



**Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Board Meeting**  
Lincolnwood Village Hall – Council Chambers  
Tuesday, December 11, 2018  
DRAFT MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

Park Board Members: Arthur Lovering, Demerise Gratch, Grace Diaz Herrera, Maria Leberis, Carol Orah, Victor Shaw

Parks and Recreation Department Staff: Laura McCarty, Melissa Rimdzius

Village Board Liaison: Jennifer Spino

Village Staff:

Audience: Jesal Patel, Michelle Kelly of Upland Design

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion Tomacic/Oraha approve the meeting minutes of the October 9, 2018 meeting.  
7-0. Motion passed.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Presentation of the Proesel Park Playground Design Choice by Michelle Kelly of Upland Design

Kelly =

- Presentation of existing Proesel Park playground conditions: well used, good life and played on well, need for surfacing fix, and great existing concrete curbing/walks. The Village is able to save infrastructure and put a significant amount of the budget toward equipment.

- Review of the public input process. Gathered information from the public during an initial community brainstorm session where people were invited to provide feedback on what they would like to see in the park in multiple ways. Based on feedback, climbers, slides, and swings were the top three equipment requests and were included in all of the received designs. People overwhelmingly said no to the sand/water play area. With 73% of people saying no to sand and 55% of people saying no to a water element. People were okay with the removal of the trees and planters, but we found a way to expand the play area with only losing two trees that are not in great shape and relocating one. During the second community input meeting, 12 submissions that met the RFP criteria were shared for input. During the meeting, attendees were asked to share their first and second choices with comments on favorite aspects. This helped us to know what the top favorites were overall. Approximately 50 votes were collected between the afterschool program and night meeting. The vast majority of votes were from children. People took their time at the public meeting, with several people staying over an hour. A huge kudos goes out to the people who invested time in providing feedback.
- Review of the 12 options that met the criteria. Vendors were able to provide up to two options using their equipment. Gathered comments during the second community input meeting, so we were able to get a deeper feeling of what people liked in each design.
- Review of results. The top two designs had similar vote amounts, and then it dropped off fast. This helped us to understand what people liked.

**Lovering** – Each company proposed two?

**Kelly** – Not each company. It was their choice.

**Lovering** – The equipment company that provided designs 11 and 12 split the greatness of their designs to two votes.

**Kelly** – Burke is similar, too.

**Kelly** – Provided summary of voting results. The Little Tikes design has nine more components than the Miracle design. With a nine component difference, Little Tikes, the top vote winner, also offered the most play value. When we think of the number of children on the playground, we look at the quantity of play value and whole number of components

**Kelly** - Questions?

o None.

**Kelly** - Color was next thing we asked about during the second community input meeting. The top winners were blues and greens, and then some red. The favorite color options were applied to the Little Tikes equipment for the presentation tonight.

**Lovering** – In terms of color, when we did G.G. Rowell Park, which came back with some very positive strong remarks from the public, the adults really liked the fact that the color scheme appeared somewhat natural with a natural tone. He agrees with them.

**Kelly** – Of the two color scheme options, option one is closer to that. It reflects the nature aspect, and incorporates the people's request for blue.

**Lovering** – What is the equipment in the lower corner near the child in a wheelchair?

**Kelly** – That is a transfer platform, which would allow him to transfer to the equipment and go down the slide.

**Lovering** – Xylophone? Musical equipment? How loud will that be?

**McCarty** – Not very loud.

**Kelly** – 30' is the recommended distance.

**Lovering** – The musical equipment won't blow in the wind? It is secured?

**Kelly** – Yes

**Lovering** – How tall is the tallest point?

**Kelly** – The highest deck is 14 feet tall. The actual roof is higher than that. That section is fully enclosed so there is no chance of falling from that deck. This particular design is a lot of fun for children. Kids sit up at the top and hang out. Kids enjoy being up high.

**Herrara** – How many kids can fit in that section?

**Kelly** – Approximately six. They can also hang out inside the angled piece leading up to that deck.

**Herrara** – This is the design that has monkey bars under the bridge, right?

**Kelly** – Yes

**Herrara** – How high is that?

**Kelly** – They are typically 84" off the ground. Taller than that is more challenging. There is a deck to climb to them.

**Lovering** – The equipment height is good for climbing. The monkey bars are good for upper body strength.

**Tomacic** – What is the height of our current equipment?

**Kelly** – Likely about 8 feet.

**Board** – Much taller.

**Kelly** – It will make a statement.

**Lovering** – Swing element?

**Kelly** – Same spot and same quantity.

**Herrara** – Same swing?

**Kelly** – Belt swings, tot swings, and one ADA swing.

**Oraha** – Do people want more swings?

**Rimdzius** – Yes. There is one more tot swing added in this design.

**Lovering** – Now the challenge. It is hard to ignore the feedback from the community. We're not 100 percent locked into their selection. This isn't my favorite design but it works and it seems clear from the community input, primarily from kids. We can follow this or go against their wishes.

