Chicago Chopin Foundation (CCF)

2026 Annual CCF Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 24, 2026, 10:30 AM
Held at 6740 W Belmont , Chicago, IL

Directors present (all directors are present):

- Andrew Pawlowski
- Elzbieta (Elizabeth) Stosek
- Anna Krzyzanowska

Officers present:

- President: Wojtek Putz

Invited Guests present:

- Alexander Danel
- Phillip Kochanoski
- Mariola Urbanek

Guests invited but not present:

- Ela Klecinger
- Zenon Kurdziel

Meeting Opening

By acclamation, the directors chose Andrew Pawlowski to chair the meeting. Agreement that meeting should be orderly and follow Roberts Rules as practical.

1. Exhibits Distributed

Alexander presented exhibits on topics that might be of interest during the meeting. Mostly these exhibits concerned (a) the mission of the organization, and (b) the agreement between Chicago Park District and CCF.

2. Financial Report and Treasurer Access · Finances

Main Concern: Financial records were incomplete and lacked detail.
Decision for Now: The treasurer, Ela, was approved as a signatory on both bank accounts before the next meeting.
Follow-Up:

- Wojtek and Ela to arrange Ela's signatory access to both accounts.
- Ela to obtain bank records
- Ela to prepare a more standard style of financial report.

3. Staffing: Election of Officers, etc

The Board made the following appointments, all by unanimous vote:

- Wojtek Putz reelected as president
- Elizabeth (Ela) Stosek confirmed as treasurer
- Alexander Danel elected secretary
- Mariola Urbanek elected vice president
- Alexander Danel approved as registered agent

4. Status of Project

Main Concern: Uncertainty remains about prior park district approvals and the project's current status.

What Was Discussed:

Review of exhibits concerning the agreement with Park District. The exhibits did not include anything like a contract. Alexander noted that Chopin Garden is not mentioned in the "Grant Park Framework Plan", and that Andrew Schneider indicated a lack of interaction. Woytek stated he has further documents that form a commitment by Park District.

Follow-up: Wojtek to produce the documents he mentioned.

5. Future of Project

Options for future direction include

- revamp the project plan,
- continue with earlier plans,
- limit activity to Constitution Day concerts, or
- end the project.

Possibly revamp design to not use the Warsaw Łazienki monument.

The three Directors, plus Mariola, expressed support for a complete redesign.

Need to communicate with Park District.

Need to determine whether Chopin Institute will renew its interest in the project.

Follow-Up: This item was not fully resolved during the Oct 24 2026 meeting and is expected to continue at the next meeting.

6. Mission Statement and Website

What Was Discussed:

Need clearer language for foundation's purpose

Locate earlier mission statements and historical records

Website presentation to support external communication

Follow-Up: Continue preparing the website for review.

7. Postponed Topics and Next Meeting Date

Agenda items postponed until next meeting:

- Park District liaison committee
- Executive search committee

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday November 17, 2026, at 9:30pm at same location.

Summary of "To Do" Tasks:

Find historical approvals and earlier mission wording (Wojtek)
Obtain bank records and prepare clearer financial report (Ela, Wojtek, others)
Prepare list of potential funding organizations
Circulate agenda and materials before next meeting

Phillip KOCHANSKI

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Alexander Danel – Secretary