



CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1150 HALF DAY ROAD
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035
847.432.0867 · Fax 847.432.0964

Date: April 5, 2011

To: Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commissioners

From: Barbara E. Cates, Planner (847-926-1611)

Re: *Upcoming Meeting, Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.*

Just a few reminders for the next Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commission Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner:

We will meet for dinner at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. If you have any dietary restrictions or preferences please let me know.

Agenda:

The agenda for the upcoming meeting is attached.

Minutes:

The minutes from the October 12, 2010 meeting are included for your review. If you have any corrections or amendments of content, please make note of them during the public meeting.

If you are unable to attend this meeting please contact me at 847-926-1611.
If you know you'll be out of town for future meetings, please let me know as soon as possible.
Please be advised that 3 absences in a row or 50% absenteeism will result in removal from the Commission.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2011

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

In accord with the Statutes of the State of Illinois and the Ordinances of the City of Highland Park, a meeting of the Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commission of the City of Highland Park is scheduled to be held at the hour of 6:30 P.M., on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 in the Highland Park City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois, during which meeting it is anticipated that there will be a discussion of the following agenda:

City of Highland Park
Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commission
Tuesday, April 12, 2011
City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue
6:30 P.M.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes: October 12, 2010
- IV. Scheduled Business
 - A. Business from the Public
 - B. Committee Reports
 1. Ravinia Festival
 2. Transit
 3. Public Safety
 - a) 2011 Ravinia Festival Operational Plan
 - b) Crowd Control Update
 - c) Police Protection Update
 4. Parking Issues
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Posted at City Hall before 5:00 p.m on April 5, 2011

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
RAVINIA FESTIVAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS**

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 12, 2010

MEETING LOCATION: Pre-Session Room, City Hall 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, IL

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:30 p.m. the Chairman called the meeting to order and asked the Staff Liaison to call the roll.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Cohn, Kahnweiler-Levenson, Romo, Borden, Sanders and Schmitz

Members Absent: Froy and Silberman

The Staff Liaison declared that a quorum was present.

Staff Present: Sergeant Chris O'Neill, Ravinia Supervisor Erwin Post and Staff Liaison Barbara Cates

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of the Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commission – April 13, 2010

Commissioner Borden moved approval of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Ravinia Festival Community Relations Commission held on April 13, 2010. Commissioner Romo seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the Chairman declared that the motion passed unanimously.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

A. BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

Eve Tarm of 654 Burton Avenue discussed her concerns regarding PACE bus idling practices, speeding on side streets and Ravinia Festival ticket pricing. Don Miller of 281 Woodland Road echoed concerns over bus idling practices, particularly near the bus pickup/drop-off point near Green Bay Trail.

Environmental Commissioner Jerry Drapekin discussed the City's idling restrictions. Sergeant O'Neill reported that staged buses are subject to a no-idling policy. Ravinia Supervisor Post discussed the City's efforts to limit bus emissions, including the practice of

using biodiesel. Chairman Cohn suggested that the bus idling policy should be reviewed with drivers at the beginning of the 2011 season. Staff Liaison Cates stated that the concerns would be shared with Transit Department and Public Works Department staff.

Commissioner Sanders discussed efforts made by Ravinia Festival to provide affordable tickets, such as the "Grass Pass". Commissioner Borden observed that the Season Preview event had been successful in attracting Ravinia neighbors.

Helene and Al Levi of 781 Judson Avenue thanked the Commission and City staff for the placement of effective signage near Judson Avenue.

Ken Goldstein of 559 Braeside Road voiced concerns with parking, garbage and lighting in his neighborhood. Sergeant O'Neill and Commissioner Schmitz outlined their respective responsibilities and noted that the issues would be addressed to the best of their abilities. Sergeant O'Neill encouraged Mr. Goldstein to contact the City in the future if he witnesses a particular action that needs immediate attention.

Commissioner Romo reported the installation of a new streetlight near the corner of Lambert Tree Road and St. John's Avenue that appears to have improved safety near the curve. Sergeant O'Neill noted that the hedges had also been trimmed in the immediate area. Commissioner Kahweiler-Levenson noted that other areas were in need of better lighting. Commissioners Sanders and Schmitz discussed opportunities for improved lighting.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Ravinia Festival

Commissioner Sanders reported an update on this Item. Ravinia Festival had a very strong season, owed in part to the weather. The 2011 Chicago Symphony Orchestra series has been announced, and Ravinia staff is in the process of scheduling the rest of the 2011 season. Sanders gave a status report on the construction of the pedestrian underpass beneath the Metra railroad tracks and noted that the project is on schedule.

2. Transit

Ravinia Supervisor Post reported an update on this Item. Post noted that it had been a successful season, with nearly 300,000 passengers taking advantage of the bus service.

3. Public Safety- Traffic Control, Crowd Control, Police Protection and Parking Updates

Sergeant O'Neill reported an update on this Item. O'Neill described the training and operating process which enabled the details to successfully fine-tune traffic and crowd control measures for each event. O'Neill noted that the arrest rates dropped, which evidenced patrons' increased compliance with the regulations and the cooperation between City and Ravinia staff.

Chairman Cohn observed that it was one of the most well managed seasons that he has witnessed, which indicates that the minor changes to operations have been successful.

Sandy and Glenda Mason of 140 Deere Park Court agreed that the traffic and crowd management has improved as a result of the Police Department's efforts.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Cohn noted that the Commission is asked to consider a draft Resolution setting the 2011 Commission meeting dates.

Commissioner Romo moved to approve the draft Resolution setting the 2011 Commission meeting dates on April 12 and October 11, 2011. Commissioner Borden seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the Chairman declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Romo moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kahnweiler-Levenson seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the Chairman declared that the motion passed unanimously.

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara E. Cates
City Staff Interim-Liaison to the Commission

THE FOLLOWING IS TO BE COMPLETED AFTER THE MINUTES ARE APPROVED:

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE RAVINIA FESTIVAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
ON _____

- WITH NO CORRECTIONS _____
- WITH CORRECTIONS _____
(SEE MINUTES OF [*date*] MEETING FOR CORRECTIONS)