

Minutes

The Regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Commissioners Brauer, Gunderson, Jones, Lenertz, Spelman and Voelz, Director Major, Superintendents Felix, and Krause. Absent were Commissioner Hunter and Superintendent Hoffmann

President Lenertz resided.

President Lenertz led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

Director Major introduced Sandy Gbur, Executive Director of WDSRA. Sandy spoke with the board about herself and WDSRA and answered questions regarding WDSRA and the cooperative efforts between her organization and the District.

President's Comments

President Lenertz thanked Commissioners for attending Remembering 9/11, everyone did a tremendous job.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Voelz moved to accept all items under the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, roll was called, and motion carried 6-0-1. Vote: Brauer, Gunderson, Jones, Lenertz, Spelman, Voelz – Yes; Hunter – Absent

A follow up to the Direct Energy Bill on Page 17 of the Board Packet (pg. 12 of the Supt. of Finance's report) was requested for the next meeting.

Director's Report

It should be noted fall athletic programs are in full swing, with preparations being made for winter activities. Certainly it has been a challenge, but staff has acted swiftly in replacing Denise in the all important childhood program. It is very exciting to announce the return of Chelsea McKone to full time status as she assumes this role alongside duties as dance and theater coordinator. Most of the seasonal park staff has departed, but a strong core of workers remains. Congratulations is in order for the excellent work done in developing the 9/11 Memorial site at Reed Keppler.

Due to the changes in staff, and the need to improve office capabilities, Jesse Felix will now be located at the Hawthorne Building, the permanent home of the park operations department. Several reasons for the relocation: closer training and personnel involvement opportunities, needed space at the Admin Building, and in anticipation of the new Recreation Center, there is a need to plan how this configuration will be managed. There was always a plan to move this office and not establish it in the new recreation center.

By this time, the first mailing concerning the potential recreation center should have taken been sent to 5000 active voters, a letter similar to the letter sent to key influencers. Next week, a newsletter will be sent to the same group, and a follow up mail in survey will be sent at the end of the month. Finally, a phone survey will be conducted in October to determine the level of acceptance to this initiative. Based on all the above input, the Board of Commissioners will be asked in November for action to move forward or not move forward with a March Referendum. Tomorrow evening, the final town hall meeting will be conducted at the Middle School regarding the recreation center and athletic field projects.

Discussions are taking place with YMCA concerning their role in possibly contracting some of the summer camp opportunities the District would like to offer. This does not affect the current day camp programs, but rather offers an expansion of daytime opportunities to residents of West Chicago.

Hopefully you have seen the park work being performed by the Forest Preserve at Dyer River Woods Park off of North Ave. The Forest Preserve is installing a bike trail, park access, parking, signage and general park improvements to the site at no cost. This was achieved nearly three years ago through an intergovernmental

agreement which gave the Forest Preserve working access to the overall project. Value of the improvements is over \$400,000 and will elevate the integration and usage of this park facility. Congratulations to Frank Lenertz, Bill Brauer, Don Voelz and Jim Jones for being honored at the IAPD GALA Award. Each was recognized for their many years of continued service to the West Chicago Park District.

Superintendent of Recreation's Report

Interviews for the new Active Adult Coordinator have been completed. Kathy Burke has joined our team. She will be working 20-25 hours per week and overseeing general adult, seniors, and community trips.

Matthew Kramer will also be working with us until mid December as an intern. Matt has already graduated from Iowa but will be interning with us to pinpoint the area he would like to focus on. He has already proven himself to be a hard worker.

Attended the Disney Institute in Valparaiso. It was stuck home over the seminar that quality business all comes from the staff you have, how they are treated, and the support they receive. From that stems great customer service. We have started implementing some customer service changes and more changes are to come.

Community Pep Rally was well attended, however, it again was rained out!

Kristin Newton

Turtle Splash:

Last Day is Monday, September 5th

Ended up with 387 kids going through swimming lessons this summer!

Indoor Pool:

Swim lessons are filling up fast. Some lessons are already full for 2 sessions out. Year round lessons are making a big impact on our swim lesson enrollment both indoor and outdoor.

