

**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**

**OCTOBER 8, 2012**

**President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Penicook, Walsh, Lacey\*, Kelpsas

ABSENT: Commissioner Ashby

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 Jim Rock, Dave Wilkinson, Jim Boo, Bill Riley from AYSO, Bill Kearny from Incapital, Charles Gilbert, Rose Naseef, Anthony Paszyna

\* Commissioner Lacey arrived at

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

President Penicook commented on the small celebration for the opening of Denning Park that took place earlier this evening. There is some minor landscaping that needs to be completed.

President Penicook stated the Park District of La Grange received a certificate of appreciation from Conservation Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Public Hearing Regarding the Intent of the Board of Commissioners of the Park District of La Grange, Cook County, Illinois to Sell \$300,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds and \$2,600,000 General Obligation Alternate Bonds (BINA Hearing)**

President Penicook opened the Public Hearing at 7:32 P.M and asked for any questions from the public.

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, questioned if the public understood

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 8, 2012**

what this bond money would be used for. President Penicook explained it would be used for our capital expenses and debt service. She stated a list of projects could be viewed on our website.

At 7:39 P.M. the BINA Hearing was closed.

### **Communications, Presentations & Declarations**

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

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, stated the Citizen's Council has extended the deadline to October 24, 2012 for submission of candidate sheets for the 2013 elections. He encourages more to run who qualify.

Jim Boo, 1327 Mason La Grange, stated times have changed since the original development plan of Gordon Park. He feels the splash pad is unnecessary and not cost effective. He says no to the Gordon Park redevelopment.

Bill Riley the regional AYSO Commissioner, 240 S. Ashland La Grange, stated there are approximately 2600 children in the AYSO program. He praised the Park District as a fantastic partner and would love to see the Gordon Park project go forward. He stated AYSO would love to donate towards it. The Board thanked him.

Rose Naseef, 911 S. Stone La Grange, stated her children were in karate class and she was not notified of the strong odor in the building from the gym floor resurfacing in August. Director Bissias stated the Park District was not informed the product was changed from past years. He stated the resurfacing is scheduled already for next year on a weekend.

Rose also agreed that Gordon Park needs more green space and less splash pads and parking lots.

Charles Gilbert, 702 Lincoln La Grange, asked for new chairs at the Community Center. Superintendent of Facilities Chris Finn stated the blue chairs from the De Sitter Room at the Rec Center would be brought there. New chairs for the Community Center were not in our budget for this year. Charles requested new chairs for the Community Center next year.

### **Consent Agenda**

President Penicook requested a change of wording for Consent Agenda Item 4.2 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting.

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve as amended Item 4.1 Approval of Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of August 20, 2012; Item 4.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 10, 2012; Item 4.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of September 10, 2012; Item 4.4 Approval of the Financial Report dated September 30, 2012; Item 4.5 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for October dated October 8,

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 8, 2012**

2012. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

### **Staff Reports**

#### *Director's Report*

Director Bissias stated he met with the Village and would be applying for an extension for the Gordon Park Grant. He explained the budget is 2.2 million for the project however we would get more of an idea when W.B. Olson puts this out for bid. The upcoming schedule for the project is the bid opening in December, awarding the contract in January, and beginning the project in March.

Director Bissias stated there was vandalism on the slide at Elm Park.

#### *Staff Comments*

Superintendent of Recreation Laura Gallagher invited everyone to attend our Halloween Party on Friday October 26, 2012. Ancel, Glink and the Dental Loft are the main sponsors right now. President Penicook stated this is a free event with over 600 people attending. The La Grange Fire Department donated 2 bicycles for the bike raffle.

### **Attorney Report**

None

### **Treasurer Report**

None

### **Action Item**

*Discussion and/or Approval of Ordinance 12-04 an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Park District of La Grange, Cook County, Illinois, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,600,000.*

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to approve Ordinance 12-04 Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of the Park District of La Grange, Cook County, Illinois in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,600,000. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 8, 2012**

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

*Discussion and/or Approval Granting Cody/Braun the Authority to Continue with the Redevelopment of Gordon Park Phase 1 Plan*

Commissioner Kelpsas motioned to approve granting Cody/Braun the authority to continue with the redevelopment of Gordon Park Phase 1 plans. Commissioner Walsh added a friendly amendment clarifying the motion authorizing Cody/Braun to proceed with the already existing approved contract. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

**Board Business**

***New Business***

*Discussion and/or Authorization Instructing Staff to Proceed with Requesting Sealed Bids for the Redevelopment of Gordon Park Phase 1*

Commissioner Walsh motioned to authorize staff to proceed with requesting sealed bids for the redevelopment of Gordon Park Phase 1. Commissioner Kelpsas seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

*First Draft of the Proposed Tax Levy for 2012 (Estimate of Levy, 35 ILCS 200/18-60)*

Superintendent of Finance Leynette Kuniej explained the proposed tax levy and asked for a consensus from the Board to proceed with the process to complete the ordinance for next month. There was Board consensus.

**Committee Reports**

*Administration Committee*

None

*Public Relations Committee*

None

*Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee*  
None

*Recreation Committee*  
None

**Public Comments**

Dave Wilkinson, 600 S. Waiola La Grange, commended the Park District of La Grange for planting mums on the north end of Waiola Park. He added there are none in the small garden on the south side.

**Board Comments**

Commissioner Walsh stated the action to move forward with the Gordon Park Redevelopment has been a long time coming. He added this park is most used and has been neglected for years. He stated this Board for 5 or 6 years has sought to do the best to uphold the vision of the community. He hopes the residents share the joy and enthusiasm for this redevelopment, as all of us have waited for this patiently for years.

Commissioner Kelsas stated the decision made tonight affects the Park District in great ways by getting the parks useable and up to date and having organizations offering to donate toward this. He remembered not long ago angry people messed things up and cost the taxpayers. Now it will be a great place to go and use. Commissioner Kelsas mentioned our own neighborhood watch program called “Be Our Eyes” and how our police chief would like more people to call in so they know what is going on in our parks. He asked the residents to protect their own tax dollars.

Commissioner Lacey stated she arrived late but pleased to see so many people attending the meeting and asked them to come more often.

President Penicook stated she is proud to be on this Board where they are moving forward and getting things accomplished by having a plan and analyzing things and having a great staff to implement them.

She stated she attended the Village Board Meeting last month and made a list of the Park District accomplishments which includes BASE, redevelopment of Denning Park, coop with Countryside, redo of Elm Park, and the renovation of the banquet room. She was proud to say the bulk of this has been done in the past 18 months. There have been a lot of meetings and talk and follow through. She stated Gordon Park would be done in 2 phases and she has confidence it will be great.

**Executive Session**

At 8:20 P.M. Commissioner Kelsas motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 13.3 Setting the Price of Real Property, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(6). Commissioner Kelsas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

The Regular Board meeting resumed at 8:41 P.M.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 8:41 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lacey and passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

  
Mary Ellen Penicook, President

  
Constantine Bissias, Secretary  
*Approved 11/12/2012*