

**MINUTES OF A THE MASTER PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF HIGHLAND PARK
HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2025, 5:04 PM.**

Present: Commissioner Labrador, Commissioner Grossberg, Vice President Freeman,

Absent: None

Also, Present: Executive Director Romes; Deputy Director Carr, Director Peters, Director Smith, Director Voss, Director Gogola, Director Baird, Assistant Director Acevedo, Assistant Director Soto, Manager Schwartz; Coordinator Hejnowski

Guest Speaker: The Lakota Group: Kevin Clark, Siraj Asfahani and Scott Freres,
BerryDunn: Dannielle Wilson
aQuity Research and Insights, Inc: Jeff Andreasen

Vice President Freeman left the meeting at 5:54pm.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Master Plan Update

Mr. Freres President and Co-Founder of the Lakota Group reviewed his teams' roles and responsibilities, the project methodology and scope of services, and project deliverables.

Mr. Asfahani, Vice President of the Lakota Group, reviewed the community engagement timeline and sequencing of outreach efforts.

Mr. Andreasen, President of aQuity Research and Insights, Inc, reviewed the target audiences and the survey results timeline.

Several questions were asked from the Lakota Group to understand Park District staff and Park Board liaisons' thoughts on community needs today. Staff and Park Board liaison's also shared success stories from the GreenPrint 2024 Master Plan.

The Lakota Group asked Park District staff and the Park Board liaison's to think about the future and share what facilities, programming, operations and staffing, and financial capacities look like. Are community needs being met, what facilities are underutilized or overlooked, what demographic shifts or community interests should be considered, are there partnership opportunities with local organizations, are there staffing challenges or opportunities for development, how will long-term financial projections impact operations, and are there grant opportunities or alternative funding sources available that have not been explored. Lastly, the Lakota Group asked Park District staff and the Park Board liaison's to share their priorities and aspirational goals.

Other Business

None.

Open to the Public to Address the Board

None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Grossberg and seconded by Commissioner Labrador and approved by a unanimous vote. The Master Planning Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roxanne Hejnowski".

Roxanne Hejnowski, Assistant Secretary