished. Blessed to have such great mentors: David Wilkerson-Lindsey, who spearheaded the garden renovation project with our group (currently pursuing his graduate degree in Agroecology and Agroforestry at University of Michigan); Master Naturalist (Danielle); and Master Urban Farmer (Lisa). Goals for 2024 include looking to identify tasks to work on. Danielle Jones, Ivette Williams, Lisa Adams and I signed up to participate in the Illinois Extension Cook County Virtual School and Community Garden Training Series (2 hours each day: 2/15, 2/22, 2/29). Congratulations to Lisa who recently received her certification as a Master Urban Farmer. The Garden Committee and Park Events Planning Committees have teamed up to host Earth Day/Arbor Day on Saturday, 4/20/24 for a park clean-up and tree trimming by Openlands TreeKeepers (Jim Battistoni).

Park Events Planning Committee: M. Dunneback – Committee Report is attached. We met on Zoom on 1/30/24 and outlined activities for the year. First event may be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new park name as soon as a date and time are scheduled by the Chicago Park District. Other events include a kite fly on 4/6; working with



Garden Committee on the Earth Day/Arbor Day Park clean-up and tree trimming event; 6/1 It's Your Park Day; 7/5 post holiday park clean-up; and back by popular demand, the "Prairie Park Purge" community garage sale on 8/10 (alternate date: 8/17), moving this event earlier so hopefully it is before classes start, sports activities kick off in full gear, and there are no conflicts in competing for park space. A fall event in October, such as a mixer or movie night, may be planned as well.

Park Investment Committee: L. Linnerud – Committee Report is attached. The Build Illinois Bond Grant request for The Prairie Park was initiated in October 2022 and has been finally approved (\$500,000). Grant approval step #26 was the last step to complete this long process. Next step is for the Chicago Park District to assign a project manager for our park. The award covers the top 3 priority improvements and is specific to creating a walking path with lighting, and a water source. This is not a matching grant.

Park Naming Committee: M. Drake – Next Chicago Park District Hearing for the approval of our park name from Park No. 581 to "THE PRAIRIE PARK" is on Wednesday, 2/15/24, at headquarters in Brighton Park at 11:20 AM. All are welcome to attend.

Public Safety Committee: M. Chandler – CAPS Meeting Report is attached. First meeting of the year was on 2/1/24 facilitated by Officer Beamon. Crime has significantly gone down. There were zero robberies, shootings, homicides and burglaries last month. CAPS is encouraging people to get video doorbells to record any crimes or illegal activities. Cybersecurity: be cautious opening emails. Call 311 for quicker response for issues with trees on parkway or download 311 app. Be vigilant: park in well lit areas and pay close attention to surroundings. Chicago Police Academy starts on 3/19/24. CAPS meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

The Chicago Park District Annual Report has been submitted; Charles Williams emailed it to Maria Stone on 1/30/24 (before deadline on 2/22/24), and copied the Board.

## **VI. UPCOMING EVENTS**

2/22/24: CPF PAC Roundtable "PAC Highs & Lows". Link to RSVP: 1:00 pm on Zoom

3/9/24: Chicago Park District's PAC Conference at Malcolm X College. 9 am-2:30 pm

Registration: <https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/2024-PAC->

## **VII. PARK SUPERVISOR**

As to status of bike rack for 118<sup>th</sup>/Oakley (on Oakley side north of pet waste station), Rebecca will call area manager to ask if work order was submitted.

Reminder about upcoming March 9<sup>th</sup> PAC Conference at Malcolm X College. Conference and parking are free. Fingerprinting services will be provided from 8am-noon. Fill out Volunteer Application and email to Maria Stone to register in advance. They will follow up with you to let you know when to get fingerprinted at the conference. There is no charge for this. Ivette Williams to forward by email to PAC the form and link to register.

So far, the sports activities taking place at the park in April include: one group is scheduled for spring soccer, and Mike Martin's flag football team will start playing on Saturdays starting 4/13/24. Schedule is not completed yet, but will provide it once all teams sign up and exact dates are set.

Will contact coaches for a date/time to meet with Board or invite to attend PAC meeting to discuss residential zone parking and illegal blocking of driveways during sports games so they can convey message in advance to all sports parents/visitors to avoid receiving tickets by Dept. of Revenue.

## **VIII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**IX.     NEXT PAC MEETING**

The next monthly PAC Meeting is on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 6:30 PM in person at the Kennedy Park Fieldhouse.

The PAC Board meets each month the Saturday before the monthly meeting to set the Agenda for the upcoming meeting. If you would like to add an item to the 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	██████████@gmail.com

**X.     ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM. Motion to adjourn was entered by Charmaine Sevier, and seconded by Dorothy Chandler.

Respectfully submitted: Ivette Williams, The Prairie Park PAC Board Secretary  
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Please visit the following pages:

- **THE PRAIRIE PARK WEBSITE:**  
[ThePrairiePark.org](http://ThePrairiePark.org)
  
- **FACEBOOK PAGE**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1071695500392984>
  
- **PAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrg-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTDUkAOCbB2HzVphMBTuSWsYeSrg-PO8JhUegNywBUyCv4Eg/viewform?usp=pp_url)
  
- **SWIPE SIMPLE ONLINE DONATION**  
[https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk\\_7ebae5d3](https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_7ebae5d3)

**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

**M I N U T E S**

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)