

**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**

MAY 9, 2011

President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Executive Director Dean Bissias, Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej, Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher, Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn, Recording Secretary Ginger Zeman

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Rob Bush, Thom Rae from lagrangetoday.com, Alex Keown from patch.com, Treasurer Steve Paczolt, Jeffrey Braun from Cody Braun & Assoc., Todd Abrams, many residents and others in the audience

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

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Swearing in of Newly Elected Officials

Board Secretary Director Bissias swore in the newly elected Board members, Lynn Lacey and Mary Ellen Penicook.

Public Comments/ Participation

Joan Davis, 112 Washington La Grange, stated she was glad to see blacks (African Americans) on the Park District Board and working at the front desk.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2011 Board Workshop; Item 3.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Public Hearing on Ordinance 11-01 of April 14, 2011; Item 3.3 Approval of the Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2011; Item 3.4 Approval of the

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Executive Board Session of April 14, 2011; Item 3.5 Approval of the Financial Report dated April 30, 2011; Item 3.6 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for May dated May 9, 2011. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Staff Reports

Presentation of Preliminary Draft of Denning Park Lyons Township Grant Project
Jeffrey Braun of Cody Braun & Associates reviewed the preliminary design of Denning Park based on the funding from the Lyons Township grant money. The \$508,000 grant covers five areas; the demolition and removal of 2 storage garages; replacement of 3 driveways to coincide with Lyons Township High School driveways; additional sidewalks to make larger loop around park; reworking the entrance of the building including replacement of front sidewalks; site grading and excavation for additional soccer field and parking area. Those items proposed not under the grant are: moving playground and shelter to north side of building; installing a basketball shoot a round behind building.

Todd Abrams, a civil engineer hired by Cody Braun & Associates explained the drainage at Denning Park and the two options to improve the problems.

Community Gardens

Director Bissias stated the Community Gardens would be put on hold until next spring. He is working with Beth Brace putting documents together at this time.

Staff Reports

President Penicook praised the detailed staff reports in the board packet.

Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated the building rentals and usage passes for the fiscal year 2010-2011 was \$200,000 exceeding the budgeted numbers.

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher stated staff is gearing up for summer with classes starting soon. She stated summer camp enrollment is down and staff is working on marketing these camps.

Attorney Report

Attorney Bush stated the appellate process is slow and there may be a decision before the next meeting. He stated as of now, the Park District has the green light to sell the property at Gordon Park.

Treasurer Report

Board Treasurer Steve Paczolt recommended approval of the SEASPAR budget that would be voted on later in this meeting. He also recommended transferring funds to balance accounts for the fiscal year as would be voted on later in the meeting. Treasurer Paczolt stated the Park District finances are solid and commended the Board dealing with all the attorney fees. The district is still in the black. He congratulated the Board for being stewards with the residents' monies.

Action Items

Discussion and/or Approval of SEASPAR Annual Operation Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve the SEASPAR Annual Operation Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Board Business

New Business

Request of Transferring of Funds to Balance Accounts

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to transfer funds to balance accounts for the end of the fiscal year. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 11-02 Authorizing the Sale or Disposal of Personal Property Old Computers and Electronic Equipment

Director Bissias stated the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce is offering free disposal of computers and electronic equipment. He stated all hard drives and chips would be pulled and disposed of in a later ordinance. Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve Ordinance 11-02 Authorizing the sale or disposal of personal property old computers and electronic equipment. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Old Business

Discussion and/or Approval of MBO's 2011-2012

President Penicook explained the process of creating the new MBO form. Director Bissias stated staff would work on Phase 1 now and when completed would start Phase 2. He stated he would finalize the type of reports for MBO progress at the next meeting and give the reports bi-monthly. Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve the 2011-2012 MBO's. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

Commissioner Walsh stated he spoke with Dave Emanuelson regarding the revisions in his section of the Master Plan. Commissioner Walsh stated he would discuss this at the next board meeting.

Public Relations Committee

Commissioner Kelpsas stated the 4th of July Patriots in the Park would be held again at Waiola Park where WLTL would synchronize music with La Grange Country Club's fireworks.

Director Bissias stated he is working on social networking and marketing for the Park District by creating an initial app for smartphones.

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

Commissioner Ashby stated he would go over the capital budget with the Board next month with approval at the July meeting.

Recreation Committee

None

Park and Facility Committee

None

President Penicook stated nominations for officers would be next month with elections in July.

Public Comment

Bettina Gembala, 726 Mason Drive La Grange, thanked the Park District for finally addressing the flooding issues at Denning Park. She questioned Jeffrey Braun on a few items of the project.

Director Bissias stated the preliminary plan for Denning Park would be on the website tomorrow. The Denning Park neighborhood would be notified on our website and with flyers of future meetings.

Terry Lubenkov, 713 Mason Drive La Grange, also thanked the Park District for addressing the flooding at Denning Park. She had concerns regarding the design of the drainage grate in the park as there are many inquisitive children living in the area. She stated she would like to see maintenance free plantings in the swail and to keep as many trees in the park as possible. She thanked the Board for applying for the grant.

Board Member Comments

Commissioner Ashby welcomed Commissioner Lacey to the Board. He thanked staff for their time working on the MBO's.

Commissioner Kelsas stated Terry Lubenkov's statement regarding maintenance free plantings is something to consider with our small staff. He explained a few years ago the Board voted to discontinue Chemlawn and use natural chemicals on our fields. He mentioned resident Jim Boo brought a picture last year of the open grate in the park. Commissioner Kelsas wanted to thank him for caring about the park. Commissioner Kelsas stated Denning Park grew 2+ acres in the past few years and it is exciting to see the space being used. He thanked Brad Belcaster for his work on the Board and is eager to work with Lynn Lacey and see her vision to improve the Park District.

Commissioner Lacey stated she has many ideas for the Park District, however she needs to find her niche and is taking everything in at this time. She stated she never had a complaint with the Park District however she feels it can improve.

President Penicook welcomed Commissioner Lacey and is looking forward to working with her the next four years. She wanted to publicly thank Brad Belcaster for his contributions and excellent analysis that came at a perfect time when he was needed. She stated he would be missed and thanked the voters who supported them. She stated a previous conversation with Treasurer Paczolt revealed our finances are the best he has seen. She credits the staff and Board working together. President Penicook stated summer camps need additional attendance and encouraged our counselors to talk it up.

Director Bissias stated the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce was having a breakfast event next Monday with Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle. He asked those interested in attending to please email him.

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Executive Session

No Executive Session this evening

Adjournment

Commissioner Kelsas moved for adjournment at 9:26 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walsh and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.



Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary

Approved 06/13/2011