

**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**

**APRIL 15, 2013**

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

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

ABSENT: None

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush

President Penicook asked for a moment of silence for the people injured and  
killed today in the Boston Marathon bombing.

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

**Communications, Presentations & Declarations**

*Public Comments\Participation (Board Manual Section #152)*

None

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Lacey motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of  
the Regular Board Meeting of February 11, 2013; Item 3.2 Approval of the  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 11, 2013; Item 3.3 Approval of  
the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of March 11, 2013; Item 3.4  
Approval of the Financial Report dated March 31, 2013; Item 3.5 Approval of  
the Consolidated Vouchers for April dated April 15, 2013. Commissioner Walsh  
seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

### **Staff Reports**

#### *Director's Report*

##### *Gordon Park*

Director Bissias stated the permit for the reconstruction of Gordon Park is on the agenda for approval at the next Village Board meeting.

##### *Capital Budget*

Director Bissias stated 2 copies of the Capital Budget were distributed to the Board for review with approval at the next meeting. President Penicook asked the Board to email any questions or comments to Director Bissias before the next meeting. Director Bissias thanked Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn for his work on the Capital Budget.

#### *Staff Reports*

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej stated the Park District has earned the GFOA Award again for excellence in financial reporting. There would be a press release to the newspapers and notice on Facebook.

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher stated according to Rec Supervisor Ross Houston, many showed up for the Tween Egg Hunt but no one signed up.

Laura stated she has been researching computer classes for seniors. After Board discussion, they advised her to reconnect with the La Grange Library.

Laura stated the summer camp enrollments were doing well. There are over 60 new programs in the summer brochure.

### **Attorney Report**

None

### **Treasurer Report**

None

### **Action Item**

*Discussion and/or Approval of Ordinance 13-02 the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Park District of La Grange Fiscal Year 2013-2014*

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Director Bissias changed the numbers under the Capital Budget summary page. It should read \$3,000,000 instead of \$2,500,000 for New Construction or Renovation and corresponding corrections for the grand total expenditures. Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve as amended Ordinance 13-02 the Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Park District of La Grange Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Walsh, Kelsas, Penicook, Lacey, Ashby  
NAYES: None  
ABSENT: None

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve the MBO's for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Commissioner Lacey motioned to approve the SEASPAR Budget for 2013-2014. Commissioner Kelsas seconded the motion which passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Commissioner Walsh felt he had not studied this budget in depth to justify a vote.

### **Board Business**

#### ***New Business***

*Discussion and Guidance and/or Possible Approval of Board Policy Manual Section #728 and Section #730*

Director Bissias felt this Board Policy is a work in progress and should not be voted on until he receives more comments from the Board. President Penicook wanted Staff to give some more thought to a system for allocating field time among the affiliates. Staff should then memorialize the system and bring it to the Board for inclusion in this policy. Director Bissias asked that we include formalities and benefits for our affiliates.

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### **Committee Reports**

#### *Administration Committee*

Commissioner Walsh stated he worked on the Board Policy agreement.

#### *Public Relations Committee*

Commissioner Kelsas recommended this committee continue with a staff member, commissioner and a public participant. He stated this committee helps the Park District's reputation and shows the public we have much to offer.

#### *Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee*

Commissioner Ashby requested a meeting with the Board Treasurer prior to next month's meeting to review the Capital Budget.

#### *Recreation Committee*

Commissioner Lacey stated she will meet with staff next month.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Board Comments**

Commissioner Kelsas stated the Park District has grown the past 8 years and he has enjoyed working with the Board members and staff. He hoped the Board would continue to debate to make the Park District better. He was honored to have 8 yrs to grow as he was wildly suggestive and impulsive. Now he understands more clearly with the guidance of the district and working with Director Bissias. It's a journey he would never forget or regret. Commissioner Kelsas regrets not passing a no smoking policy in the parks. He reviewed the highlights of his years with the Gordon Park conflict, the expansion of BASE, the new staff, the new Rec Center and its growth, and the making of the Park District a formidable force in the community.

Commissioner Lacey stated staff does a wonderful job with few complaints from the public. She recommended the Board members visit all the parks to check them out. Commissioner Lacey stated she learned alot from Commissioner Kelsas and Attorney Bush. She congratulated Commissioner Walsh and Commissioner Ashby for winning the election.

Commissioner Ashby thanked Commissioner Kelsas for his friendship and service to the Park Board and the community. He admitted it would be difficult to replace his energy and enthusiasm and he would be a great asset to the Library Board. He thanked the public for their support for the election.

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Commissioner Walsh stated he finds it easy to stand on the shoulders of hard working staff and take credit for the progress of the Park District. He reiterated from last meeting that the past few years staff has worked as a unit for the betterment of the Park District. He stood for reelection this time because the Park District is getting better. He felt the energy of Commissioner Kelsas forced alot of improvements.

President Penicook thanked Commissioner Kelsas for his energy and fun. The Park District has experienced alot of growing and changes all for the better. She hoped staff would agree. She stated public debate is a good thing. She explained the Board cannot talk about things legally as a group outside the meetings so the Board needs to speak up during the meetings. She stated there are five different people with totally different perspectives who will better the Park District if each of them gave their opinions. She added the decisions do not have to be unanimous but there should be an understanding why there is a disagreement. After reading the Board packet, President Penicook would like a press release for the Commemorative Tree Program for what and whom commemorating. She stated she would like the Board to welcome our new Board member next month and get him up to speed with written and unwritten information. She added she loved the summer brochure.

### **Executive Session**

None

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Kelsas moved for adjournment at 9:04 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walsh and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

  
Mary Ellen Penicook, President

  
Constantine Bissias, Secretary  
*Approved 05/13/2013*