



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Monday, June 26, 2023

7:00 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Vicki Scaman called the Special Meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Trustee Straw and Village Clerk Christina Waters joined the Meeting via video conference per Village policy for remote participation.

Present: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 0

III. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Buchanan, to Approve the Agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

IV. Non-Agenda Public Comment

There was no non-agenda public comment.

V. Proclamation

There was no Proclamation.

VI. Village Manager Reports

There were no Village Manager reports.

VII. Village Board Committees

There were no comments.

VIII. Citizen Commission Vacancies

There were no comments.

IX. Citizen Commission Appointments, Reappointments and Chair Appointments

There were no appointments.

X. Regular Agenda

A. [ID 23-317](#) Cultural Competency Training Part 1

Village Manager Kevin Jackson introduced the Item.

Chief DEI Officer Dr. Danielle Walker presented Part 1 of the Cultural Competency Training.

Trustee Robinson said she would like to learn more about building together as a community.

Trustee Parakkat said he would like to learn more about the timeline and the right balance between looking back and looking forward. Progress has to be the fundamental thing and setting artificial tests in the community sets barriers.

Trustee Straw acknowledged that where we are is not perfect and where we are going is to be better from here and how do we achieve that in our community.

President Scaman said she would like to continue using the listening to learn approach.

B. [ID 23-311](#) A Presentation on the Role and Vision for the Village of Oak Park's Public Health Department

Manager Jackson introduced the Item and Health Director Dr. Theresa Chapple.

Dr. Chapple presented the Item.

President Scaman noted that in the budget comparison provided, Oak Park Township provides public health services to the community and has a budget that is separate from the Village.

Trustee Robinson inquired about the size threshold for health departments. Dr. Chapple responded that small serves up to 50,000 people, medium serves 50,000 to 1 million, and large serves 1 million plus.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about the YMCA's chronic conditions program. Dr. Chapple confirmed that program is addressing people with hypertension, diabetes, and obesity but they are not doing prevention.

Trustee Buchanan inquired about the overlap with the county. Dr. Chapple responded that there are opportunities for collaboration and coordination

and gave examples of the coordinated efforts around monkey pox and infant mortality. The Village is eligible to receive services from the county even though it has its own health department. In the example of an elevated lead case, the state would handle it because the county only covers unincorporated municipalities.

Trustee Robinson inquired about residency data for immunizations. Dr. Chapple said the Oak Park Health Department (OPHD) now has the capability to track that data going forward. Trustee Robinson asked if OPHD is attempting to restore previous partnerships. Dr. Chapple said there are efforts to restore relationships, including the Collaboration for Early Childhood (CEC), and to determine what new programs can be created based on the current need. CEC should be included in the list of partners.

Trustee Parakkat requested the total cost of health in the community and the cost for residents. Dr. Chapple said that type of analysis would need to be done by a research center. President Scaman said the Community Mental Health Board may be able to provide some assistance. Dr. Chapple clarified that the overlap is at the federal, state, and local level, not at the county level. Trustee Parakkat asked if residents are funding county programs and if instead the county could be paid only for services rendered. Manager Jackson said the county provides services to areas that are unincorporated and do not have a health department. Dr. Chapple gave an example of a recent small oil spill which the county determined was too small for them to respond to. Trustee Parakkat requested more clarity around the community partnerships for future discussions.

Dr. Chapple said the emergency preparedness coordinator is a mandatory and full-time position that is currently vacant. In addition to preparing for emergency, they do trainings, create plans, and coordinate with hospitals, schools, and other municipalities. OPHD's public health nurse and COVID-19 testing coordinator are taking some of the responsibilities until the position is filled. Trustee Parakkat suggested a shared services model for emergency preparedness. Dr. Chapple said the local health departments are discussing that possibility.

President Scaman asked when the most recent training was done. Nurse Monty said OPHD works with Rush Oak Hospital and West Suburban Hospital and the most recent training was in April.

Trustee Robinson asked if the OPHD grants coordinator position is different than the one that was funded a couple meetings ago. Manager Jackson confirmed that it is a different position that is specific for the service delivery of OPHD. Trustee Robinson inquired what portion of

OPHD's budget is grant-funded. Dr. Chapple responded that in FY23, OPHD's total budget is \$2.5M, of which \$1.2M is from the general fund and ARPA funds and \$1.3M is grant-funded.

Trustee Wesley asked if the mandatory emergency preparedness coordinator is grant-funded. Dr. Chapple responded that the salary is covered by grants but the Village covers the cost of benefits. She said it has been a challenging position to fill during a state of emergency.

Trustee Straw noted that a lot of the work of OPHD goes unseen by the community. He inquired about the role of OPHD in the community education portion of the Vision Zero plan. Dr. Chapple responded that OPHD has a main seat at the table and is looking at the Vision Zero plan from a health lens. Trustee Straw asked the same question about community safety. Dr. Chapple responded that OPHD listed proposed activities it can take the lead on, including safe storage and looking at gun violence as a public health issue holistically.

Trustee Straw asked for a distinction between clinical and public health. Dr. Chapple said the community health needs assessment addressed all of the needs of the community. OPHD looks at all of them together and tries to find ways that the community as a whole can address them, not just OPHD. OPHD wants to focus on the ones that can be addressed from a systems level change. Trustee Straw said he understands that some services cannot be provided by the county so if OPHD does not provide them, the community will not receive them.

Trustee Wesley requested to see a crawl, walk, run implementation with associated costs. He wondered if it would be possible to shift the youth tobacco program to the Township to use our capacity for other services with more value. Dr. Chapple responded that OPHD's tobacco work is funded through the state and is done in conjunction with the Township and is not duplicative. OPHD has a plan for the duration of the IPLAN and always begins by determining if there is a grant to support the work.

Trustee Robinson asked if OPHD has allocated all of the escrowed ARPA funding. Dr. Chapple said some pieces for COVID-19 testing will not be used. The \$110K will be fully used for the nurses.

Trustee Parakkat asked if it is typical for a grant writer to be responsible for \$1.2M in grants. Dr. Chapple responded that OPHD identifies a service it wants to provide and searches for all grants to help provide that service. OPHD will only request general fund dollars that is not available by grants. Manager Jackson added that the position manages the grants in addition to doing prospecting.

Trustee Wesley wondered if additional grants could be obtained if OPHD had more capacity. Dr. Chapple said that the young team will gain more efficiency and be able to go after more grants.

XI. Adjourn

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Straw, to Adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 10:23 P.M., Monday, June 26, 2023.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deputy Clerk Hansen**