

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PLEASURE DRIVEWAY AND PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS HELD AT 3:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023, AT THE BONNIE NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 W. LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustee and Chair Joyce Harant, Trustee and Vice Chair Reagan Leslie Hill, and Executive Director Emily Cahill

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Trustees Joyce Harant, Reagan Leslie Hill, Steve Montez, Alexander Sierra, Vice President Laurie Covington, and President Robert Johnson

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Emily Cahill (left at 4:30 pm), Brent Wheeler, Becky Fredrickson, Matt Freeman, Mike Friberg, Mary Harden, Jacob Kuban, Kristi Shoemaker, Attorney Bill Streeter (v) (left meeting at 4:00 pm), and Alicia Woodworth
Note: (v) = Attended Virtually

OTHERS PRESENT: Luann Railsback and Corey Gorman from Friends of Donovan Park, and Nathan Comte of Peoria Pedicab LLC

1. CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Joyce Harant called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

3. MOTION TO PERMIT COMMITTEE MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETING ELECTRONICALLY

No request to attend meeting electronically was received.

4. MINUTES

4.A. Approval of May 9, 2023 Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Executive Director Cahill moved to approve the minutes of May 9, 2023.

Motion seconded by Trustee Hill and carried on unanimous voice vote.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.A. Peoria Pedicab Request Discussion

Emily Cahill stated that the Park District received a request from Nathan Comte of Peoria Pedicab LLC to conduct pedicab tours on Grandview Drive. This is a new concept for the Park District and as such, Attorney Streeter is attending today's meeting to offer guidance in the process. Mr. Comte provided a brief overview of the pedicab tours he is requesting to conduct. He stated that he is

the owner of Peoria Pedicab LLC. He is requesting permission to give bicycle pedicab historic tours of Grandview Drive. This is a for-profit venture, and tour tickets would be sold online, in advance (with a maximum of 3 passengers per tour). They would like to begin the tour in front of the Heights Tower, on E Kingman Ave, cross Prospect onto Grandview Dr., follow Grandview Dr. for two miles to Grandview Drive Park, and then return back to Tower Park along the same route, stopping at all of the lookouts along the way to add interesting commentary on the history and legends of Grand View, the Pleasure Driveway and Park District, and Peoria in general. They will not conduct the tour monologue while moving, but will pull over, where it is safe to do so, and face the passengers while talking. Each tour is expected to last approximately 45 minutes, and the plan is to run on the hour every Saturday, weather permitting, April through October. Exact tour schedule will be based on demand and could extend to Sunday, and possibly Friday evening. They would not operate tours on Grandview Drive before sunrise or after sunset. Further, they do not permit alcohol or cigarettes, do not play loud music or create excessive noises, and would not contribute any waste or litter. The pedicab is equipped with a headlight, horn, turn signals, and brake lights.

They are in the process of applying for a pedicab license with the Village of Peoria Heights and would maintain a valid Pedicab Business License with Peoria Heights and follow the pedicab operator's regulations outlined by their ordinances, including the requirement to carry a general liability insurance coverage of \$2,000,000 per incident, \$1,000,000 per person, and \$100,000 in property damage. Their pedicab is significantly more visible than most cyclists or vehicles, and he does not believe they will create any additional hazards to pedestrians or traffic. He does not believe they will do anything that would create any burden for the Park District. He believes this tour could be an asset to the historic preservation and promotion goals of the Park District and could become a unique Peoria activity and experience. He requests nothing beyond the explicit permission to operate his pedicab business on Grandview Drive, in accordance with existing Peoria, Peoria Heights, and Park District ordinances.

Emily Cahill stated that because there is no policy for how this process would work, staff is seeking Board direction stating this is something they want to do. If so, staff would then work with PDRMA and legal counsel to figure out how to make this happen. As such, Emily Cahill asked if this is something that the Board feels helps make Grandview Drive and the community more vibrant. During a full discussion, the Trustees in attendance expressed very positive comments concerning the prospect of pedicab tours on Grandview Drive. As such, Emily

Cahill suggested that staff obtain a copy of Peoria Heights' pedicab ordinance for legal counsel review and applicability or conflicts with Peoria Park District ordinances. Staff will also consult with PDRMA for their analysis on this type of public/private partnership. From there, requirements and next steps and would be determined. The Committee unanimously gave consensus to proceed with obtaining a copy of Peoria Heights' pedicab ordinance for legal and PDRMA review for Park District compatibility and once completed, staff will present to the Board at its next Strategy Ad Hoc Committee for further discussion and review.

5.B. Donovan Park Walking Path

Becky Fredrickson stated that there is potential grant funding for an opportunity to create paved paths in Donovan Park. At this point, staff is only evaluating the opportunity for a paved path around the park to allow more accessibility as well as additional paths that would connect like spokes in a wheel which would connect to the middle. *Please see map Attachment A.* Vice President Covington stated that she feels very strongly against having bicycles inside Donovan Park, due to many obstacles and blind spots for riders.

