

**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**

FEBRUARY 10, 2014

President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Walsh, Lacey, Penicook, Ashby

ABSENT: Commissioner Lynch

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, David Wilkinson, Lou Gole

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

Director Bissias removed from the agenda Item 7.1 *Discussion and/or Approval of Easement Agreements with the Village of La Grange Regarding the Installation of a Traffic Signal Light by Denning Park.*

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 January 13, 2014; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Report dated January 31, 2014; Item 3.3 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for February dated February 10, 2014. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Ashby, Walsh, Lacey, Penicook

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Lynch

Staff Reports

Director's Report

Director Bissias informed everyone of Chris Finn's 10th anniversary working here at the Park District of La Grange.

Progress Report on Gordon Park

Director Bissias stated the Gordon Park project is at a standstill due to the weather. AT&T would be moving their lines sometime this week and the trees would be moved in early March to make way for the new parking lot.

Update on the new PARC-Grant

Director Bissias stated Governor Quinn is reinstating the PARC Grant Program. This grant is for renovations of existing buildings or parks with a budget of 25 million dollars. He reminded the Board we scored high the last time we applied for this grant for the fitness center but we were unsuccessful in acquiring it. Now there is a \$300 fee to apply and a March 10, 2014 deadline. He stated if successful, the grant would cover about 75% of the cost of the fitness center. After Board discussion, Commissioner Walsh motioned for staff to file the PARC Grant Application for the construction of the fitness center at the Rec Center. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Update of Other Park District Matters

Director Bissias updated the Board on the Endless Summer event. Our attorney would review all the entertainment contracts. Commissioner Walsh was adamant about not charging an entrance fee to view the fireworks. Commissioner Ashby wanted to make sure that time, staff, volunteers and resources were divided equally among the partners of this event.

Staff Comments

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher stated Recreation Supervisor Kevin Miller put on a Girls' Basketball Tournament last weekend at the Rec Center.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated he has been busy with the building and now the outdoor rentals are coming in.

Commissioner Ashby stated the Pond Posse contacted him to help with the ice rink. They are tired of the snow and ice.

Attorney Report

Attorney Rob Bush was pleased to advise the Board that the Illinois Supreme Court gave their order denying the Friends of the Parks appeal of our 1235 Case authorizing the sale of 2.28 acres of land. The case is over! The Supreme Court will send a mandate to the Appellate Court affirming their decision. That in turn would be sent to the Trial Court showing on their docket that their decision is firm. Attorney Bush reaffirmed there is no process for the Friends of the Parks to rehear. Director Bissias stated he and Attorney Bush would compose a formal report to send to the newspapers.

Treasurer Report

None

Action Item

None

Board Business

New Business

Discussion of Letter from Mr. Bardy

Attorney Bush explained Mr. Bardy's interpretation of the statute in his letter is incorrect. There is no indication that the land for sale in Gordon Park has relevance to the statute. A response was sent stating we are in full compliance.

Old Business

Selection of dates for MBO and Budget Meetings

Director Bissias asked the Board to check their calendars to schedule an MBO meeting on Monday April 7, 2014 or Tuesday April 8, 2014. President Penicook requested a Saturday date for the Board to tour the parks and review the projects for the Capital Budget.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

None

Public Relations Committee

None

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

None

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User Group Committee

Commissioner Lynch was absent therefore Director Bissias informed the Board about the soccer user group meeting. He stated Commissioner Lynch is doing a great job accommodating their soccer usage at Ideal School, Countryside Park and our parks.

Public Comments

None

Board Comments

Commissioner Walsh was ecstatic about the closure of the 1235 Case. He stated it was a long journey that need not have been taken but glad it ended our way which was the right way. He is looking forward to the new summer event and glad we are cooperating with the LGBA. He added it will be far better than what either of us sponsored in the past. He wanted to reaffirm that his comments about free fireworks were not for lack of support of this event.

Commissioner Ashby commented we were doing what was right all along after spending over a million dollars trying to dissolve this legal issue. He told Superintendent of Facilities Finn about a leak in the ceiling in the yoga room.

President Penicook hoped Commissioner Walsh would be more specific with his desires and have more clarity as a liaison to the Endless Summer event. She stated she was happy the lawsuit was over. She is looking forward to a press release on the front page because we deserve it.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 7:58 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lacey and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Mary Ellen Penicook, President

Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 03/10/2014