

Welles Park Advisory Council
July 15, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Call to Meeting at 7:06 pm by Aaron Durnbaugh

Roll Call

Aaron Durnbaugh (President), Adrienne Roe (WPAC Secretary), Becky Kliber (Welles Supervisor), Sue Smock-Lawson, Jenni Sisson, Bill Bergfalk (Welles Staff), Bethany Simmons (WPAC Vice President), Jeff Walter, Sherry Skalko

Review Minutes – Adrienne motions to approve, Aaron seconds, and minutes approved.

Treasurer Report- Bethany

In Sarah's absence Bethany reports. New officers can now write checks. Still working on obtaining online access to accounts. This month we had \$3,000 in income and a current balance of \$48,090.

Park Report – Becky

Day camp in full swing. Gazebo concerts payments will be \$2,275 with WPPA to sponsor and reimburse.

Committee Reports

Greening – Sue and Jenni

We continue to have monthly work days organized by Jenni. On July 24, there will be a picnic to honor Marcia, a founding member who recently passed away. Bring your own picnic. The library will host story time in the nature play space. We have 3 large books that will be stored at the library but we own. Next committee meeting dates are August 26, September 30, and February 24. More graffiti in space than normal and more benches are broken. We might want new benches or to clean them.

Gazebo Concerts – Aaron

Concerts continue to draw a nice crowd and have been very popular. WPPA to help sponsor concerts.

Circus – Aaron

Welles is hosting the Circus October 17-20. August 28 deadline for ad book. Approx. 20,000 people attend circus run at all parks. If you know a business interested Aaron is willing to help solicit. Required 2 letters of support have been submitted. Gompers park is willing to help with set up and take down for a 10% partnership. Becky to contact them to coordinate. Bill has volunteered to help with concessions. Sarah will help with sign up genius. Still a potential VIP night.

Old Business

Pickle-ball

A letter of feasibility and interest was submitted to CPD. We have not heard back but do not expect to until after summer camp concludes. Becky will follow up. Still a very high interest in pickleball. 25 plus people go to Horner Park to play.

New Business

Sherry Shalko, swim team and aquatics programs, presented on a potential interest in joining the

WPAC as a formal committee. 150 swimmers at Welles, the largest in the area. It is 2 times more than the average at other Chicago pools. Our program is a formal USA Swimming Club. Anticipating a increased enrollment in the future as CPD and other programs are prioritizing swimming. They are seeking a more formalized leadership, organization to help with 501c3 status and fiscal help. They have a modest income. They want to focus on fund raising, advocacy and community building. Interest in creating a subcommittee, but would need to be voted on by WPAC. Immediate concerns are equipment and entry fee for swimmers. Aaron will reach out to see how other PACs in the area involve their swim teams. Swim team will bring a proposal to next meeting.

Becky updated WPAC on Chicago Park District contract negotiations.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 pm. Adrienne motion to close meeting. Aaron seconds, all in favor.