

Chicago Park District



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

10:00 AM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Chicago Park District Administration Building
4830 South Western Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60609

Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg

Commissioner Robert Castaneda

Commissioner Sean Garrett

Commissioner Philip Jackson

Commissioner Sharon Bush

Vice President Modesto Valle

President Marlon Everett

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the REGULAR BOARD MEETING will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at the Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596) located at 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Roll Call
Strategic Initiatives
People in the Parks
Consent Agenda
Code Amendments
New Business / Non-Consent Agenda
Adjournment

By order of President Dr. Marlon Everett

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.), the Chicago Park District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or admission/access to programs and activities.

Any person with a disability who desires special accommodations or the services of a sign language interpreter in order to attend a meeting of the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners, should contact Disability Policy Officer, Larry Labiak, 504 Compliance Officer, 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609, at 312/742-5097 or accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com at least 72 hours before the Board Meeting.

Marlon Everett
President

Sarah Gelder
Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was made and the following Commissioners were found to be in attendance:

Present: 6 - Vice President Modesto Valle, Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg, Commissioner Philip Jackson, Commissioner Robert Castaneda, Commissioner Sean Garrett and President Marlon Everett

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Sharon Bush

Presentation on the Chicago Park District Willye B. White Award

Rebecca Brandtman, Deputy Director of Program Information from the Department of Community Recreation, addressed the Commissioners. Then the awardee, Melody Mitchell, Central Area 5 Manager, was acknowledged by the Board. The following runner ups were also in attendance and acknowledged by the Board: Ashley Vasquez, Physical Instructor at Revere Park; Danielle Wilberschied, Physical Instructor at Norwood Park; and Marlenni Laureano, Senior Program & Event Coordinator from Athletics.

The Secretary stated for the record that Commissioner Bush joined the meeting during the Presentation on the Willye B. White Award.

Present: 7 - Vice President Modesto Valle, Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg, Commissioner Philip Jackson, Commissioner Robert Castaneda, Commissioner Sean Garrett, President Marlon Everett and Commissioner Sharon Bush

A motion was made by President Everett, seconded by Vice President Valle, to set the Order of Business for the day as reflected in the posted agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

1. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

25-1058-031

2

Parks for All, Exceptional Experiences & Community Wellbeing:

PRESENTATION ON FRAMEWORK PLANS FOR CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT PARKS

Sponsors: Planning and Construction

Indexes: Presentation

Heather Gleason, Director of Planning and Construction, addressed the Commissioners.

2. PEOPLE IN THE PARKS:**25-1059-031****2****PUBLIC COMMENTS****MARCH 12, 2025****Sponsors:** Office of the Secretary**Indexes:** Public Comments

The following members of the public addressed the Commissioners:

1. Lisa Stringer (Addressed the environmental importance of Gompers Park and concerns about encampments in Gompers Park)
2. Lynn Bermeister (Acknowledged the Accelerated Moving Event and restoration efforts at Gompers Park, and addressed concerns about encampments)
3. Nichole Foster Hill (Addressed safety, health, and economic concerns around encampments in Gompers Park and requested designated City space for the unhoused community)
4. Ryan Johnson (Addressed safety and programming concerns around encampments at Gompers Park and the impacts on the upcoming baseball season)
5. Cece Edwards (Requested capital improvements at Grand Crossing Park)
6. Kenneth Newman (Acknowledged Rosa Escareno for her years of service, addressed environmental concerns around proposed construction for the Quantum Campus near Steelworkers Park, and requested collaboration with the Public Building Commission to develop new athletic facilities)
7. Bobbie Townsend (Requested increased maintenance at William Davis Park and increased pool openings)
8. Daniel Cortez (Requested A/C installation and provision of a color printer at Mandrake Park)
9. Yolanda Armstead (Addressed community enrichment and employment opportunities related to Riot Fest in Douglass Park)
10. Eric Lindsay (Addressed support for Riot Fest and their "Beyond the Fest" initiative)
11. Dinita Robinson (Addressed concerns around public access to various parks and transparency of fund allocations of District revenue garnered from Riot Fest)
12. Derek Brown (Addressed community enrichment and employment opportunities related to Riot Fest in Douglass Park)
13. Hector Escobar (Acknowledged Rosa Escareno for her years of service, addressed community enrichment and employment opportunities related to Riot Fest, and requested increased restroom access in Douglass Park)
14. Phil McGrath (Addressed concerns about external management of McFettridge Ice Rink)

Denise Ferguson registered to speak but was unavailable for public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine, procedural, informational, or non controversial in nature and will be voted upon as a group in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Garrett, that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved as a group in one vote. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

25-1052-031**2****CERTIFICATES OF PUBLICATION FOR THE RESCHEDULED
REGULAR FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING**

Sponsors: Office of the Secretary

Indexes: Certificate of Publication

The item was approved. The motion carried by the Consent Agenda vote listed above.

