

**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**

NOVEMBER 12, 2018

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

PRESENT: Commissioners Vear, Penicook, Lacey, Jacobs*

ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller, Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jim Rock, Hank Beckman from *The Doings*, Tim O'Brien, Mike Healy, Dan Collins

*Commissioner Jacobs arrived at 7:06 P.M.

President Vear welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no changes to the agenda.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/Participation (Board Manual Section #152)

Mike Healy, 412 E. Maple, La Grange, thanked the Board for investigating the dog park issue. He supports a dog park in La Grange.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Penicook motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2018; Item 3.2 Approval of the Financial Reports dated October 31, 2018; Item 3.3 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for November dated November 12, 2018; Item 3.4 Approval of the Minutes of the Public Hearing of October 8, 2018.

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

AYES: Commissioners Vear, Penicook, Lacey

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Ashby, Jacobs

Commissioner Jacobs arrived at 7:06 P.M.

Staff Reports

Director Dean Bissias

- Director Bissias gave the Board a revised draft of the survey results from park districts in the area regarding dog parks. This will be discussed in detail under board business.
- Director Bissias wanted the Board to know that Superintendent of La Grange Fitness Jenny Clark is working with staff to remedy the parking situation here. Parking is a big problem for us until the property to the south is resolved. There will be shuttles from the Sedgwick Park lot when there are tournaments in the recreation center. She is working with the Village of Brookfield for parking at their public works lot across the street and residential parking.
- Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej is home sick tonight.
- Superintendent of La Grange Fitness Jenny Clark is attending professional development school.
- Dean is working on numbers and suggestions from Jeff Braun for the parking lot repairs and resurfacing at Sedgwick Park. He will inform the Board with the final numbers as it looks to be more than what was budgeted.
- The Endless Summerfest committee has met and is excited to announce the bands that have been booked so far. On Friday, Millennials and Maggie Speaks will play; on Saturday, Wayne Baker Brooks and Infinity will play; on Sunday, Sixteen Candles will play.

Staff Comments

Superintendent of Recreation Kevin Miller

- The Park District Halloween party was Friday, October 26, 2018. Some new games and activities were added. The event was marketed earlier than in past years with banners and flyers, and over 600 people attended.
- Basketball season is starting.
- The Rec Department is working on holiday events.

Superintendent of BASE Leanna Hartung

- As of November 26, 2018, East Campus BASE will be combined with Main Campus in the morning only at the St. Francis School location. The children will be walked across the street for school.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn

- The Rec Center is busy. Basketball is starting up.
- There are 20 parties booked for Thanksgiving weekend, and we had many more additional inquiries for rentals that we had to turn away.
- All the outdoor sports groups have concluded their seasons.
- A new playground is planned for the Community Center and we hope to have it installed by the end of the year.

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej

- Other than what is in her board report, she has been troubleshooting various issues with the Rec Trac 3.1 upgrade with Administrative Supervisor Linda Muth, Facility Rental Coordinator Katie Walsh, and Superintendent of La Grange Fitness Jenny Clark.

Attorney Report

None

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on SEASPAR Tax Levy for 2019

Director Bissias stated the tax levy is up \$14,378 from last year because our EAV is up. SEASPAR's budget has a 3% increase overall. Commissioner Penicook motioned to approve the SEASPAR tax levy for 2019. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Acceptance of Official Bid for the Issuance of Approximately not to Exceed \$338,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds

Director Bissias stated that last month's public hearing was for these general obligation limited tax park bonds. Commissioner Penicook motioned to accept the official bid from Republic Bank for the issuance of not to exceed \$338,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds. Commissioner Lacey seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Ordinance 18-09 an Ordinance providing for the issue of \$330,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2018, for the payment of land for parks for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of outstanding bonds of the Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - NOVEMBER 12, 2018

Commissioner Penicook motioned to accept Ordinance 18-09 providing for the issue of \$330,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2018 for the payment of land for parks for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of outstanding bonds of the Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bond, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Board Business
Old Business

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Authorization of Delegates/Alternates for the 2019 Annual IAPD Meeting

- Commissioner Penicook recommended each board member go to the conference at least once to attend the meetings, view the exhibit hall, meet the vendors, attend the lunch and meet the legislators.
- President Vear volunteered to be the alternate.
- Commissioner Jacobs would like to go for the day.
- Commissioner Lacey would like to attend the luncheon.
- Director Bissias stated he would serve as the delegate again.

