

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS
HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
536 EAST AVENUE, LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS**

MARCH 12, 2012

President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Lacey, Kelpsas, Ashby*

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher, Director of B.A.S.E. Leanna Hartung, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Dave Wilkinson, Jim Boo, IPRA Executive Director Jan Arnold, Charles and Peggy Gilbert, Jeffrey Braun of Cody Braun & Assoc.

*Commissioner Ashby joined remotely by telephone at 8:16 P.M.

President Penicook welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for changes to the agenda.

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to include Commissioner Ashby remotely by telephone when he calls in around 8:00 P.M. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

President Penicook memorialized the passing of our Board Treasurer Steve Paczolt. He served and volunteered 20 years at the Park District as a Board Member for 12 years and the Board Treasurer for 8 years. He will be missed. President Penicook also informed the Board about the passing of Bill Purcell who served on the School District 204 Board. She stated these men were great volunteers who she knew personally and had high regard for.

Director Bissias stated he would move up Miscellaneous Items under Staff Reports.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments\Participation (Board Manual Section #152)

Jim Boo, 1327 Mason La Grange, appreciated this month's electronic Board Packet on the website. He appreciated Director Bissias' email response regarding the basketball courts at Denning Park. He voiced his disappointment with the back to back placement of the basketball hoops. He also expressed his concern about the tree removal plan at Denning Park.

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, stated the Park District was moving in a good direction and more visible to the public with the Board packet online. He brought up the parking problem at Waiola Park now that Little League is using it again. He asked for stewardship of the Park District to take care of Waiola Park. He asked for shrubs to hide the tank barricades, and grass repair.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 13, 2012; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Report dated February 29, 2012; Item 3.3 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for March dated March 12, 2012; Item 3.4 Approval of the Minutes from the February 21, 2012 Recreation Committee Meeting. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Lacey, Kelsas
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

Staff Reports

Miscellaneous Items

Director Bissias introduced IPRA Executive Director Jan Arnold to answer questions concerning several situations the Park District has endured here with a union based organization. Jan Arnold explained this union is petitioning for the contract of the Hyatt employees, housekeepers, and bellboys and asked IPRA not to hold their conference at the Hyatt. IPRA is under contract with the Hyatt until 2016. Director Bissias informed the Board these individuals were passing out pamphlets outside our doors and requested a FOIA for conferences. Jan Arnold stated she appreciated our tolerance and would keep the Park District informed on this matter. She also thanked the Park District for housing their offices here since October.

Denning Park Grant Renovation Project Update

Jeffrey Braun of Cody, Braun & Associates stated all the lights in Denning Park are up except for one. The weather needs to be warmer to complete the grading, seeding, soft surface play area, and marking of the basketball court. Jeffrey Braun presented prices for sod in some areas per President Penicook's request. Area 1 around the play area is \$8,208. Area 2 around the basketball court is \$5,203. After Board feedback, the Board consensus was against spending extra money for sod.

Draft-Scaled Down Version of Gordon Park Plan #2

Director Bissias stated before he asked OSLAD for an extension for the grant for Gordon Park, a doable plan must be in place that the Park District can live with and pay for. Jeffrey Braun stated W.B. Olson Company developed a current construction estimate of 1.6 million for the scaled down plan. They did this as a favor since they had all the information already. Jeffrey Braun reviewed the revised plan with the grant items and noted the additional prices for the extras not in the grant. This revised master plan calls for the drainage to flow to the center of the park which would drain out after a few hours. He met with the village and they supported this plan however they warned us of code changes in the next few years by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). They advised the Park District to complete this plan before the codes become more stringent. Commissioner Kelsas would like to keep 2 of the tennis courts. Jeffrey Braun stated keeping 2 tennis courts would be feasible but would be revisited later when the 2.282 acres were sold. Commissioner Walsh suggested reminding residents online of the desired amenities for Gordon Park, what the grant was for, and the steps leading to this end. President Penicook reminded the Board if the grant is not followed through, we would lose out on grants in the future. She hoped we could make this work.

Miscellaneous Items

Director Bissias stated Little League will begin using Waiola Park this spring. He will speak with Little League President Red Weller, to discuss the parking problems. The Board questioned the end of Little League's temporary use of Waiola Park. Director Bissias stated he would check past minutes on the conditions for the use of the park and the necessity of a vote. He stated the temporary use of Waiola Park began with the Gordon Park renovation.

Action Item

President Penicook asked the Board to move up Item 7.2 as Commissioner Ashby had to leave. The Board agreed.

