



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT Lakefront Committee Meeting Minutes

*Monday, June 1, 2020
Virtual Meeting via "Zoom"*

Present

Commissioners/Committee: Chair, Bryan Abbott, Cecilia Clarke and Todd Shissler
Staff: Emily Guynn, Kristi Solberg

Staff: Executive Director Steve Wilson

Absent

None

I. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Communications and Correspondence

Director Wilson read an email received prior to the meeting from Ken Morrison. Mr. Morrison shared his views on the firms being considered for the Gillson Park comprehensive plan, and promoted The Lakota Group.

III. Public Comment

The Attendance Sheet will become part of the permanent record.

IV. Comprehensive Plan Consultant Proposal Review and Discussion

Commissioner Abbott began the discussion by providing some history of the planning processes that have been undertaken for the lakefront, noting that each had varying degrees of success.

He continued by noting that the initial RFP was not as extensive as it could have been which ultimately led to the committee requesting revised proposal from two of the three firms that were interviewed. The updated proposals have been received from Hitchcock Design Group and The Lakota Group. Commissioner Abbott asked the committee members and Director Wilson to share their views on the proposals.

Commissioner Clarke commented on the large price difference between the two proposals, and doesn't feel that The Lakota Group is focused on Gillson. She stated she is not in favor of The Lakota Group and doesn't think the proposal will result in anything that will work for that land area.

Commissioner Shissler stated he is in favor of The Lakota Group. He acknowledged the price difference, but has a greater comfort level with the Lakota Group.

Director Wilson commented that when he initially saw the partnership between The Lakota Group and Woodhouse Tinucci Architects he was very comfortable with the community input process, given that Andy Tinucci already has a rapport with the community. He also acknowledged the importance of the cost differential, but feels there is an opportunity for a better outcome with The Lakota Group, versus someone who is unproven in our community. He concluded by saying staff can work with either firms and it is ultimately the board's decision to make.

Commissioner Abbott then shared his views. He commented that he didn't think The Lakota Group's December interview went well, but acknowledged they have a good track record with achievable success, and local experience. He added that he feels good about their approach and has confidence in Mr. Tinucci's design success.

Regarding Hitchcock Design Group, Commissioner Abbott stated they had a good interview and success could be achieved with them, but feels that the board and staff would have to do more of the community outreach.

Commissioner Shissler moved and Commissioner Abbott seconded a motion to recommend The Lakota Group to the full board for approval.

By voice vote, voting Yes, Commissioners Shissler and Abbott. Voting No, Commissioner Clarke. *Absent*, none: **motion carried.**

V. Manager's Report

Superintendent Guynn reported on the following:

- Longtime Lakefront Manager Holly Specht retired
 - Assistant Manager Katy Bradford is currently overseeing operations
 - Full-time has have been assisting with opening procedures
- Sailing Beach
 - Opened May 9, in line with Phase 3 guidelines
 - 605 vessels will be stored on the beach
 - 38 spots are still available and 365 people are on the waitlist
 - Staff are exploring options for a new satellite SUP storage location for 2020 only since the current location is not available this year due to the water levels
 - Cleaning protocols have been enhanced
 - All customer service transactions are being done online
 - Due to COVID, the rental fleet is not currently available; this will be reevaluated
- Swimming Beach
 - Opened to residents and non-residents on May 23
 - Entrance and parking are by season pass only, and must be purchased online ; no daily parking or entrance passes will be sold
 - The water was not open for swimming during Phase 2
 - Just moved to Phase 3: water will open, but it is swim at your own risk
 - Staff will be on site, and guards should be in place in the next week

Commissioner Abbott commended staff for all their efforts.

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VII. New Business

None

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Shissler moved and Commissioner Clarke seconded a motion to adjourn the Lakefront Committee meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved on _____

Committee Chair

Department Head