

**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**

**OCTOBER 21, 2010**

**President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Sarah Hezlep from Knutte and  
Associates, Thom Rae, Kheir Fakhreldin, Rose Naseef

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

Commissioner Walsh asked to remove the September 16, 2010 Regular Board Minutes from the Consent Agenda and vote on those separately.

**Public Hearing Regarding the Intent of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of La Grange, Cook County, Illinois to Sell \$295,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds (Bina Hearing)**

At 7:38 P.M. Commissioner Walsh motioned to open the public hearing. Commissioner Belcaster seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call vote as follows:

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

President Penicook asked Commissioner Ashby to explain this hearing.

Commissioner Ashby explained the State of Illinois gives the Park District bonding authority annually to generate revenue for capital projects large and small. He stated this year there is a cost of living increase of 2.7% to raise the total bonding from \$288,000 to \$295,000.

President Penicook asked for any comments or questions from the audience.

There were no comments regarding the bonds.

At 7:45 P.M. Commissioner Belcaster motioned to close the Bina Hearing. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

### **Communications, Presentations & Declarations**

#### *Public Comments/ Participation*

Kheir Fakhreldin, 221 S. Edgewood, presented an idea for vacant land use. He asked the Board to consider community supported agriculture.

Rose Naseef, 911 S. Stone, was following up on her request for an inventory of trees, plants and hardscape in all the parks. She stated this would benefit the Park District when developing park land. She asked about a plan for capturing rain water at Gordon Park to keep it from flooding the sewer system.

Boy Scout Troop 33 was introduced as they were working on a community service badge.

#### *Monthly FOIA Summary*

President Penicook stated there was one FOIA request since the last meeting. Thom Rae made the FOIA request. Detailed information regarding this request can be viewed in the Board Packet.

#### *Presentation of Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Audit by Knutte & Associates*

Sarah Hezlep from Knutte & Associates reviewed the 2009-2010 audit. She stated Leynette Kuniej prepared the entire report this year and no problems were found. Sarah added that this report would be submitted to the GFOA awards committee.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve Item 4.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 20, 2010; Item 4.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Board Sessions of September 16, 2010 and September 20, 2010; Item 4.4 Approval of the Financial Report dated September 30, 2010; Item 4.5 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for October dated October 21, 2010. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Commissioner Walsh requested removal of the attached written comments under Communications in the September 16, 2010 Special Board Minutes.

Commissioner Walsh motioned to approve as amended Item 4.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 16, 2010. Commissioner Kelsas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

**Staff Reports**

Director Bissias brought to Board's attention the Customer Service Standards created by Linda Muth in the front cover of the Board packet.

Director Bissias asked for Board consensus to investigate the Park Building Grant for building the fitness center.

Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Chris Finn stated first session classes were ending and the second sessions will begin next week with good numbers. He also stated staff is working on the brochure.

**Attorney Report**

None

**Treasurer Report**

None

**Action Items**

***Approval of the Audit for Fiscal Year 2009-2010***

Commissioner Kelsas thanked Superintendent of Finance, Leynette Kuniej, for our continuing success. Commissioner Belcaster motioned to approve the audit for fiscal year 2009-2010. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 21, 2010**

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

**Board Business**

***New Business***

*First Draft of the Proposed 2010 Tax Levy*

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej reviewed the 2010 Tax Levy. The proposed increase is 5% with a consumer price index limitation of 2.7%. The Board agreed with these figures.

*Discussion and Possible Awarding of Bids for the Reconstruction of Gordon Park Phase #1 Project*

After Board discussion, President Penicook suggested to table this item until next month. In the meantime, information would be gathered from the construction manager as to when these bids expire.

*Appointment of Representatives for the Annual IAPD Meeting*

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned he would be the primary representative and Commissioner Walsh would be the secondary for the IAPD meeting January 29, 2010. Commissioner Belcaster would be third and Director Bissias would be fourth representative. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

***Old Business***

*None*

**Committee Reports**

*Administration Committee*

None

*Marketing Committee*

Meeting was cancelled today due to family emergency

*Finance Committee*

The Board would like to review the budgeting process.

*Capital Projects Committee*

None

*Recreation Committee*

None

*Park and Facility Committee*

None

**Board Member Comments**

Commissioner Kelsas stated he would like the objectors to stop suing us.

Commissioner Ashby complimented Linda Muth for writing the Customer Service Standards. He was pleased there was a formalized Customer Service Manual that would be used for the long term.

Commissioner Belcaster thanked Linda for writing the Customer Service Manual and thanked Leynette for writing the audit with unqualified success. He is encouraged about looking into community agriculture after hearing from Khier this evening and other residents previously.

President Penicook stated the name Friends of the Park is the biggest misnomer as they are not friends of the park. She stated their objective may have been to create a huge budget issue and if so, that is unfortunate and shame on them.

Commissioner Walsh stated maybe Gordon Park or other vacant plots of land could be considered for community supported agriculture. He stated it was nice to hear from residents.

**Executive Session**

At 8:46P.M. Commissioner Kelsas motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 12.1 Potential Claims and/or Litigation, 5 ILCS 120/2 (2)11; Item 12.2 Acquisition, Lease and/or Disposition of Real Property, 5 ILCS120/2 (c)(5&6); Item 12.3 Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Ashby, Penicook, Walsh, Belcaster, Kelsas

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None


The Board Meeting resumed at 10:03 P.M.

There were no action items from Executive Session to vote on.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 10:03 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Belcaster and carried.

  
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Mary Ellen Penicook, President

  
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Constantine Bissias, Secretary

*Approved 11/18/2010*