

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE PARK DISTRICT OF LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON THE PARK DISTRICT BUS**

**MAY 19, 2014**

**President Penicook called the meeting to order at 5:37 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Penicook, Ashby, Lacey, Lynch

ABSENT: Commissioner Walsh

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman, Community Programs & Marketing Supervisor Teresa Skrzynski

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Wilkinson

The Board, Staff and one resident in attendance boarded the Park District bus for a visit/tour of the parks.

**Board to Visit/Tour the Following Parks in the Order in Which They are Listed**

*"There would be no discussions of any Park District business on the bus"*

*Community Center*

The Board noted the outside and inside drinking fountain needed repair. The sink in the women's bathroom needed to be caulked. The oven burners needed to be checked as the oven does not heat correctly. The hot water in the kitchen took longer than expected to use. The park needed an ID sign.

*Rotary Park*

The Board suggested planting bushes in the planter at the fence. They suggested painting concrete games on the old splash pad. It was noted a new sign was needed for park rules.

A resident stopped to inform the Board that there are kids creating problems and swearing in the park. She asked for speed bumps in the alley. The Board stated that was a Village problem.

*Gordon Park*

The Board noted concrete filler was needed around the blue spray at the splash pad. They commented the bricks on the maintenance building were original

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Ogden Avenue bricks and could be sold.

*Stone Park*

The Board's only comment was the faded park ID sign.

*Gilbert Park*

The Board suggested redoing the pathway around the park. They also noted the turf needed improvement.

*Elm Park*

The Board noted a hole in the basketball court as a safety issue and must be repaired. Another hole by a bench at the court needed to be filled and seeded. The Board suggested sprucing up the Stone/Elm entrance by installing black fencing.

*Denning Park*

The Board commented a fence was needed around the Community Garden. As the Board walked the park, they were dissatisfied with the swale. There was stagnant water, uncovered drain tiles and wild grasses not growing and doing the job it was intended. President Penicook suggested improving the area and charging back to the landscapers of the project.

*Waiola Park*

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, a neighbor of this park for many years commented the park looked worse than he had ever seen. He felt the park was overworked for its size with baseball, soccer and car and people traffic. He stated the turf looked bad and the bushes on the south end were struggling to survive.

The Board recommended adding tall grasses or bushes to hide the safety barricade. The flower beds needed work and the pathway needed to be redone.

*Spring Park*

The Board suggested thinning out the bushes at the entrance to the park. They noted the landscape border was coming out in many areas and needed to be fixed. There was a brick cap missing on top of the small retaining wall.

*Sedgwick Park*

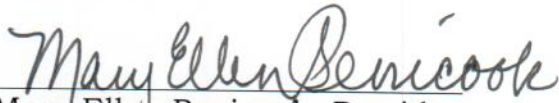
None


In general, the Board noted the grass in all the parks were full of weeds and looked terrible. They commented the "natural fertilizer" program did not appear to be working as advertised. The Board suggested Staff to review the Turf Maintenance Policy with the idea of changing it so Staff has the flexibility to use other products if necessary.

**There would be no action taken by the Board at any time during the visit/tour of the PDLG Parks**

**Adjournment**

Director Bissias moved for adjournment at 8:35 P.M. The motion was seconded by President Penicook and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

  
Mary Ellen Penicook, President

  
Constantine Bissias, Secretary  
*Approved 06/16/2014*