

Observer Report

Human Services Committee

12/5/11

Observer: Ruth Belzer

Alderman Present; Grover, Tendam, Fiske, Holmes, Braithwaite

Staff Present: Chief of Police, Gaynor, Park and Recreation Board, Pat Vance, ED Evanston Township

Media Present: Evanston Now, RoundTable, Evanston Review

Meeting Began: 8:13 pm **Meeting Ended:** 9:10 pm

No. of Citizens Present: 1

Significant Discussions, Actions Taken:

After presentation by Park and Recreation Board Representative on an ordinance enacting a new subsection to the City Code which addresses replacement or lease of city owned park land , and discussion about the merits of the new subsection, the Committee voted to ask for a resolution on this issue rather than an ordinance. The concern was that an ordinance might allow future Councils to consider only size of new property but not its value to the city. Park and Recreation Board representative agreed to take this request back to the Board for rewording as a resolution.

The Township monthly bills were approved as was the Township Audit after a presentation by the auditing firm.

The Police Complaints report was heard and accepted with only one minor question.

The report from Northwestern on Drug and Alcohol Enforcement and off-Campus Policing was discussed by Chief Eddington. He reported that the numbers in the report are accurate and that he is able to show how the numbers were developed. He and the Northwestern Chief of Police work closely on this issue which is of concern to the City and the University.

Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services discussed his memo to the Committee which suggests defining events at the lake front as either high or low impact. He is suggesting that low impact events would not require “special event” approval, opening up the possibility that many more events of short duration, fewer attendees and less auditory problems could utilize the lake front. Committee was pleased with this new approach, but recognized the need for more specific criteria for the two categories. One citizen spoke also asking for clarification of the categories. Alderman Fiske asked that no action be taken at this time. Her ward is meeting on December 6 and she would like add the response of her ward to the discussion. It was agreed to do so.