25-1053-031**2****APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR
BOARD MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2025**

Sponsors: Office of the Secretary

Indexes: Meeting Minutes

The item was approved. The motion carried by the Consent Agenda vote listed above.

25-1045-031**2****REQUEST TO EXERCISE THE CONTRACT ONE (1) YEAR
EXTENSION OPTION WITH ACTIVE ALARM COMPANY, INC.
FOR ALARM AND CCTV CAMERA INSTALLATION,
MONITORING, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR
SERVICES-DISTRICT WIDE
SPECIFICATION NO. P-21012R**

Sponsors: Security

Indexes: Contract Extension

The item was approved. The motion carried by the Consent Agenda vote listed above.

[25-1054-031](#)[2](#)

**REQUEST TO EXERCISE THE CONTRACT ONE (1) YEAR
EXTENSION OPTION WITH CHRISTY WEBBER & COMPANY DBA
CHRISTY WEBBER LANDSCAPES
SPECIFICATION NO. P-23005**

Sponsors: Cultural and Natural Resources

Indexes: Contract Extension

The item was approved. The motion carried by the Consent Agenda vote listed above.

4. CODE AMENDMENTS:

[25-1055-031](#)[2](#)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER II OF
THE CODE OF THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT**

Sponsors: Office of Inspector General

Indexes: Proposed Code Amendment, 45 Day Notice Period

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)

Heather Keil, General Counsel, and Daniel Lopez, Director of Audit, addressed the Commissioners.

5. NEW BUSINESS / NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

[25-1047-031](#)[2](#)

**PRESENTATION ON SPECIAL EVENTS WITH PRE-EXISTING
AGREEMENTS - BANK OF AMERICA SHAMROCK SHUFFLE, AND
BANK OF AMERICA CHICAGO MARATHON**

Sponsors: Revenue

Indexes: Presentation

Attachments: [Exhibit A - Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle & Chicago Marathon](#)

Lauren Quinn, Deputy Director of Revenue, addressed the Commissioners.

[25-1048-031](#)[2](#)

**PROVISIONAL APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL EVENTS - J.P. MORGAN
CORPORATE CHALLENGE, BIKE THE DRIVE, AND HOT
CHOCOLATE RUN - CHICAGO**

Sponsors: Revenue

Indexes: Provisional Approval - Special Event Permit

Attachments: [Exhibit A - JP Morgan Corporate Challenge, Bike The Drive, & Hot Chocolate Run](#)

Lauren Quinn, Deputy Director of Revenue, addressed the Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Bush, seconded by Commissioner Garrett, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

[25-1063-031](#)

[2](#)

**PROVISIONAL APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL EVENTS &
AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A MULTI-YEAR PERMIT
AGREEMENT WITH THE CHOSEN FEW LLC TO HOLD THE ANNUAL
CHOSEN FEW OLD SCHOOL REUNION PICNIC IN JACKSON PARK**

Sponsors: Revenue

Indexes: Permit Agreement

Attachments: [Exhibit A - Chosen Few](#)

Lauren Quinn, Deputy Director of Revenue, addressed the Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Vice President Valle, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

[25-1061-031](#)

[2](#)

**AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
AGREEMENTS WITH THE TRADES COALITION UNIONS**

Sponsors: Law Department

Indexes: Collective Bargaining Agreement

Rosa Escareno, General Superintendent and CEO, gave remarks on the importance of the Trades workforce and high level details of the Agreement. Then, Nick Staley, Deputy General Counsel, addressed the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett, seconded by Vice President Valle, that the matter be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

[25-1065-031](#)

[2](#)

**EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH INCOMING GENERAL
SUPERINTENDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE
CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT**

Sponsors: Board President

Attachments: [Resolution Employment Contract](#)

President Everett read the Resolution into record. A motion was made by Commissioner Castaneda, seconded by Commissioner Bush, that the Resolution

be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

[25-1066-031](#)

[2](#)

**RESOLUTION HONORING GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT AND CEO,
ROSA ESCARENO**

Sponsors: Commissioners' Office

Indexes: Resolution-Honoring

Attachments: [Resolution_Rosa Escareno](#)

The Secretary read the Resolution into record. Rosa Escareno, General Superintendent and CEO, gave remarks about her tenure and the Commissioners acknowledged Rosa Escareno for her years of service. A motion was made by Commissioner Castaneda, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, that the Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush

6. ADJOURNED

A motion was made by Commissioner Garrett, seconded by Commissioner Bush, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Valle, Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda, Garrett, Everett and Bush