

**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**

JANUARY 20, 2011

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

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of
Finance Leynette Kuniej, Superintendent of Recreation
Laura Gallagher, Assistant Superintendent of
Recreation Chris Finn, Recording Secretary Ginger
Zeman, Recreation Supervisor Kevin Miller, Customer
Service Supervisor Linda Muth, Facility Reservations
Secretary Katie Walsh

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Thom Rae of La Grange Today, Alex
Keown from Patch.com, Jane Michaels from the Doings,
Lynn Lacey

* Commissioner Kelpsas attended remotely by telephone

** Commissioner Ashby arrived at 7:36 P.M.

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

Commissioner Walsh motioned for Commissioner Kelpsas to participate remotely by telephone. Commissioner Belcaster seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

President Penicook stated Item 2.2 Presentation of Appreciation Award to Former Commissioner Robert Metzger would be rescheduled for another meeting.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/ Participation

Thom Rae of lagrangetoday.com, stated the FOIA requests were not up to date. Director Bissias stated he would check and correct them.

Thom Rae also stated under Executive Session Item 11.2 Acquisition, Lease and/or Disposition of Real Property, the wording should be separated into different items as not to raise a question for the reason going into Executive Session. Attorney Bush stated it was not legally necessary to change.

Monthly FOIA Summary

President Penicook stated the FOIA's would be discussed quarterly from now on instead of monthly.

Detailed information regarding the FOIA summary can be viewed in the Board Packet.

Commissioner Ashby arrived at 7:36 P.M.

Consent Agenda

President Penicook stated Item 3.2 Minutes of the Executive Board Session of December 16, 2010 of the Consent Agenda should be pulled and corrected.

Commissioner Belcaster motioned to approve as amended Item 3.1 Approval of the Regular Board Meeting of December 16, 2010; Item 3.3 Approval of the Financial Report dated December 31, 2010; Item 3.4 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for January dated January 16, 2011. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Belcaster, Kelpsas, Ashby
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Staff Reports

Director Bissias stated a questionnaire would be sent to District 102 regarding the Base program. He would have the information in March.

Director Bissias stated Family Fest is slated for Friday July 29, 2011 with the alternate date of July 22, 2011.

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej stated in addition to her Board report, the Park District has exceeded its budget already for the fiscal year. The Park District is \$2,000 ahead of last year at this time.

Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Chris Finn stated the rentals are

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 20, 2011

booming and the facility is filled every day. He stated a new tile floor with the Park District logo was installed in the lobby going into the social area to correct a floor problem.

Recreation Supervisor Kevin Miller stated there were 17 teams registered for the boys' basketball tournament this weekend. The girls' tournament has 12 teams registered so far. There are 13 teams registered for co rec volleyball and 13 teams for the men's basketball league.

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher stated there would be a coupon in the Money Mailer this month for summer camps with registration beginning on February 1, 2011. There would be banners put in the parks for advertising summer camp registration. She stated there was preschool open house on Wednesday night and this Saturday. Laura noted PDRMA is under review every three years and staff is making recommendations for updates. She stated athletic program numbers are up and fitness classes are strong.

Director Bissias stated Little League is in the process of changing presidents and he has not heard from them regarding the field improvements.

Attorney Report

Attorney Bush reminded the Board of the IPRA annual conference next weekend and for their response for attendance at their dinner.

Attorney Bush reviewed his morning in court regarding the Gordon Park case. He stated the motion for the Friends of the Park to reconsider was denied by Judge Gillis and she affirmed her application. He stated he had ordered a transcript of the court proceedings and it would be forwarded to the press. Director Bissias stated it would be put on our website.

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

None

Board Business

New Business

Discussion/ Selection of Dates for MBO Meeting with Staff(February)

Director Bissias suggested reviewing the current MBO's and not adding new ones at this time due to staff workload. President Penicook stated a date for the MBO meeting would be discussed with the department heads at the next board meeting. She stated the MBO's should be updated with the fitness feasibility and adding Base.

Old Business

Discussion of Draft Fitness Center Feasibility Study

President Penicook introduced staff with their presentation of the fitness center feasibility study. She asked to hold all questions until they were finished.

Director Bissias gave a background of the Board's request for this study. He stated the Board would reassess Dave Emanuelson's study with the help of staff to make a decision regarding pulling the grant for the fitness center. Staff used Dave's report as well as other reports the Park District has done plus working relationships, and friendships to take into consideration. Staff met with Commissioner Belcaster three times and met many more times together. Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej discussed the expenses and fees for the fitness center. Recreation Supervisor Kevin Miller stated the memberships and fees at other fitness facilities in the area. Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Chris Finn discussed the reasons for a fitness center, the preliminary fitness layout, equipment lease, and other expenditures. Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher presented potential revenue possibilities and marketing expenses.

Commissioner Belcaster thanked staff for all their work and research on this project.

Commissioner Walsh asked for clarification on a few items discussed. He was ecstatic about the substance and evidence given.

Commissioner Ashby stated the staff report was outstanding. He felt more comfortable because there would be a plan if the grant was approved.

Commissioner Kelsas thanked staff and Commissioner Belcaster for the nice work.

President Penicook felt staff's presentation was impressive and added a huge layer of comfort if the grant comes through.

Customer Service Supervisor Linda Muth stated a fitness center would be popular as customers have asked for a workout room and fitness center everyday for the past 3 years. She also agreed that staff worked very hard on this presentation.

Facility Reservations Secretary Katie Walsh stated everyone worked hard on this feasibility study. She feels comfortable with the numbers and she feels summer would be busier here.

President Penicook asked the Board for their consensus. There was full Board consensus not to pull the grant for the fitness center.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

None

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

Commissioner Belcaster stated he met with staff last month. He stated Chris Finn has a program revenue report for the fall season. He also stated there was a budget meeting coming up.

Recreation Committee

None

Park and Facility Committee

Director Bissias stated Park Foreman Claudia Galla, Commissioner Tim Kelsas and himself met and reevaluated the master plan for the parks. A copy of their evaluations is in the Board packet. He would give the information to Dave Emmanuelson.

Board Member Comments

Commissioner Walsh stated he was pleased to hear our Attorney report today.

Commissioner Ashby thanked staff again for their extraordinary work.

Commissioner Belcaster thanked staff and stated their analysis has a lot of integrity.

Commissioner Kelsas appreciated the Attorney report.

President Penicook thanked staff.

Executive Session

At 8:50 P.M. Commissioner Belcaster motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 11.1 Potential Claims and/or Litigation, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)11; Item 11.2 Acquisition, Lease and/or Disposition of Real Property, 5 ILCS120/2 (c)(5&6); Item 11.4 Review of Closed Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 20, 2011

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Belcaster, Kelpsas, Ashby
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

The Board Meeting resumed at 9:46 P.M.

Commissioner Walsh motioned to keep the Executive Minutes sealed. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Belcaster, Ashby, Walsh, Kelpsas
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Adjournment

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 9:47 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ashby and carried.



Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary

Approved 02/14/2011