Lap swim and lessons will begin on Tuesday, September 6th.

Fitness Station:

Have a new Zumba instructor. Her name is Maggie. She will be taking over Tuesday and Thursday evenings since our current instructor is leaving.

Have 327 members.

Running 3 new Fitness Classes this fall.

September Promo: Purchase or renew and Annual Membership and receive a free orientation with a personal trainer. We are hoping this will boost interest in personal training and generate more revenue.

Have hired 2 new front desk staff. They are trained and ready to go.

This fall we are making customer service our number one priority. We will be focusing on ways to be more customer friendly.

Kathy Burke

Active Adults

-Luau potluck. We learned how to write our name in Hawaii and did some Hawaiian trivia

-A group went to Apple Villa for the breakfast club

-Bingo, ten people attended and it was a great way to network with the participants and talk to them about upcoming events.

Joe Urban

Athletics

Football enrollment is slightly ahead of last year and Cheer is a little under last year's enrollment. Travel Baseball tryouts for 2012 are complete with 11u thru 14u teams. Travel Basketball tryouts are scheduled for September 11 and 18. All soccer games are up at Cornerstone Lakes Park starting early September for all groups.

Chelsea McKone

Dance

-Dance classes begin September 6 and we are anticipating a lower first session and larger second session, leading up to the winter performance.

-We have brought back a previous instructor, Lora Vodicka along with Jamee Kenney and Katrina Lochridge.

-A few new classes are running this session, Musical Theatre (new format), mini hip hop, and combo 2.

Theatre

Decisions are being made on which production to feature for 2012.

Preschool

-We are excited to welcome Rosy Varco as our lead Preschool teacher and Ana Alfaro as the assistant.

-PK3 has 9 registered, PK4 has 14 registered

Glory Spies

- Created flyer for 9/11 observance and worked with 9/11 committee on logistics of event. Created program for 9/11 observance. Created inserts to be included in bank envelopes for the promotion of 9/11 event and brought over to State Bank of Illinois.
- Sent out press releases on general information, events, and programs to Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce for inclusion in their E-newsletter, posted events on their website.
- Wrote and submitted nominations for Intergovernmental Cooperation Award and Good Sportsmanship Award to IAPD for Oct. 14 Gala.
- Attended the WeGo Together for Kids Communications committee meeting with representatives from School District #33 and the City of West Chicago.
- Met individually with Recreation Staff regarding promotion of programs, how to promote programs, what we can do to help increase the promotion of programs and events and the media outlets available.
- Working on 40th Birthday party ideas and how to incorporate the number "40" into promotions to actively increase participation in Park District programs next year during 40th anniversary.
- Submission of events and programs to Suburban Focus for Sept./Oct. issue
- Created an account for Fun in the Burbs, a new DuPage County website offering coupons and weekend ideas for busy families.
- Continue to send out E-newsletters once a week alternating between general park news and Turtle Splash Water Park. Information collected includes general Park District news and events, awards received, and program information

Superintendent of Park's Report

This is a recapitulation of staff activities from August 3 thru September 8, 2011

Weather highlights: Rainfall: 5.25 inches fell in West Chicago. This past summer was the 3rd wettest in history.

Department Highlights:

Reed-Keppler Park:

Construction of the September 11th Memorial garden began on August 17th.

Fence staining and staining of the entry way has been completed.

The first cross-country meet of the season was held on September 3rd. This meet was the ICOPS Invitational for independent Christian schools. Hosted by Wheaton Academy, twenty two teams participated and it was a success. Wheaton Academy will continue to host this event in the future. The best comment I heard from a participant was that it was the best course she had run this year.

The pool has a leak. Every year the pool is left to sit to see if we have problems at the beginning and end of the season. In May, there was no indication of a leak. In August, I noted that the fill valve seem to be opening faster than normal. When the pool was shut down on Labor Day, it emptied to the transition point between the zero depth and deep end. After the 911 event, the search for the leak will begin.

Pioneer Park:

The problem with the Splash Pad has been narrowed down to the control panel. The Splash Pad was a great success and has been shut down for the season.