Trustee Sierra stated that he's happy this is a consideration as one of the focuses in the DEIA Committee is the accessibility to Park District parks and facilities. Per previous conversations, Donovan Park is one of the most inaccessible parks in terms of mobility and believes paths will help with this issue.

Emily Cahill stated that the funding for this is a part of the line item set aside from the State of Illinois, tied to this year's budget. As such, this is not something that will happen until those funds are allocated. It is in the same bucket of funds tied to the Lakeview roller skating loop. Paths at Donovan Park have been an ongoing request for accessibility to different parts of Donovan Park.

Mike Friberg stated that there are accessibility priorities in the addition of paths. One is the connection of Donovan Park to the neighborhoods around it, getting to the public sidewalks, and places where there aren't public sidewalks. Another priority is the need for accessibility to areas near the observatory and fishing pond as there needs to be more accessibility to the southern part of the park.

6. PENDING BUSINESS

6.A. Donovan Master Plan

Trustee Harant stated that the Donovan Master Plan was reviewed and discussed at the last meeting. At this time, it is the goal that consensus be given to submit the finalized Master Plan to the full Board for approval at its next meeting.

Vice President Covington stated that she thought the Donovan Master Plan is very good and appreciates all the time, effort and expertise that went into its development. The Donovan Development Character (DDC) portion mentions noise-mitigation plans be provided for noise-generating events. What would be considered as noise mitigation? Mike Friberg stated that there isn't anything specific, just that noise levels to the surrounding neighborhoods should be a consideration when planning events and programming. Emily Cahill stated that also, the Conduct Ordinance addresses noise level limitations in parks.

Vice President Covington asked in relation to Cyd's in the Park, what does "the District is open to expansion of Cyd's activities" mean? Emily Cahill stated that refers to programming. As part of the operating agreement the District has with Cyd's, one of the future phases was for the District to collaborate with Cyd's relating to programming. At present, the restaurant has been so busy that programming hasn't been a focus yet. That commitment as noted in the operating agreement, is recognized in the Donovan Master Plan.

Through discussion, those in attendance came to unanimous consensus to present the Donovan Master Plan to the full Board for approval at the June 14, 2023 Regular Board meeting.

Trustee Harant stated that the Implementation Guiding Principles were written to categorize parks for the type of development and activity for each category. Currently, Donovan Park is categorized as special use. The special use category has a wide spectrum however, with Donovan Park still undergoing change and will be for some time, the Master Plan was created for this park only so that its current use can be better categorized and defined. Emily Cahill stated that the Implementation Guiding Principles gives the District a framework that allows staff to evaluate development and evolution in a consistent process.

6.B. Urban Forestry – Natural Urban Development

Trustee Sierra stated that he just submitted his draft of the proposal to Trustee Harant. He stated he would have the opportunity to participate in the discussion of urban forestry if the proposal were to expound outside of the 61605 area. Trustee Sierra stated that he would like to offline a discussion with Trustee

Harant, Vice President Covington and possibly Executive Director Cahill concerning next steps.

6.C. Morton Square and Logan Parks Updates

Becky Fredrickson stated that the playground and two shelters have been ordered and staff is currently working on the site plans and bid documents.

6.D. African American Hall of Fame Discussions

Trustee Harant stated that she and Emily Cahill are meeting tomorrow with the AAHF Board to discuss the possibility of their relocating from Proctor Rec Center to the Noble Center.

6.E. CO2 Pipeline Public Comment Outreach Status

Emily Cahill stated that representatives from Wolf Carbon Solutions and ADM were invited to and confirmed their attendance at the 6.14.23 Regular Board meeting to give a presentation and answer any questions. The Sierra Club will be invited to present their information and answer questions as well and the public is encouraged to attend this meeting.

6.F. Springdale Savanna Contract

Becky Fredrickson stated that the contract is still with the City of Peoria. Emily Cahill once again emailed all those involved asking for a status update. An update will be provided once that information is received.

6.G. Green Bank and EV Charging Stations Application

Becky Fredrickson stated that the application was submitted. This would allow the District to possibly install several different-level charging stations throughout the District. The locations include Bradley Park, Glen Oak Park, Lakeview Park, Luthy Botanical, and RiverPlex.

6.H. Donovan Sculpture Garden

Matt Freeman stated that the Sculpture Garden committee had spoken with the artists and they all extended the term for one more year.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

8. ACTION STEPS REVIEW

None noted at this time.

9. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:08 pm, Trustee Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Trustee Harant and carried on unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth
Executive Assistant and Secretary to the Board








DONOVAN PARK

2023 Master Plan Update

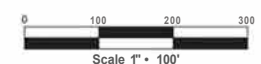


The Pleasure Driveway and Park District
of Peoria Illinois

LEGEND

-  Cross Country Course
-  Paved Bike Trail
-  Management Zone
-  Sculpture Location
-  Proposed Paved Loop
-  Proposed Paved Spoke Path
-  Proposed Mowed Path

Management zones shown are managed for native vegetation and habitat and are typically not mowed but may have mowed paths. Mowed path locations are not shown and may vary seasonally. Public restrooms are available at Cyd's in the Park.



DRAFT

6/6/2023