Commissioner Lacey motioned to authorize Director Bissias as the delegate and President Vear as the alternate for the 2019 annual IAPD Meeting. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Discussion on Staff Presenting the Draft Proposal of Levy and Assessment of Taxes of the Park District of La Grange for the 2018 Tax Levy Year at the December Board Meeting

- Director Bissias asked the Board to review the draft proposal of the levy and assessment of taxes for the Park District and notify him of any changes.
- Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej recommended taking our tax reduction ordinance to reduce the General Fund levy instead of the Recreation Fund levy as is our usual practice.
- The tax levy amount would be an increase of \$55,404 or 1.88% over the prior year levy.

There was Board consensus to prepare the tax levy documents based on the proposed calculations.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - NOVEMBER 12, 2018

Board Discussion Regarding Responses from Other Park Districts to Dogs in Parks Survey

- Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn reviewed the dogs in the park survey with the Board that was sent to over 80 south suburban area park districts.
- Commissioner Penicook asked for more information from our neighborhood network towns surrounding La Grange. If they do not have a dog park then we would like to know their rationale. La Grange is a town of 15,000 people. The Park District of La Grange offers many amenities; however, we are limited in our open space. Our parks are highly used and programmed. If our surrounding suburbs step up, then La Grange might be able to use their dog parks.
- Commissioner Jacobs recommended separating the issues of an unleashed dog park and leashed dogs walking in a park for the analysis of the survey questions. She also recommended a trial period in one park for leashed dog walking.
- Director Bissias feels the opinions of residents living near the parks need to be heard.
- Attorney Jim Rock stated that in all the park districts he represents with dog parks, there have been no major legal issues.
- After Board discussion, Commissioner Penicook suggested that staff recommend a park location as well as times and details for a trial allowing leashed dogs. Staff should also develop a plan for informing the park neighbors, buying dog waste bags, signs and rules. This will all be discussed at the next meeting.

New Business

Discussion and/or Possible Vote on Board Meeting Dates for 2019

- Director Bissias asked the Board to look at the proposed board meeting dates for 2019 and check their personal calendars.
- Director Bissias recommended changing the November meeting to November 18, 2019 due to the Veterans Day holiday.
- President Vear suggested changing the date to November 4, 2019.
- The dates need to be approved at the December meeting.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

Commissioner Penicook stated she is waiting to review the draft of the revised board policies manual. Director Bissias hopes to get the draft to Attorney Jim Rock by the end of the month and Commissioner Penicook would get the draft two weeks later.

Public Relations Committee

None

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - NOVEMBER 12, 2018

Finance & Capital Project Committee

None

User Group Committee

None

Marketing Committee

Commissioner Jacobs stated her committee met last week. They continue to improve navigation on the website. They hope to put together a marketing plan in the near future.

Public Comments (Board Manual Section #152)

None

Board Comments

Commissioner Jacobs thanked the public for attending the meeting. She stated that although some may not want to make changes, we need to move forward in consideration of what the residents want.

Commissioner Lacey commented that the dog park discussion today was a good one.

President Vear thanked staff for the dog survey.

Executive Session

At 8:24 P.M. Commissioner Penicook motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 12.4 Personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

At 9:17 P.M. the Board resumed the regular meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lacey moved for adjournment at 9:18 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jacobs and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Robert Vear, President

Constantine Bissias, Secretary
Approved 12/10/2018