

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
APRIL 12, 2010**

The Special Committee of the Whole Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

Present: Commissioners: Considine, Douglass, Ehrhard, McKendry, Nickels, President Gronau
Absent: Commissioner Hart

Visitors: Ron Salski (Executive Director), Dave Peterson (Director of Facilities and Recreation Services), Bob Troyer (resident), Tom Grant (resident), John Dzarnowski (FGM Architects), MaryFran Leno (Itasca Park District), Paul Friedrichs (Lombard Park District)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

President Gronau called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called:

Commissioners Considine, Douglass, Ehrhard, Nickels, McKendry, President Gronau

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner McKendry to approve the agenda of April 12, 2010 as amended.

Ayes: Commissioners Considine, Douglass, Ehrhard, Nickels, McKendry, Gronau

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Hart

4. STATEMENT OF VISITORS:

Resident Bob Troyer (249 E Woodland Rd.) spoke in regards to his previous letters dated 6/23/2009 and 12/3/2009 to Executive Director Ron Salski. Mr. Troyer requested the Commissioners reconsider the current policy allowing Board Members to receive free memberships at Lake Bluff Park District facilities.

5. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

A. Board Workshop – Pool

a. Types of Industry Amenities

MaryFran Leno and Paul Friedrichs, facilitators, summarized the Task Force Group meetings. A handout was given to all Commissioners prior to the meeting while a brief summary was given to the Commissioners.

Comments/Questions:

- Paul Friedrichs mentioned possible funding options: ADA compliance – funds may be used from the Special Recreation levy. Not all monies must come from the referendum if one is passed.
- Water temperature of pools was discussed (81 degrees) in conjunction with optional heating methods – solar blankets. John Dzarnowski doesn't see solar blankets or solar heating used except in Texas, Florida, and California.
- Hosted swim meets: How will hosted meets affect resident swim time? Ms. Leno and Mr. Friedrichs indicated hosted meets are held on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Wednesday evening the pool closes at 5 p.m. and some areas of the pool may be open for residents. Saturday meets are held in the morning hours and finish by 11:30 a.m. with no impact to residents.
- Attendance Increase / Parking: What groups did the increase in attendance come from? What about increased parking?
Mr. Friedrichs indicated his increase in attendance came from the young moms with children and seniors. Ms. Leno indicated she had no room for additional parking but utilizes the Village parking lot 1 ½ blocks away.
- Deep Water: Is separate deep water better for programming? Separate deep water can be used for additional programming without the need to close other pool areas.
- Pool Finances: Do pools make money?
Ms. Leno indicated her facility did net \$73,000 in 2009. Monies are put back into the Recreation Fund and approximately \$100,000 is needed for VGB compliance. Mr. Friedrichs indicated his facility netted \$203,000 in 2009. Based on the different accounting methods used, the true pool profit was \$143,000 of which approximately \$113,000 will be used for the addition of deck drains, larger concrete area for lounge chairs, larger walk area between pools and for VGB compliance.

b. Future Planning Timeline – Update

Executive Director Salski outlined the following meeting dates:

Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.: Conceptual drawings will be available for viewing and comments by the Task Force groups and Commissioners.

Wednesday, May 5 (tentative date) at 6:30 p.m.: The Task Force group update meeting. The meetings focus will be to narrow down the conceptual drawings.

Wednesday, May 12 (tentative date): Commissioner presentation by John Dzarnowski of FGM Architects. The meetings focus will be to gather comments from the Task Force groups and the public on the remaining conceptual drawings.

Monday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.: Regular Board Meeting will allow Commissioners to finalize the pool design.

June and July: Focus on financing

c. Liner - Update

Director Peterson indicated the liner bubbling has subsided since last discussed with the Board in March. Staff has received quotes for repair but is waiting for a liner specialist to view and make further recommendations. Staff will report these recommendations at the April 19 Regular Board meeting.

