

**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**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

Commissioner Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Penicook, Vear, Lacey*, Ashby, Jacobs

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej, Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller, Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jim Rock, Attorney Megan Mack, Brian Opyd

*Commissioner Lacey arrived at 7:10 P.M.

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

Director Bissias stated that due to unforeseen circumstances, Fitness Center Supervisor Jenny Clark would not be at the meeting tonight.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/Participation (Board Manual Section #152)

Brian Opyd, 109 8th Avenue, La Grange, thanked Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller and his crew for the fun art booth that the Park District hosted at the West End Art Festival this past weekend in La Grange. He thanked Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn for reinstalling the doors at the Sedgwick Park tennis courts. He also informed maintenance that two lights were out in the center column on the south side and southeast corner of the Sedgwick tennis courts.

Commissioner Ashby complimented the refinished courts at Gilbert Park.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jacobs motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 14, 2017; Item 3.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of June 12, 2017; Item 3.3 Approval of the Financial Report dated August 31, 2017; Item 3.4 Approval of the

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Consolidated Vouchers for September dated September 11, 2017.

Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Vear, Ashby, Jacobs

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Lacey

Commissioner Lacey arrived at 7:10 P.M.

Staff Reports

Director's Report

Update on the Construction of the PDLG Fitness Center

Director Bissias stated the fitness center is 99.9% complete. There is an issue in the two locker rooms and the HVAC in the locker rooms.

Update on La Grange Fitness Center Operation Progress

Director Bissias stated that Fitness Supervisor Jenny Clark is hiring and training staff. Direct Fitness is training fitness staff on the equipment. All the equipment is set up and the spin bikes are there. The Fitness Center opened it's doors this morning and there are 210 members registered so far. There have been more monthly passes than annual passes sold with \$24,000 in revenue to date.

Update on Grand Opening of the Fitness Center on October 14th

Director Bissias stated the Grand Opening for the fitness center is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2017. Please try to attend.

Update of Other Park District Matters

Director Bissias stated Meadowbrook Manor has set aside 8,900 sq. ft. for our playground. They are demolishing a section of the old building, taking down some trees, and grading. They requested we postpone our playground installation until next year. He is meeting on site Thursday to discuss the project.

Staff Comments

Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller reported that staff promoted the fitness center at a booth at the West End Art Festival. The Park District offered play options with sidewalk chalk, jewelry making, and two face painters. It was so popular, they ran out of materials and had to buy more. Everything went well.

He stated that tryouts for travel basketball are tonight and Wednesday. He stated the numbers for recreation programs are up this season.

Kevin reported information from Marketing and Events Supervisor Teresa Chapman. Copies of the grand opening flyer were given to the board members

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and will be sent to residents of La Grange and Countryside. She mailed invitations to the elected officials of La Grange and Countryside as well. The grand opening will have demos on the equipment, classes, and question and answer with the trainers and instructors. There will be a raffle for a one-year membership and one personal training session.

-Commissioner Vear suggested using social media for advertising and putting flyers at Lyons Township High School.

-Commissioner Jacobs suggested putting flyers downtown in the store windows.

-Commissioner Lacey suggested giving the flyers to the churches in town and advertising on LTTV. Commissioner

-Ashby suggested having our affiliates AYSO and Little League pass the word. Director Bissias stated there would be banners in all the parks.

Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung stated this has been her busiest month with hiring and training staff. Her assistant Melissa has been a great help to her. There is a waitlist for all schools except for Cossitt. She is working on a flyer for Cossitt families to increase enrollment. Leanna is working on specialty camps for school holidays. Leanna announced she is having a baby in March! The Board congratulated her.

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej stated she is busy working on fitness passes, revenue codes and procedures and new employee paperwork for the fitness center.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated the building is busy with fall programming, basketball and rentals. The splash pad is closed for the season. The resurfacing of the tennis courts at Gilbert Park is complete. The parking lots are seal coated and striped.

Attorney Report

Attorney Jim Rock introduced attorney Megan Mack who is part of his park district team in the lake county office. Attorney Rock stated the governor just signed a bill requiring all individuals who volunteer for recreational programs with children to complete an application verifying they are not a sex offender.

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

President to Announce an October 9, 2017 "BINA Hearing" A Public Hearing Regarding the Sale of 2017 General Obligation Bonds (PDLG Annual Roll Over Bonds)

President Penicook announced there would be a BINA Hearing at 7:00 P.M. October 9, 2017 prior to the regular meeting. Director Bissias will publish detailed information as required by law.

Board Business

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Committee Reports

President Penicook announced the new committee assignments. She will chair the Administration Committee. Commissioner Lacey will remain as chair of the Public Relations Committee. Commissioner Ashby will remain chair of the Finance and Capital Project Committee, and Commissioner Vear will continue as User Group Committee Chair. President Penicook would like to add a Marketing Committee with Commissioner Jacobs as chair. She would like Commissioner Jacobs to be a resource from the public perspective and support to staff.

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

None

Finance & Capital Project Committee

None

User Group Committee

None

Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)

Brian Opyd, 109 8th Avenue, La Grange, suggested the Board and staff join the Facebook page *Lagrange IL*. It has 5000 La Grange followers. He recommended someone video a live tour to put on the page.

Board Comments

Commissioner Jacobs stated she read the audit more carefully and thought it had excellent information. The 10-year trends were remarkable. The information on the strategic plan shows we are meeting our plan. She also added she worked out at the fitness center this morning. She was excited about it and congratulated staff.

Commissioner Vear noticed there is more work for staff with the addition of the fitness center. He asked if additional staff is needed. Director Bissias stated it would be reviewed at budget time. Commissioner Vear asked about a FOIA request the Park District received. Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej

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stated we receive this FOIA every 6 months. The information requested is downloaded off our software. Commissioner Vear asked if staff replies to the reviews on the Park District Facebook page. There was Board consensus that there should be a response to negative comments.

Commissioner Lacey stated the fitness center looks good and people are enjoying it. She recommended staff use the bulletin boards and fill them with flyers because people read them. She suggested the Board pass out flyers. She stated the Park District is growing and people like it. She added happy people do not complain.

Commissioner Lacey stated she said something last month about Director Bissias that was a misunderstanding and realized it when she saw the look on his face. She stated Director Bissias is a great person to work with and is not prejudiced. He is always available and she does not want to see sad faces.

Commissioner Ashby complimented staff for the nice work on the tennis courts. He thought it was a good idea for staff to participate in the West End Art show.

Commissioner Penicook stated she signed up early for the fitness center and is looking forward to working out tomorrow. She was pleased with the increase in the recreation numbers as it shows staff is doing things well.


Executive Session

At 8:03 P.M. Commissioner Lacey 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 Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:


AYES: Commissioners Penicook, Ashby, Lacey, Vear, Jacobs
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None

Adjournment

Commissioner Jacobs moved for adjournment 8:28 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lacey and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.



Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 10/09/2017