First Reading of the General Operations Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Commissioner Ashby stated he is out of town on business and does not have access to the budget document. He would be able to answer any questions the Board would have. He presented the operating budget for May 1, 2012 through

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April 30, 2013. He stated it is a balanced budget with a positive cash flow and is funded back into the capital projects fund. The biggest difference was the additional expenses and revenues from the B.A.S.E. program. Commissioner Kelsas stated the Board received the budget today and after review all questions should be directed to Director Bissias. The budget will be addressed at the April 2, 2012 meeting with a vote on April 16, 2012. Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve the first reading of the General Operations Budget for fiscal year 2012-2013. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Ashby, Kelsas, Lacey, Walsh
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Commissioner Ashby exited the meeting.

Staff Reports Cont'd

Staff Comments

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher reminded the Board of the Easter Egg Hunt at Sedgwick Park on March 31, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. President Penicook complimented the flyers that Intern Ross Houston created.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated staff is busy with rentals inside and out.

Attorney Report

None

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items Cont'd

Resolution 12-01 Authorizing an Exception to the Park District of La Grange Code of Ordinances Regarding the Possession, Consumption and Sale of Alcohol(CEP Open House)

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve as amended Resolution 12-01 authorizing an exception to the Park District of La Grange Code of Ordinances regarding the possession, consumption and sale of alcohol for the CEP Open House in the facility at 4903 S. Gilbert Ave. La Grange, Illinois. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Kelpsas, Lacey
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

Board Business

New Business

Review of PDLG Mission Statement

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve as amended the Mission Statement for 2012-2013 as follows: “Our mission is to provide quality recreation programs, facilities, and parks that enhance the health, happiness, and quality of life of park district residents and program participants.” Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Kelpsas, Walsh, Lacey
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

Review of PDLG Goals

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve the Park District of La Grange Goals for 2012-2013. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Kelpsas, Walsh, Lacey
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

Discussion and Possible Appointment of Treasurer

Director Bissias explained there is currently only one signature on all the bank accounts due to Treasurer Paczolt’s passing. He does not feel comfortable with one name. Attorney Rob Bush stated this is a short term problem as elections are in July. It is the Board’s decision to decide when and who to fill this vacancy. President Penicook suggested former Commissioner Robert Metzger to fill the vacancy. She stated he is familiar with the Park District business and it would be a smooth transition. After discussion, Commissioner Walsh motioned to elect Robert Metzger to fill the treasurer vacancy. Commissioner Kelpsas seconded the motion, which passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Penicook, Kelpsas, Walsh
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Lacey

Old Business

None

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

None

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

None

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Lacey stated her committee will be meeting Tuesday April 24, 2012. She asked the Board to read the Recreation Committee Minutes included in this Board Packet.

Public Comment

Jim Boo, 1327 Mason Drive La Grange, suggested foregoing the grant money for Gordon Park as the state is struggling to pay bills and we may not get paid. He also suggested checking the amount of drainage at Gordon Park now that the YMCA is gone.

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, stated the Public Relations Committee recommended sending the operating budget to the publications. He also suggested an announcement be drafted regarding the appointment of the temporary Treasurer. He also requested acronyms be spelled out in the Board minutes.

Director Bissias stated the operating budget has never been sent to publications however we would send them a link to our website.

Board Comments

Commissioner Walsh agreed with President Penicook about her comments about Steve Paczolt. He stated that he had a positive impression of Steve because he put the interest of the Park District and the residents first and foremost.

Commissioner Lacey stated she appreciated the short time she knew Treasurer Paczolt. She asked about internet service at the Community Center. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert from Sign of the Cross were in attendance to speak about this but Commissioner Lacey brought up the topic for them.

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Commissioner Kelsas stated he was in favor of internet service at the Community Center and asked the Gilberts to attend the April 2, 2012 meeting to voice their comments. He thanked Director Bissias and staff for the nice Banquet Room decorating and for putting the Board packet online. He thanked President Penicook, Director Bissias and Staff for the nice job on the Gordon Park plans. Commissioner Kelsas stated if the Park District does not want AYSO to store their soccer nets in the parks then we must tell them. Their nets are required to be numbered and marked for ownership. He asked if there was room in our budget for shrubbery near the tank barricades in Waiola Park as we plant them in other parks to hide the barricades.

President Penicook thanked Director Bissias and Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej for their hard work on the budget. She looks forward to reading it.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 9:16 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelsas and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.



Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 04/16/2012