



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT Lakefront Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 10, 2022
Village Hall Training Room

Present

Commissioners/Committee: Chair Julia Goebel and Cecilia Clarke

Staff: Superintendent of Parks and Planning Kristi Solberg

Additional Staff: Lake Front General Manager Ben Wozney

Visitors: Kathryn Calkins, Walter Keats, Mary Lawler, Tanja Chevalier, Chrisi DiClementi, Steve and Marsha Dover, Paul and Carol Hahn.

Absent

Commissioner Lindsay Anderson

I. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. November 1, 2021

Commissioner Clarke moved and Commissioner Goebel seconded a motion to approve the minutes for the November 1, 2021 Lakefront Committee meeting.

By a roll call vote, voting Yes, Commissioners: Clarke and Goebel. Voting No: none. *Absent*, Commissioner Anderson; **motion carried**.

III. Public Comment/Recognition of Visitors

Director Wilson facilitated public comment. The Attendance Sheet will become part of the permanent record.

Kathryn Calkins, 828 Sheridan Road – Ms. Calkins self-identified as a Go Green Wilmette member. On behalf of Go Green Wilmette, she asked the Park District to consider bird friendly features at Lakeview Center.

Walter Keats – Mr. Keats stated the meeting minutes do not include the visitors. Commissioner Goebel advised standard practice has been to incorporate the visitor log into the approved minutes.

IV. Communications and Correspondence

None.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Langdon Shoreline Protection Discussion

Superintendent Solberg initiated the discussion by circling back to the discussion the Committee had with SmithGroup in November. Commissioner Clarke asked if the longer, accessible route will provide shoreline stabilization. Superintendent Solberg confirmed that it will. Commissioner Goebel asked if there would be any beach in the future if the lake levels were the same as they are today if the Park District pursued Concept C. Superintendent Solberg advised it would be limited similar to what is there today. Commissioner Goebel stated one of the hopes for this project is that as the lake level rises or falls, there will be a time in which the lake will be accessible for beachgoers and walkers in the way it was historically. She believes this is possible with Concept C. Superintendent Solberg noted that Concept B has a steep slope. Commissioner Goebel questioned whether there were anything the Consultants could do to make that slope more accessible. Commissioner Clarke expressed an interest in the structured staircase option but stated she would now eliminate it as it is the least accessible of all the paths. There was Committee preference around Concept C with a potential switchback option. Additionally, the Committee directed staff to consult with SmithGroup and obtain engineer guidance as to whether Concept B could be more accessible by lowering the slope.

B. Lakeview Center Design Update

Superintendent Solberg introduced Andy Tinucci of Woodhouse Tinucci Architects. Mr. Tinucci initiated the discussion by advising plans have generally stayed the same on the upper and lower level. The Board had directed the Consultants to provide one single user gender neutral restroom in the facility. In working with staff, the Consultants are exploring putting this on the lower level as they believe it will get more use from the increased programming that will happen there. Mr. Tinucci stated that a consideration for the Board might be to incorporate a single user bathroom on both floors but for the time being, the single user bathroom is being considered on the lower level. The Consultants have captured some storage space in the lobby and increased natural light from glass doors as opposed to the existing solid doors. This will create a more inviting entry. Originally, the Consultants had believed the entry could be created where the existing concession stand is. However, in working with staff and listening to their needs, the Consultants have moved their offices to the existing concession stand location. This plan allows for an additional office and the longest stretch of continuous space within the lower level. The downside to moving the primary lower level entry is that it is underneath the increased deck. The Consultants are exploring lighting options or different paving to help guide people into the lower level.

Moving onto the upper level, Mr. Tinucci advised that finishes would be updated in the restrooms. The upside to keeping the bathroom configuration on the upper level as it currently exists is that there is room for a coat closet or a storage closet and visitors can still be greeted into the entry vestibule. The lobby space between the Lakeview Room and the Gillson Room will contain operable sliding glass doors

to create transparency and openness. The kitchenette space is being preserved for catering with updated finishes. Mr. Tinucci then opened the floor for questions from the Committee. Commissioner Clarke expressed concerns over moving the staff offices from their originally proposed location as she believes it does not solve the underlying accessibility issues. Mr. Tinucci explained that the changes were made by staff for function. Commissioner Clarke and Goebel both noted that in prior Committee conversations and resident feedback there was an understanding that staff should be more accessible to the public through this renovation. Commissioner Goebel suggested that the programming space and office space be switched so that the programming space receives the natural light. She asked Mr. Tinucci if both electrical spaces are necessary. Mr. Tinucci responded yes as this is how the existing infrastructure is and that one of those rooms powers the electricity for the beach house. It would cost a significant amount of money to change this and it is not necessary. Commissioner Clarke expressed an interest in a single-user restroom on both floors. This led to a brief conversation regarding accessibility and the benefits of a single-user restroom on both floors.

Mr. Tinucci thanked the Committee for their input and stated he would hopefully return next month with the requested revisions.

VI. New Business

None.

VII. Mangers' Report

Lakefront General Manager, Ben Wozney, reported the following:

- As it is the winter season, there is currently not much going on at the beach.
- Staff is planning the Polar Plunge which will take place in March and is a great fundraising for the Special Olympics.
- The hiring process for the summer season has started.
- Boat registration will begin this Friday. People may submit their applications online or via mail in.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next Lakefront Committee meeting will be on February 7, 2022.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Clarke moved and Commissioner Goebel seconded a motion to adjourn the Lakefront Committee meeting at 6:02 p.m.

By a unanimous voice vote; **motion carried.**

Minutes Approved on February 7, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine A. Serbin

Catherine Serbin
Executive Administrative Assistant