The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. and roll was called.

Committee Members present:  Staff present:
Andre Lerman, Chair/Commissioner  Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director/Secretary
Lisa Brooks, Treasurer  Carol Mensinger, Director of Finance/HR
Steve Gaines, President  Chris Leiner, Director of Parks/Maintenance
Commissioners present:   Mike Lushniak, Director of Recreation/Facilities
Seth Palatnik, Commissioner  Erin Maassen, Manager of Marketing/Comm.

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke:  Stefanie Boron,
Alexandra Greenwald, Josh Lutton

Discussion on West Playground:  Executive Director Sheppard led the discussion with an update since the last Committee meeting. Display boards of West Park Designs were shared with West School. The School Board, PTO, students, and staff feedback was positive. The designs have been added to a new special projects page on the District’s website. Letters were hand-delivered to all neighbors, with one call back voicing concern about noise and parking.

Approval of the designs (at a Regular Board meeting) would include the concept of the 5-12 play structure and the discovery area. The tree theatre is not in the scope of the District's budget and would need to be funded by donation, school, or PTO. It will be an add alternate in the bid. Drainage and field use were reviewed. Discussion ensued.

Committee Chair Recommendation: Chair Lerman directed staff, based on discussion of the committee, to advance West Park Playground design concepts for approval at the February Regular Board Meeting as presented.

Discussion on Astor Place Playground: Executive Director Sheppard indicated that President Gaines, Director Leiner, and she met with a neighbor of the park. The neighbor asked if the Park District would consider flipping the playground and swing set back to the original location and setting the footprint closer to the road. The neighbor’s current view is not obstructed and by making these few changes, it would remain so. For playground safety, a split rail fence and low bushes along the boundaries of the park was discussed. Executive Sheppard showed a new design for the sand box and the Board like the sand box concept. The committee stated that they preferred option 2 of the play structure as well as supporting the idea of reversing the orientation of the play equipment if the architects can make it work. Discussion ensued.
Committee Chair Recommendation: Chair Lerman directed staff, based on discussion of the committee, to advance the proposed Astor Park Playground design concept option 2 for approval at the February Regular Board Meeting as presented with the addition of the wishbone sandbox concept.

Matters from the Public: There was no one in attendance wishing to address the Board.

Discussion on Proposed Fitness Area (Location, Equipment, and Facility Improvements): Executive Director Sheppard led the discussion with background on the need for a fitness area. One of the top needs during the Master Plan survey was a fitness area. Location, relocation of programs, visits to other park district fitness areas, scope of construction, locker rooms, and equipment were reviewed. The fitness area would be targeted to open in November with a soft opening in October.

Mike Munson from Direct Fitness and Debby Jones from Life Fitness gave presentations including equipment information, buying versus leasing, lifespan, and room layout.

Director Leiner sent out RFP’s for an architect specializing in small scale fitness areas. Staff recommended the District select Wight and Company for design services for the fitness area, locker rooms, and lowering the front desk.

Committee Chair Recommendation: Chair Lerman directed staff, based on discussion of the Committee, for staff to advance Precor fitness equipment for future approval at a Regular Board Meeting.

Committee Chair Recommendation: Chair Lerman directed staff, based on discussion of the Committee, to advance for approval, the Professional Services of Wight and Company with Bob Ijams as our contact person, for designs services for approval at the February Regular Board Meeting.

Budget and Capital Projects Fund 69 was discussed in regards to adding funds for a revitalization and ADA upgrades of the current shower and addition of a second shower room. Estimated costs for all options was reviewed. The Board discussed doing the designs of the current and second shower to get an idea of the expense. In addition, they would add money in the budget as a placeholder should the Board want to add a second shower room. The committee agreed the revitalization and ADA upgrades were a good idea for the current shower area. Discussion ensued.

Matters from the Public: Stefanie Boron and Josh Lutton shared their thoughts on fitness area bathrooms and showers.

Committee Chair Recommendation: Chair Lerman directed staff, based on the discussion of the Committee, to increase the fitness area construction/equipment FY2017/18 approval budget from $310,000 to $460,000 with final approval of expenditures by the Board once bids are submitted.
**Other Business:** Director Leiner reported that there is damage to the playground caused by the decay of wood at Vernon and Jefferson. This resulted in fencing off the playground until further evaluation by PDRMA this week. Director Leiner will know more about the status of this playground by next week’s Board meeting.

Stefanie Boron commented on the fun features of the playground and is pleased the District is adding the sand feature.

Josh Lutton commented that Everyly Wildflower Sanctuary needs a layer of wood chips. Director Leiner stated that is slated for spring.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Lerman moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary