

**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**

JUNE 13, 2011

President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of
Finance Leynette Kuniej, Superintendent of Recreation
Laura Gallagher, Superintendent of Facilities Chris
Finn, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Alex Keown from patch.com,
Treasurer Steve Paczolt, Jeffrey Braun from Cody
Braun & Assoc., Todd Abrams from W-T Civil
Engineering, Jane Michaels from the Doings, Terry &
Paul Lubenkov, David Wilkinson, Harlan Hirt, Chet
Wajda, Don Robertson, David Whelan

* Attended remotely by telephone

Commissioner Walsh motioned for Commissioner Kelpsas to attend the meeting remotely by telephone. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

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

Director Bissias asked for Item 7.2 to be pulled from the Agenda as it was not ready for discussion. Commissioner Lacey motioned to remove Item 7.2 Discussion and/or Approval of Exelon Energy Contract from the agenda. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/ Participation

Paul Lubenkov, 713 Mason Drive, commended the park district for pursuing the grant for developing Denning Park. He favored Option B as the best choice for the drainage problem as it would clean up the park, provide less maintenance, and enhance useable land. He stated more funds should be used to improve the drainage instead of moving the playground.

Terry Lubenkov, 713 Mason Drive, thanked the Park District for helping Denning Park. She suggested having a permeable parking lot like those at the Western Springs Fire Department on 55th Street and the Morton Arboretum. She stated new benches and an additional picnic shelter would improve the park.

Don Karpiak, 732 Mason Drive, thanked the board for having a meeting at the park. He commended the park for taking the time to solicit the neighbors. He preferred Option A because of less impact on the property, less cost with extra money for other improvements. He hoped the Board would analyze both plans as he felt it was hard to tell which plan would be better.

Director Bissias stated the phone calls and emails received regarding the Denning Park renovations were concerns for flooding onto their property and asthmatic problems from the flowers and grasses.

Chet Wajda, 820 Brighton Lane, asked why the water is flowing from Gilbert to Mason. He preferred Option A because the park is meant to be a detention and nature area.

President Penicook stated the engineer will address and explain the drainage issue in Item 4.1.

Don Karpiak asked when the permit would be applied for.

Jeffrey Braun stated if the project is approved tonight, the permit would be applied for by the first of August.

Update on F.O.I.A. Requests

Director Bissias asked the Board to review the F.O.I.A. requests in the board packet. Commissioner Walsh questioned the legal fees charged.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Walsh motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of Minutes of the Public Hearing of June 6, 2011; Item 3.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of May 9, 2011; Item 3.3 Approval of the Financial Report dated April 30, 2011 and May 31, 2011; Item 3.4 Approval of the Consolidated

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Vouchers for June dated June 13, 2011. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Staff Reports

Presentation of Updated Preliminary Draft of Denning Park Lyons Township Grant Project following Public Meeting of June 6, 2011

Jeffrey Braun of Cody, Braun & Associates, stated he met with the village regarding the flooding on the north side of the park and looked at the center drainage. The Village would be relining the north sewers. In response to residents' requests, he stated a ball field should not be built at this time; a band shell would be too costly to build; new benches are a good idea; sidewalk replacement is necessary as many are underwater; playground replacement is necessary as it is not to code anymore. He stated both Todd and he prefer Option A using the swale for drainage through the park.

Todd Abrams, W-T Engineering, reviewed the plans for drainage at Denning Park. Commissioner Kelpsas gave his first hand report of flooding from the last storm. The Board discussed the options.

Jeffrey Braun stated if Board approval tonight, bids would be accepted in August and construction would start in the fall.

Staff Comments

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej stated our audit would begin next week.

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher stated Family Fest would be held July 29, 2011 from 5:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at Gordon Park. She stated we have received \$14,900 thus far for sponsorships with \$20,000 total verbally. We will have fireworks for the event.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated he attended the Village of La Grange meeting where they approved the fireworks for our Family Fest. He also stated he is busy with summer camps, painting walls and floor cleaning in the facilities.

