

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
PARKS AND BEACH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016**

The Parks and Beach Committee Meeting of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Commissioner McKendry.

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called: K. McKendry and S. Ehrhard.

Committee Member present was G. Russell.

Staff members present were Ed Heiser, Superintendent of Facility Services, Rob Foster, Superintendent of Golf, Park and Facility Maintenance and Noah Mach, Park Services Manager.

Also present was Rob Douglass, Park Board President.

Visitors: Stefanie Nagelbach, Shabica and Associates and Stephen D. Lane, Project Manager/GIS Coordinator for Graf Natural Resources Management.

Approval of Agenda

Member Ehrhard moved to remove items C & D, seconded by Member Russell to approve the September 15, 2016 Agenda with the removal of C & D. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Statement of Visitors – None

Approval of Minutes

Member Ehrhard moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Beach and Parks Committee for April 24, 2012, seconded by Member Russell.

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Member Russell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Parks and Beach Committee for April 12, 2016, seconded by Member Ehrhard.

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Member Russell moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Parks and Beach Committee for August 10, 2016 with revision to Member Russell's recommendation to accept alternate #8 in place of alternate #7 under Artesian Park / Blair Park Bid - Recommendation, seconded by Member Ehrhard.

AYE: S. Ehrhard, G. Russell, K. McKendry

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / ACTION

Sunrise Park and Beach – Short and Long Term Erosion Plans – Shabica and Associates – Presentation

Executive Director introduced Stefanie Nagelbach, Shabica and Associates. Ms. Nagelbach discussed the history of lake levels and impacts on the shoreline. The wave energy and lake beds create impacts on the shoreline. Ms. Nagelbach recommends modifying the Sunrise Park and Beach Waterfront Master Plan to reflect the high lake levels. She discussed the existing conditions from 2015. She presented past vs. current maps of the beach and impacts of the higher lake levels.

Member Russell asked about the Lake Forest Beach and whether the rock revetments prevent the down cutting of the lake bed. Stefanie stated that the quarry stone breakwaters do not stop and what stops erosion of lake bed is having thickness of sand covering it based on studies. She can research more but having a system would create sand thickness, hence reducing wave energy.

In 2012, the stones were exposed due to the lower lake levels and there were wider beaches. Ms. Nagelbach recommends designing for higher lake levels. She showed the south beach in 1997. She presented a Master Plan that was shared with former Executive Director Walt Schamber.

Member Russell asked about the existing quarry breakwaters and whether height is at the level they need to be at and based on assumption that lake levels will not go higher than 1986. Ms. Nagelbach stated that her firm tries to balance design, functionality and cost of structure with what might happen and what needs to be done. She stated that once you add height it gets expensive. She felt comfortable with the design but doesn't guarantee function especially with a big storm. If her firm designs for large storms, the costs can be an additional 50% more to the estimated price.

She stated the current lake level is 580.1. Member Russell mentioned predictions that it may be slightly higher than this year. He asked if she heard anything. She stated that their firm receives information from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Member Russell asked if the Park District has talked with the Yacht Club about closing the gap where the boats enter and exit. Executive Director Salski stated staff has not discussed with the Yacht Club.

Member Russell asked if the Park District should revisit the entire plan and north area past the dog beach and set a priority. He recommends the Board revisiting the priorities. Rob Douglass agreed. Executive Director Salski stated that he is willing to bring the previous Advisory Committee back to discuss priorities as Master Plans are meant to be reviewed and revised. Member Ehrhard believes the priority is shoreline erosion/protection.

Member Russell asked about the Boardwalk. Executive Director Salski mentioned it may not be necessary to install a Boardwalk due to the four-wheel vehicle. Member Ehrhard stated there was no formal approval of eliminating the Boardwalk and agrees that the Master Plan needs to be revised in detail. She believes the beach is very important and the Board must sit down to discuss the priorities while using funds appropriately.

Member Russell believes the most important aspect of the Master Plan is reviewing beach erosion protection. Member Russell stated that he was not in favor of the north stairs. Executive Director Salski asked how much time to spend or what to revise on the Master Plan due to time and money. Member Ehrhard suggested that the Park District should not focus on the stairs. Member McKendry mentioned that people were split on the stairs so the Committee and Board should focus on the erosion and North Shore Water Reclamation building.

Member Russell asked what is the status of North Shore Water Reclamation District and what can be done with Park District priorities. Executive Director Salski stated that there have been extensive discussions but institutional zoning is the first step before any project. Staff was hoping to submit information in the coming weeks. Member Ehrhard asked how long have the discussions occurred. Executive Director Salski stated 2008.

The Committee agreed to determine the impact of the North Shore Water Reclamation District on our beach. Member Ehrhard agreed.

Member Russell asked if the Yacht Club is looking for a larger footprint. Executive Director Salski stated that there are discussions but no one wants to pay for designs to evaluate the space. Member Ehrhard recommends that it is important to determine our needs. Member McKendry asked Ms. Nagelbach if there is anything to be undone with the North Shore Water Reclamation District project. Ms. Nagelbach stated the pier.

Park Tree Inventory – Graf Natural Resources Management and GIS – Presentation

Noah Mach introduced Stephen Lane, Graff Natural Resources Management. Mr. Lane presented their process for determining the report. He stated that the Park District has a good diversity of trees but recommends more diversity. He completed a tree risk assessment. Members and Mr. Lane discussed the Emerald Ash Borer impacts on the Park District. Mr. Lane presented the GIS software and how the Park District can manage its assets, i.e. trees, memorial benches and plaques. The Park District can include on its website for residents to access. In addition, staff can access the GIS system via tablets and make any necessary changes. Mr. Lane recommended a reforestation/tree replacement plan.

The Committee was impressed with the plan and thanked Graf Natural Resources Management and GIS. The Committee recommended Graf Natural Resources Management present to the full board.

Blair Park – Recreation Center – Lighting – Discussion

Superintendent Heiser presented lighting options for the Recreation Center Parking lot. Superintendent Heiser mentioned staff developed a retrofit plan to replace the existing lights and if needed, the Park District can add lights in specific locations. He presented the plan. He stated there are four different fixtures in the parking lot.

Member Russell asked if the rectangle fixtures were put in when the lot was built. Superintendent stated “yes”. Superintendent stated there is one pole where the wiring is bad and direct burial is the issue.

Superintendent Heiser stated installing new equipment is expensive so improved existing lighting is the priority in the plan. He stated taking the small light fixtures and update them with a square LED RAB head. He stated it doesn’t address where there is no light.

Superintendent Heiser stated phase two is adding and installing six fixtures. He presented the phase one and two pricing and total estimated project costs as \$50,000.

Member Ehrhard asked when phase one would start. Superintendent Heiser stated it is a 6-8 week timeline. Member Ehrhard asked if the Park District could move sooner due to safety concerns. She asked when phase two would get completed. Superintendent Heiser stated that the Park District would need to go to bid, which would require a spring timeline.

Superintendent Heiser discussed about a grant opportunity for existing light fixtures that may slow the process. Committee Members were supportive of a two phase approach. Member Russell asked if staff could complete the project. Superintendent Heiser stated it is possible but unsure; therefore, there are funds for installation. Member Russell had questions whether the puck lighting would satisfy the resident concerns. Executive Director Salski stated that he spoke with one specific neighbor who would be supportive of the puck lighting.

There were discussions about how many puck light fixtures to have by the front door. Member Russell suggested reviewing Light #16 on the plan due to the potential impacts on the neighbors. Member Russell suggested that the Park District will probably need to go through the Village process for any new lighting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Commissioner Ehrhard, seconded by Commissioner Russell, to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Approved this 19th day of October, 2016
Lake Bluff Park District