B. Board Policy Manual: Section 11 Review

At the March 1, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board made a non-binding motion to remove the section of the paragraph (b) allowing Commissioners to one free beach shelter, room rental, and Clubhouse and Platform Tennis Hut rental per calendar year. Paragraph (a) allowing Commissioners free memberships to the pool, golf, fitness center, and paddle facility was not discussed or changed.

President Gronau requested to resolve this issue and asked for Commissioner comments tonight. A memo was supplied to Commissioners indicating the policies of various Park Districts and Recreation Departments.

- Commissioner Nickels asked the value of these free memberships, the amount was calculated to be approximately \$2,100. He mentioned the Board members should be encouraged to use the facilities in order to be informed and make good decisions regarding the Park District. He would like to gather more opinions from residents before making a decision.
- Commissioner McKendry agreed to maintain the current policy as Commissioners should be encouraged to use all facilities in order to make informed decisions.
- Commissioner Ehrhard agreed to maintain the current policy as she has increased participation in various programs i.e. golf and fitness programs by being allowed to participate.
- Commissioner Douglass agreed to maintain the current policy as Commissioners are ambassadors to the community. In addition, he should be well versed in all Park District facilities in order to promote the Park District. He inquired about adding checks and balances so no privileges would be abused.
- Commissioner Considine mentioned that by eliminating paragraph (b) the Commissioners embrace the free membership paragraph fully. He mentioned that usage of the facilities is important but there may be a better way to accomplish this than through free memberships. He asked if the benefits are appropriate given the current situations.
- President Gronau agreed to maintain the current policy. He mentioned that the Commissioners should be passionate about the facilities, and thereby encouraged to use them.

The Commissioner's consensus was to maintain the current policy at this time; therefore this item will not be on the Regular Board meeting agenda of April 19.

6. VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

Director Peterson indicated the surge tank repairs will begin on Monday, April 19 and should be completed in one week.

B. Executive Director Report

Executive Director Salski indicated the following:

- 1). Tent usage: Neighbors have asked the Park District to “keep its promise” and not request additional late evening rentals. Commissioners supported the request.
- 2). Commissioners supported utilizing the services of Anne Whipple for three more months. The \$1,500 fee is based on the Park District providing all copy and minimal hours.
- 3). Route 176 buckthorn update: Mariani is almost finished with the design with the expectation that plans will be brought to the Village in May for approval.
- 4). Police blotter item: Investigation continues, however, the theft did not occur from a locked locker in the fitness center but from a purse left unattended by the dance studio.

C. Friends of the Lake Bluff Park District Foundation

Commissioner Ehrhard reported the Friends brochure is in progress and will be mailed soon. A kick-off event is planned for Saturday, August 21 at the Park District.

D. Administration and Finance Committee

Commissioner Nickels and McKendry mentioned researching the pools within the surrounding communities of Lake Bluff in order to determine the possibility of losing pool members.

E. Future Planning Committee

No report

F. Golf Committee

President Gronau indicated April 15 is the last day for discounted membership rates. He mentioned the 15th green has ice damage and will need to be resodded. Ed Heiser will give an updated report at the April 19 Regular Board meeting.

G. Paddle Committee

Commissioner Gronau will make appointments in his President’s Report.

H. Parks, Recreation Programs & Facilities Committee

Saturday, April 17 is opening day. A Lake Bluff Baseball Association parent has volunteered time and services to add drain tiles with the goal to improve drainage at Artesian Park.

I. Tri-Advisory and Intergovernmental Committee

No report

J. President’s Report

President Gronau made the following sub-committee changes:

Administration and Finance Committee: Doug Nickels, Chair and Kevin Considine

Paddle Committee: Susan Ehrhard, Chair and Doug Nickels

Parks, Recreation & Facilities Committee: Rob Douglass, Chair and Kauri McKendry

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard and seconded by Commissioner Nickels to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approved this 19 day of April 2010
Board of Commissioners
Lake Bluff Park District