

**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

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**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:

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| ➤ <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> |  |