

**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**

MARCH 14, 2011

President Penicook called the meeting to order at 7:36 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Penicook, Belcaster, Kelpas,
Ashby, Walsh

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, Kris LaRocco, Kathryn Knops, Red
Weller, Tom Cushing, Michael Walsh, Chris Cooley,
Lynn Lacey, Thom Rae from lagrangetoday.com, Alex
Keown from the Patch

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

Commissioner Belcaster asked for additional Public Comment after 8.3 Old Business. President Penicook stated this would be discussed in Item 8.3a.

Communications, Presentations & Declarations

Public Comments/ Participation

Katherine Knops, 509 S. Waiola La Grange, stated her concerns regarding Little League's request to use Waiola Park again this spring for games. Traffic and parking were cited as the main problems as well as overcrowding the park. She stated communication between Little League and the residents around the park should be improved.

Chris La Rocco, 505 S. Waiola La Grange, stated communication from Little League and the Park District has been satisfactory. She enjoys the activity in the park. She stated the Little League games have not been offensive or obtrusive as

Treasurer Report

None

Action Items

Discussion and Approval of Resolution #11-02

Commissioner Walsh motioned to approve Resolution #11-02 to include AFLAC contributions as IMRF pension wages deducted from payroll. Commissioner Kelsas seconded the motion which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

First Reading of the General Operations Budget for 2011-2012

Commissioner Kelsas motioned to support Director Bissias's request to put the first reading of the budget on the website and in the front office for 30 days for public viewing before approval at the April 14, 2011 Board Meeting. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Board Business

New Business

La Grange Little League Request for Use of Lights at Sedgwick Park for 2011

Tom Cushing, 80 Drexel La Grange, manager and former president of Little League, gave background of light usage at Sedgwick Park. Commissioner Walsh motioned to approve lights during the month of May according to terms agreed upon last year subject to approval of Executive Director for 2011. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Tom Cushing asked to make this a permanent use of the lights. President Penicook recommended a vote on this in June.

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La Grange Little League Request for the Use of the Temporary Field at Waiola Park Again for the 2011 Season

Little League Manager Tom Cushing, 80 Drexel La Grange, President of Little League Red Weller, 134 6th Ave. La Grange, and the Park District Board discussed the usage of a temporary field at Waiola Park again this year. Commissioner Belcaster motioned to allow use of the temporary field at Waiola Park under the same terms and conditions as last year with the possibility of scheduling additional games for the younger girls. Commissioner Kelpsas seconded the motion, which passed by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Old Business

Discussion of MBO's for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

The Board scheduled another MBO meeting on Monday April 4, 2011 after the 7 P.M. Budget Meeting. Approximate start time is 7:30 P.M.

Discussion of Adding Another Public Comment Later in the Meeting

After Board discussion, President Penicook stated a second opportunity for public comment would be added on a 3 month trial basis after Committee Reports and before Board Comments.

Committee Reports

Administration Committee

Commissioner Walsh stated he is reviewing the safety manual and would give a progress report at the next meeting.

Public Relations Committee

Commissioner Kelpsas stated the first meeting for this committee would be March 17, 2011.

Finance Committee & Capital Projects Committee

Commissioner Ashby stated he and Director Bissias have reviewed the budget. He stated the highlights were passed along to the Board and would be summarized at the budget meeting in April.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Ashby stated he was still waiting on data from Dave Emanuelson's surveys.

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that is what parks are for. She hopes the Park District can work with the village to install a cross walk at 47th Street for safety.

Chris Cooley, 530 S. Stone La Grange stated he shares the same views as Chris La Rocco. He stated last year families respected the parking signs and enjoyed playing in the park and socializing with friends and neighbors.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Walsh motioned to approve Item 3.1 Approval of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2011; Item 3.2 Approval of the Minutes of Executive Board Sessions of February 14, 2011; Item 3.3 Approval of the Financial Report dated February 28, 2011; Item 3.4 Approval of the Consolidated Vouchers for March dated March 14, 2011. Commissioner Ashby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

Staff Reports

Director Bissias made note of Seaspar's award of excellence given to them at the January IAPD Conference for their Eagle program.

Director Bissias attended the February 24, 2011 District 102 Board Meeting. He visited all the schools and spoke with all the teachers of the BASE program. He stated if the school district gives up the program, the Park District would be interested in taking it on and offer improvements. Commissioner Kelpsas suggested adding BASE to the 10 year Master Plan. After discussion, there was Board consensus to add BASE to the Master Plan.

Attorney Report

Attorney Bush stated in the 1235 Case, the motion to stay filed by the Objectors was denied. It went to the Appellate Court where the stay was granted if the Objectors file a \$2.98 million bond. He stated the appeal bond was not filed and the Objectors are appealing without the stay.

Attorney Bush stated at the last meeting, the Board voted to remove Resolution #08-14 and abandon the referendum process from November 2008. The court dismissed our side and Coryell side as both issues were mute. The Objectors filed a motion. Attorney Bush has not received a copy of the motion, but expects a decision in the next week or two.

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Park and Facility Committee
None

Board Member Comments

Commissioner Ashby thanked staff for their patience at the earlier MBO meeting and hoped the Board would work to make sure we made good use of the time together. He thanked staff for the better reporting and documentation and financial analysis.

Commissioner Kelsas thanked staff for demonstrating the use of MBO's. He recommended annual direction for staff without Board micromanagement. He referred to the high costs of litigation of Gordon Park while the Park District is looking to reduce costs. He stated this litigation is costing the taxpayers and taking away from the future of where we want to go.

Commissioner Belcaster thanked staff for participating in the tortuous MBO meeting earlier this evening. He stated he is looking to the Board to show priorities for staff to implement. He stated the Little League issue is a difficult situation for the neighbors. He stated Little League is a quality program with full participation and limited facilities.

President Penicook thanked staff for bearing the process and their continued work on programming and rentals which has produced upward trends. She stated reports and initiative were improving.

Executive Session

At 9:36 P.M. Commissioner Belcaster motioned the Board convene to Executive Session pursuant to Item 11.2 Acquisition, Lease and/or Disposition of Real Property, 5 ILCS120/2 (c)(5&6). Commissioner Kelsas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote as follows:

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

The Regular Board Meeting resumed at 10:00 P.M.

Adjournment

Commissioner Walsh moved for adjournment at 10:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ashby and carried.

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Mary Ellen Penicook, President



Constantine Bissias, Secretary

Approved 04/14/2011