

Welles Park Advisory Council
January 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Call to Meeting at 7:05 pm by Aaron Durnbaugh

Roll Call Aaron Durnbaugh (WPAC President), Becky Kliber (Welles Supervisor), Joe Wilcox, Sherry Skalko, Teresa Weed, Michael Sewall (47th ward representative), Sue Smock-Lawson, Bethany Simmons (WPAC Vice President), Coral Negron, Bill Bergfalk, Doug Mulderink

Review Minutes - We were unable to review minutes as Adrienne (WPAC Secretary) was unable to attend. We will review and approve at a later date.

Treasurer Report - Aaron

Aaron reviewed the treasurer's report, as Sarah (WPAC Treasurer) was unable to attend the meeting. Our current balance is \$50,854.32. We are still waiting for \$4,750 from Midnight Circus for our ticket sales distribution. We will need to pay Gompers Park Advisory Council 10%.

The Gazebo decorations cost \$245 more than we expected, for a total of \$1,670. Sue motioned to approve, Coral seconded and all approve.

Park Report – Becky

- 2020 Park Advisory Conference is Saturday, March 21 at Malcolm X College (1900 W. Jackson Blvd).
- Relay Swim Meet 2/1/20. The pool will be closed to the public.
- Welles Attendant Position (part time) has been posted. To apply visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com

Committee Reports

Greening Committee- Sue, Bethany

Sue reviewed some of the Greening Committee accomplishments for the past year; Loose-Parts Palooza, bird walks, and clean up events.

Bethany mentioned that Greening Committee has planned meeting dates for the following year: Feb 24, Mar 30, Apr 27, May 18, Aug 31, Sept 28, Nov 30. Planning for 2020 events will take place at the February meeting. Greening will consider planning a speaker series at the park.

Michael from the 47th Ward office mentioned that the Green Council has speakers and the Montrose Metro Gardening Club also has related speakers. We could consider partnering with these groups.

Swim Team - Sherry

Sherry shared the Aquatics Committee 2019-2020 Budget. Details in the budget document. The swim team committee is still working to figure out their budget and expenses. Sherry thinks they spent too much last year and she thinks they should plan less costly event this year.

Sectionals are coming up this weekend. Relay championships will be at Welles. Sherry has asked Becky about selling concessions and Becky will get back to her.

Circus –Aaron, Bill

2019 Review:

- 580 average attendees each night (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
- \$4750 will come to us from ticket sales, 10% will go to Gompers
- \$3200 of ad sales were sold by us. We will get \$2494.

Bill restated that Midnight Circus wants to return to Welles, but the park district wants them to spread out to other parts of the city. The park district may provide less funding for Midnight Circus in the future.

Midnight Circus and the park district are trying to figure out who will cover costs and clean up if it rains during shows.

Old Business

Family Movie Night - Aaron

We will be showing Abominable on January 24, 2020 at 7pm. Sponsored by Lyons Family Eye Care.

Volunteers: Coral, Bethany, Aaron. We will need more volunteers for setup/clean up, ushers and concessions. Sherry can ask the swim team. Any potential volunteers can contact Aaron if interested.

Set-up can happen between 5:30-6:30pm. Set-up: tables, mats, screen, popcorn

Aaron will get cash for change box

Concessions: popcorn, candy, drinks (Becky has bags and Milky Ways leftover) Coral offered to purchase the supplies. We will charge \$1 or \$2. Sue motions to approve up to \$300 for concessions, Bethany seconded, all approve.

No Small Matter Screening - Teresa Weed

- January 25 at 1pm (1 hour, 15 minute movie, 15 minute Forest Playschool film, 10 minute discussion)
- Teresa is planning to show this documentary about early education for adults and offer a pop-up adventure play space for kids. Becky recommends that attendees bring their own chairs.
- 11am set-up for playscape, noon for set up for movie
- Teresa will use some of the Advisory Council's popcorn and will reimburse us later.

Horseshoe Pit Renovation

Becky received an estimate from the park district for our potential Horseshoe Pit renovation. The estimate for renovating the horseshoe pits and adding two Bags lanes was \$43,000 and the estimate for adding two pickleball courts was \$64,000. The total estimate is \$107,000. The estimate includes costs for removing and replacing the fence and removing cement. The park district has not allocated any funds right now, so we would have to fundraise. CPD gave us the estimate and told us to let them know if we choose to move forward. Michael mentioned that we can reach out to Josh at the Alderman's office if we move forward with fundraising.

John Roe couldn't come to our meeting, but he is still interested. We would need the people who are interested in this project to take the lead on this if we move forward. Aaron will contact the interested parties to discuss their interest in fundraising/forming a committee.

New Business

Alderman office - Michael Sewall from Matt Martin's office attended the meeting and offered to be our liaison with the office. He mentioned their committees, including Transportation, Green Council and Youth Council (8th-12th graders). We expressed interest in the Youth Council and how they could interact with us for planning and ideas for the park. The group meets monthly around 5pm. Michael mentioned that the council has a sustainability committee. Becky and Sue expressed interest in attending one of their meetings. Michael suggested that some of the youth could potentially attend one of our meetings as well. Michael confirmed that he checks our facebook page to share our meetings/events on the alderman newsletter.

Bylaws - Aaron passed out our updated Bylaws, showing the changes made to the fiscal agent, Secretary officer and advisory council membership. The new document shows that voting members do not need to be fingerprinted, only the officers.

Annual Meeting - Aaron mentioned that our next meeting in March will be our Annual Meeting and we will elect our executive positions. We will be looking for a new Secretary.

Park Walk-Through - Aaron suggested an idea for Park Walkthroughs for to talk about changes at the park and ask for ideas from community members. We could consider offering this event in April or May. Michael suggested that we have a youth walkthrough as well.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.