

**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**

MAY 11, 2015

President Pro Tem Chris Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Walsh, Lacey, Vear, Ashby*

ABSENT: Commissioner Penicook

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Bill Reilly from AYSO, Timothy Davis, Chester Lacey, Joan Davis, Roberta Rogers, April Hill, Alexander Hill, Aaron Hill, Damon Hill, Jean Montgomery, Ramon Lacey, Michelle Davis, Terry Lubenkov

President Pro Tem Chris Walsh welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for changes to the agenda.

*Commissioner Lacey motioned to accept Commissioner Ashby remotely by telephone to the meeting. Commissioner Vear seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/Participation (Board Manual Section #152)

None

Swearing in of Elected Officials/Commissioners

Director Bissias swore in elected officials Lynn Lacey for a 4 year term and Robert Vear for a 2 year term as Park District Commissioners. Congratulations goes out to both of them.

Mary Ellen Penicook/Women of Distinction Award

Director Bissias stated Mary Ellen Penicook was one of the women selected by the Suburban Life for the Women of Distinction Award. He attended a luncheon last week recognizing her and 11 other women.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Lacey motioned to approve Item 3.1 Minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of April 13, 2015; Item 3.2 Regular Board Meeting of April 13, 2015; Item 3.3 Financial Report dated April 30, 2015 ; Item 3.4 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for May dated May 11, 2015. Commissioner Vear seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Staff Reports

Director's Report

Director Bissias stated he is happy to report that the new Moody rating for the Park District has been upgraded to AA2. Our negative rating is gone.

He also reminded the Board of the Pet Parade on Saturday May 30, 2015 and hoped they would join staff in the parade.

Update on the Capital Budget for 2015-2016

Commissioner Ashby stated he reviewed the budget with Director Bissias and Superintendent of Finance Kuniej and felt comfortable with their recommendations. His only concern was a capital budget expenditure for replacing the walking path at Waiola Park. He felt it was not a good use of Park District resources. He suggested the walk should be sodded and used for recreation activities instead. Director Bissias supported Commissioner Ashby's comments however he felt there should be a walkway from the public sidewalk to the playground.

Director Bissias reviewed the budget with the Board.

Staff Comments

Update on Fees for User Groups

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated he met with AYSO and he is now thinking about user fees with 4 tiers. AYSO would be classified separately due to the fact they line our fields and the use of their goals by us and others. LTSC and the Celtics would be another tier. Residents and non residents would be the other tiers. Commissioner Vear stated the fee structure would be an addendum to the field usage policy.

Other Comments

Director Bissias directed his statements to a resident in the audience who lives in the Denning Park area. He stated a situation at Denning Park exists that land originally zoned residential was bought by the Park District with an OSLAD grant and it never was changed to open space by a previous Director.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - MAY 11, 2015

Director Bissias stated he is working with the village to rectify this problem without spending money. The resident stated it was being submitted to the La Grange Planning Commission.

Superintendent of Facilities Finn stated there was an email sent out looking for volunteers for the Endless Summer Event. The information is on our Park District website.

Director Bissias reminded the Board of Park Pride this Saturday for cleaning up the parks.

Attorney Report

None

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

Discussion and/or Approval of MBO's for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Director Bissias reviewed the updated MBO list. President Pro Tem Walsh explained to the audience that the MBO's (Management by Objective) are a prioritized list of projects to be completed in the year. Commissioner Vear questioned the fence installation at the Denning Park Community Garden as the garden may be moved to a different location in the future. Director Bissias explained if the project is not funded in the Capital Budget and not completed, it will not be forgotten. Commissioner Lacey motioned to approve the MBO's as ranked. Commissioner Vear seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Approval of Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Commissioner Ashby motioned to approve the Capital Budget with the exception of \$75,000 allocated for the Waiola walkway replacement. Commissioner Vear seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Board Business

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

None

Finance & Capital Project Committee

Commissioner Ashby asked the Board to look at the hand outs. There is a snapshot of the financial projections for the next 2 years, the expected fund balances and the cash at hand for the Park District.

User Group Committee

None

Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)

Terry Lubenkov, 713 Mason Drive La Grange, stated she had brochures to give to the Park District from the Morton Arboretum regarding selecting trees. She encourages tree replacement as the Park District should think beyond today as it takes 30 years for trees to mature. The emerald ash bore took away many trees in Denning Park. She also thanked Director Bissias for working with the village rectifying the open space zoning for the 2 lots at Denning Park.

April Hill, 135 Sawyer La Grange, applauded the Board with what they have done with the parks. She asked what was planned for the rest of Gordon Park and suggested adding miniature golf. Director Bissias explained Phase 1 is complete and Phase 2 has not been addressed by the Board due to finances at this time.

Bill Reilly, 240 S. Ashland Ave. La Grange, from AYSO, questioned the amount of user fees the Park District plans to collect. He stated the budget was \$10,000 for field improvements and the user fees collected would be three times that. Director Bissias stated he budgeted improvements without the user fees. Director Bissias would like to begin charging user fees next fall if they are approved in time. Commissioner Vear told AYSO to plan on the fees. Bill Reilly stated La Grange is the only park district charging user fees so AYSO would be charging La Grange residents more to play. He also noted there have been cancelled games and practices due to field conditions this spring. As he looked

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - MAY 11, 2015

at the parks today, other groups were using them and not AYSO. He did not want to police for damage that is not AYSO.

Board Comments

Commissioner Lacey thanked her family for supporting her tonight. She also stated she was proud of the job as acting President Commissioner Walsh did tonight.

Commissioner Vear reminded everyone of Park Pride this Saturday May 16, 2015. He also seconded Commissioner Lacey's comments about President Pro Tem Chris Walsh doing a fine job tonight.

Commissioner Ashby thanked the Board for accepting his remote access. He was sorry for the inconvenience.

Executive Session

At 7:55 P.M. Commissioner Vear motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 12.3 Setting the Price of Real Property, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6). Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

The Regular Board meeting resumed at 8:03 P.M.

President Pro Tem Chris Walsh stated our Park District realtor consultant, Brad Belcaster works on an hourly rate. He has billed us less than 50 hours thus far.

Commissioner Ashby left the meeting at 8:04 P.M.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lacey moved for adjournment at 8:04 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vear and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.


Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 06/08/2015


Mary Ellen Penicook, President