**Oraha** – Are we going to look at design #2?

**Kelly** – Design two kept swings in same area. Pointed out equipment locations.

**Lovering** – Doesn't look as high.

**Oraha** – Which I like.

**Herrara** – We all have our own opinions about what we expected for Proesel Park. It is our main park that we want to showcase. People came in once, twice for a reason to ensure their input was heard. We should honor the majority of the votes for the children and adults. We just confirmed the adult votes were in line with the youth votes.

**Lovering** – Okay, so weigh heavily on that piece

**Tomacic** – We want to pick a wow/modern design with a "wow" factor. A lot of people come from other communities use this park, too.

**Gratch** – Some of those types of components were in the other parks. More free form use equipment.

**Kelly** – Net climbers?

**Gratch** – I see those in all sorts of parks. It feels like we are getting the same equipment on a larger scale of our other parks. I no longer have kids that use the parks. Not sure if those types of structures are used.

**Herrara** – Half domes or full domes made out of rope. Asked Michelle if she has any photos of them.

**Lovering** – We have the vote from the populous, which was pretty strong on number seven. Half of the Board seems in agreement.

**Shaw** – This is not the design I picked, but I would take design number seven.

**Lovering** - What was your first pick?

**Shaw** – Design number nine.

**Lovering** – I chose design number twelve.

**Shaw** – Twelve was my second choice.

**Lovering** – We got very good participation at the community meetings and should listen. There is nothing wrong with the options we have. If I was a child, I would like to play on the Little Tikes equipment to see if it was possible to climb to the top. I'm in agreement on number seven.

**Oraha** – When I was looking at the photos, I liked design number one because it looks more traditional. But looking at it closer, seven is a better choice and there is a lot to do.

**Gratch** – There are more decks in design seven.

**Leberis** – I like the look of design number one, but number seven has more to do.

**Spino** – Based on trying to make a splash – do you like design number seven?

**Gratch** – This looks like an expanded type of equipment we already have.

**Leberis** – Nothing new that has a wow factor.

**Spino** – Would you want more use of the land?

**Gratch** – More types of equipment, different from what we already have.

**Spino** – What you're talking about is of the options that the public had to look at? It's not a matter of more money to expand? It is what the community selected?

**Leberis** Hoping for a wow.

**Tomacic** – Right.

**Lovering** – Is it decision time?

**B. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Proesel Park Playground Equipment**

On motion Tomacic/Oraha recommend approval of a Resolution to purchase playground equipment for the renovation of the Henry A. Proesel Park playground from Parkreation in the amount of \$96,910.36. 7-0, motion passed.

**C. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Donation of Playground Equipment Owned by the Village of Lincolnwood**

**McCarty** – The Village has donated equipment to Kids Around the World during past playground renovations. Donating the equipment saves the Village on the cost of removing the equipment, approximately three to five thousand dollars.

**Lovering** – How long until we take this out until the new equipment is ready?

**McCarty** – The goal is installation by end of April 2019.

**Lovering** – I would like to publicize this. Can we send out a flyer to kids who voted and didn't vote that shares the last day to play on this equipment. Do we know where the equipment will go?

**McCarty** – We don't know where it will go when removed. We find out later.

**Lovering** – We should hold a goodbye party. When will it be removed?

**Rimdzius** – At the beginning of March.

**Lovering** – Not the best weather, but it would be good to have a goodbye party.

On Motion Leberis/Tomacic recommend approval of an Ordinance authorizing the donation of Proesel Park playground equipment. 7-0, motion passed.

**D. 2019 Meeting Dates**

**Lovering** – Does 7 P.M still work for all? No motion needed.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT -**

**Lovering** - The lighting ceremony was well attended.

**McCarty/Spino** – Yes, best attendance for this event.

**Lovering** – One recommendation – shorten the book read by library. People may not have been able to hear it.

**McCarty** – Maybe a poem next year.

**Lovering** – Maybe a little more active, too

**Lovering** – I also noticed the bridge is lit up for Hanukah. It looks great.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS -**

None

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT -**

**McCarty** – I would like to highlight a couple things in the staff report. Kudos to the staff on the first-ever Trunk or Treat event held on Halloween. We had nearly 1000 people. Thanks to Laura Tomacic for volunteering. This was our second largest event after turkey trot.

**Tomacic** – Everyone ran out of candy

**Lovering** – How was the cookie crumble?

**Rimdzius** – Ten people attended and decorated ten cookies each.

**McCarty** – Breakfast with Santa sold out again. Great job to the team. Final new event of the year is Noon Years Eve, which was planned for kids and families who might not be up until midnight. We will do a balloon drop at noon.

**McCarty** – This is the last meeting of 2018. Thank you all for support and have a great Holiday season.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**A. SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION - RIMDZIUS**

Rimdzius - Thank you for support of the Turkey Trot. I look forward to presenting more detail to the Board at a future meeting, likely in February. The Aquatic Center and Camp report are planned for the January Board Meeting.

**B. RECREATION SUPERVISOR - ANTOSZ**

As noted in report

**C. RECREATION SUPERVISOR - LAZZARA**

As noted in report

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Park Board Minutes prepared by: Melissa Rimdzius, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Park and Recreation Board President:

*Arthur Lovering*

Signature

Date