Vandalism occurred on the 17th with damage done to the playground.

Tree work completed along path.

Easton Park:

Work will resume after the 911 event.

Kress Creek Farms:

The re-design of the disc golf course is still developing. All of the baskets have been relocated to the south side of the property. The re-design of the course began on June 11th when Steve Olsen contacted me to volunteer his services to help design the course. He brought along other volunteers Steve Matul, Gary Lewis, who is in the disc golf hall of fame, Dale Delsasso, Jake Jacobs, Steve Schlak, Roy Carey, Mike Thompson and Christine

Fraticola. They were a great help to me and the park district by undertaking this assignment. I have included some information on the disc golf hall of fame.

Fence staining has been completed. One resident stopped her car along Joliet St. to compliment the crew on how great it looks.

Dyer-Riverwoods Farm:

Construction is underway for the bike path. As part of the agreement with the Forest Preserve of DuPage County, the invasives have been removed and will be replaced with native trees.

Hampton Hills Park:

Electric Conduit has installed the electric cable from the transformer to the west side of the pond. I have met with DuPage Electric (September 9th) to have them install the meter pedestal. A load letter to ComEd will be all that remains to be done before installing the aerator for the pond.

Other Notes: Some seasonal staff members have started to return to school.

Superintendent of Finance's Report

The written report from the Superintendent of Finance was delivered to the Board as part of the consent agenda prior to the meeting.

Committee of the Whole

- I. Commissioners Present: Brauer, Spelman, Jones, Hunter, Gunderson, Voelz, Lenertz
- II. Video Presentation for Wego Together for Fun was shown.
- III. Hometown Hero Award/Presentation

The candidate has been selected and the award will be presented at the Observance
The memorial has arrived and will be placed later this week, shrubs have been planted, granted paths have been laid, and flowers will go in after the memorial is placed.

- IV. Personnel Changes

The Active Adult position has been filled. Kathy Burke has joined our team
Denise Scott, youth coordinator, has left to pursue other ambitions. Chelsea McKone, performing arts coordinator, will be our new youth coordinator as well.

- V. Easton Park Update

Conservation crew has come to an end. 2 kids from this group have stayed on to wrap up the year. The hope for the future is that this program, if it continues, will start earlier.

- VI. Kress Creek Update

Disc Golf baskets have been mounted with help from players. Another work day is scheduled.

- VII. Misc

Tree Sale Event for Arbor Day

Aerator at Hampton Hills is being worked on, waiting for ComEd

FOIA changes, board may need to take a class.

OSLAD update should be set to City Administrators and Council

Newsletters need to be sent to commissioners and other elected officials. Also checking on IAPD lists.

Pioneer Park Splash Pad is off until Memorial Day.

Old Business

Commissioner Voelz moved to approve a donation in the amount of \$5,000 to WDSRA Scholarship Fund. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, roll was called, and motion carried 6-0-1. Vote: Brauer, Gunderson, Jones, Lenertz, Spelman, Voelz – Yes; Hunter – Absent

New Business

The Board addressed a letter sent to several staff members as well as several commissioners in regards to football. The Board believes all matters should be addressed by staff and it is difficult to find credence in a letter unless it is signed.

Executive Session

Commissioner Jones moved to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of minutes of meetings closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of minutes, pursuant to Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Voelz seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 7:48pm.

President Lenertz cleared the Board Room.

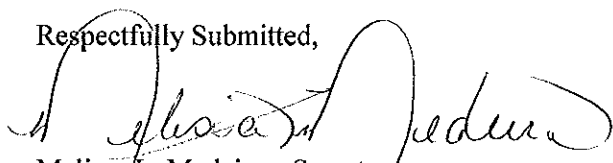
The Board rose from Executive Session at 7:53pm.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the Secretary's recommendation for the Executive Session Minutes listed in Exhibit A to remain closed to the public. Commissioner Voelz seconded the motion, roll was called, and motion carried 5-0-1-1. Vote: Brauer, Gunderson, Jones, Lenertz, Voelz – Yes; Spelman – Abstain; Hunter – Absent.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Voelz moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa L. Medeiros, Secretary