President Penicook asked Director Bissias to direct Park Foreman Claudia Galla to give a report on how the natural fertilizer in the parks is working.

Commissioner Kelpsas suggested asking La Grange Little League and AYSO for

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sponsorship of Family Fest.

Attorney Report

Attorney Rob Bush stated there was no change in the pending litigation of Gordon Park. We are still awaiting a decision from the appellate court.

Treasurer Report

Board Treasurer Steve Paczolt stated he was working on a new investment policy with Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej. He hopes to make more money so not to raise taxes. He stated he had to leave the meeting but would accept the nomination for Board Treasurer again if nominated.

Action Items

Discussion and/or Approval of Ordinance 11-03 Prevailing Wages for 2011-2012
Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve Ordinance 11-03 Prevailing Wages for 2011-2012. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Board Business

New Business

Commissioner Walsh nominated Commissioner Penicook for President.

Commissioner Penicook nominated Commissioner Ashby for Vice President.

Commissioner Kelsas nominated Director Bissias for Secretary.

Commissioner Walsh nominated Steve Paczolt for Treasurer.

Old Business

Discussion and Approval of Architectural Plans for Renovation of Denning Park
President Penicook suggested alternate bids for a rectangular basketball court, backstop for baseball and playground resurfacing. Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve the architectural plan Option A SD2 & CP 1. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES:	Commissioners Penicook, Ashby, Walsh, Kelsas
NAYS:	Commissioner Lacey

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ABSENT: None

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

Commissioner Kelsas appreciated President Penicook's suggestion of welcoming more residents to serve on committees. Commissioner Kelsas approached David Wilkinson in the audience to serve on his committee. He accepted.

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

Commissioner Ashby stated he was waiting for the capital budget recommendations from staff. He hoped to have it by next month.

Recreation Committee

None

President Penicook asked for input from each board member as to which committee they would like to work on. She stated she will assign committees and ask one resident to join each one.

Public Comment

Terry Lubenkov, 713 Mason Drive, applauded the Park District for improving the park and asked that it not be too active of a park. She hoped permeable asphalt would be researched. She suggested leaving the original shelter and adding a second one.

Harlan Hirt, 421 S. Spring, questioned lowering the area and the drainage problem.

Chet Wajda, 820 Brighton, stated if adding more fields he would select Option B and take chances with the drainage. He suggested having two detentions; one at Gilbert and one at Mason.

Dave Whelan, 1322 Mason Drive, thanked the Board for their time meeting with him and stated he was happy with the choice of the swale. He stated he was glad to hear the Village and Park District were working on the flooding problems on the north side of the park. He suggested not moving the playground and shelter unless there were funds to do it.

Commissioner Walsh motioned to continue the meeting past 10:00 P.M. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Board Member Comments

Commissioner Ashby thanked President Penicook for giving the community an understanding of Gordon Park in the suburban paper.

Commissioner Lacey appreciated the neighbors of Denning Park attending this meeting and helping with the decision.

Commissioner Kelpsas commended whoever suggested two public comments in the meeting agenda. He asked Director Bissias to email those who are celebrating service anniversaries. He stated the Park District did a nice job at the Pet Parade. He reminded staff to send a GFOA press release to show what a great job Leynette is doing with our financial reporting.

President Penicook thanked the public for attending this meeting as decisions are easier with public opinion. She stated she expects Jeffrey Braun to return with plans we are proud of. She explained she voted for Option A because of how the park is. She stated if money is short, memorial benches would be offered for a lasting tribute. President Penicook confirmed the Park District would make Denning Park as beautiful as possible using the least amount of taxpayer dollars. She added the Pet Parade was a lot of fun again this year.

Executive Session

No Executive Session this evening

Adjournment

Commissioner Lacey moved for adjournment at 10:07 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walsh and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.



Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary

Approved 07/11/2011