

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
KENILWORTH PARK DISTRICT BOARD HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL,  
419 RICHMOND ROAD, AT 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2009.**

Park District President Thomas Feeney called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m., and the Secretary called the roll as follows:

Present:	Thomas Feeney	President
	Richard Peterson	Commissioner
(arrived at 5:35 pm)	Chip Kenyon	Commissioner
	Jason Hanold	Commissioner
	Heidi Higgins	Commissioner

Others Present:	Brad Burke	Secretary
	Lou Maggi	Superintendent
	Mary Cole	Mr. Burke's Secretary
	Eileen Madigan	353 Melrose Avenue
	Kristen Casas	234 Warwick Road
	Kevin Flannery	350 Melrose Avenue
	Jake Deane	Chicago
	Michele Sebastian	Illinois Girls' Lacrosse Assoc.

The minutes of the September 3, 2009 meeting were placed before the Park District Board. **Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion, and upon a voice vote the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.**

Secretary Burke noted the finance report had not been sent out to Commissioners earlier because the meeting is on the first day of the month, and the information could not be put together until the day of the meeting. He reviewed the September bills and noted the bills were fairly standard and included the second installment payment to the North Suburban Special Recreation Association.

President Feeney made a motion to approve the September bills. Commissioner Hanold seconded the motion, and the bills were unanimously approved.

President Feeney said the next agenda item is a request for the use of the Village House. Secretary Burke explained the request from Donna Calk for space for a women's Boot Camp Training program usually held in the park adjacent to the Kenilworth Club. When the weather is inclement, participants plan to use the Kenilworth Club facility for their program; however, there are conflicts on certain dates with the use of the facility. Therefore, Ms. Calk has requested use of the Village House in the event weather prohibits her group from participating outside. Secretary Burke reported staff has completed some research on how a series of use dates has been handled in the past. The Park Board discussed Village House usage. Commissioner Higgins asked if

there would be any conflict with school usage when this group was interested in renting the facility. Secretary Burke said there is not a conflict because this group will be using the facility in the mornings before the Sears lunch program begins.

Secretary Burke also mentioned another resident has contacted staff and expressed interest in running a karate program out of the Village House. Commissioner Hanold asked if Ms. Calk is planning on charging the participants of the Boot Camp Program. Secretary Burke said it is his understanding all participants pay a fee to cover the cost of the trainer. Commissioner Higgins expressed her opinion \$50.00 is a fair price per usage date. The Board agreed and **Commissioner Peterson made a motion to charge the Boot Camp Program a \$50.00 per usage date fee. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken as follows:**

**Yea: Higgins, Peterson, Hanold, Feeney**

**Nay: None**

**Absent: Kenyon**

**Abstain: None**

The motion was unanimously carried.

Next, Secretary Burke said he had received a letter from Chris VanderPal, who worked for the Summer Camp with her daughters which raised a concern regarding rate of pay for one of her daughters. Ms. VanderPal indicated in her letter, she felt her daughter had not been paid enough. Secretary Burke explained the pay scale for counselors had been arbitrary in the past, but since 2006, the Park District has been working toward the consistent establishment of a set pay scale for all employees of the summer camp. Secretary Burke noted Ms. VanderPal's daughter was paid according to the pay scale. The Park Board discussed the issue and determined that the pay scale was fair, applied appropriately in the instance in question, and took no action. Commissioner Higgins indicated she believed Ms. VanderPal would be happy the issue was discussed by the Board and a letter or response issued.

Commissioner Higgins said she would like to set up a meeting with Connie Horner who has been the director of two pre-schools and has lots of experience in the field of summer camps and programming. Commissioner Higgins indicated she would like to get feedback and suggestions about running the Summer Camp. Secretary Burke said he and the office staff have met with the directors after camp was over the last two camp seasons to discuss successes and items for change in the coming year. President Feeney suggested Secretary Burke and Commissioner Higgins meet with Ms. Horner. Commissioner Peterson asked how more revenue could be generated from Summer Camp. Commissioner Higgins said the construction at the school was an issue for some parents and expressed her opinion applications should go out earlier.

Secretary Burke reported Superintendent Maggi and he had met with Ken Mrock and discussed developing a plan for improving Townley Field. Mr. Mrock had suggested a plan for renovating the field which anticipates starting in the spring of 2010. The plan

includes amending the soil, grading and sodding. Mr. Mrock would help develop bid documents.

A general discussion by the Board about the fact that use will be limited on Townley Field during the proposed renovation followed.

Commissioner Peterson said he had talked with the smaller children's' soccer group and they plan to use Mahoney Park for practices. He said the whole community needs to know about the renovation in case of limited use for one season.

Kristen Casas said the Kenilworth-Winnetka Baseball Association expects to start by April 1<sup>st</sup>, and noted they may have to shift to Northfield.

Commissioner Higgins said the Park Board needs to contact all baseball commissioners. She also felt the Board should talk to Sears School about contributing money for the field. She asked Secretary Burke if a letter from the Park District requesting donations from residents had gone out yet. Secretary Burke said he anticipated sending out a letter once the detailed plans for the field renovation were known.

Commissioner Peterson asked if Superintendent Maggi were doing much maintenance now. Superintendent Maggi said he is doing a little aeration along with other maintenance activities.

Superintendent Maggi went on to report on his monthly work which included routine fall maintenance and getting the fall flowers out.

Secretary Burke said he has had requests for field usage from two different lacrosse organizations in recent days. He recommended the Park Board gather all the users together to try to gain an understanding of each sporting activity's separate needs.

President Feeney said by the December meeting the Board will have a plan. Secretary Burke said the Park District should get all the different requests for usage in and then try to allot time. Commissioner Higgins thought that would be the best way to handle it.

Commissioner Kenyon said that Lacrosse and Baseball will have to be cancelled in the spring because of the proposed field renovation. Commissioner Peterson said they will not be cancelled but moved to other fields in the area. Commissioner Kenyon asked if the renovation could be delayed. He said he hates to not be able to use the field and he has about 200 Lacrosse players who will be ready to play in Kenilworth in the spring.

Commissioner Hanold suggested one option may be to delay the renovation to November 2010. Commissioner Kenyon expressed his opinion it is not wise to shut down the field in the spring. Commissioner Peterson said Superintendent Maggi could use his new equipment and keep the field up during the spring and summer of 2010. Commissioner Kenyon said there is not much use in the summer, but it is badly needed for about two months in the spring. Secretary Burke said if the renovation is put off to

November of 2010, Mr. Mrock will likely strongly urge the Park District not to have the ice rink during the winter of 2010 - 2011.

The Board was in consensus to delay the improvement for a year to November of 2010.

Ms. Casas asked what the cost of the renovation will be and if the Park District has the money. Secretary Burke said there is \$100,000 in the budget in the current fiscal year for the type and scope of field improvements contemplated. Ms. Casas again asked about the Park District having the money for the renovation. She talked about the school having budget issues for the next few years.

Jake Deane said he would like to use the field once a week for an hour and a half for an all star lacrosse team. The Park Board was in consensus that there is no problem with Mr. Deane's organization using the field.

Commissioner Hanold asked if there will be any scheduling conflicts with Mr. Deane's usage. Superintendent Maggi said he did not envision any conflicts at this time of the year.

Commissioner Peterson said Superintendent Maggi will have to do more maintenance since the improvement is put off for a year.

Michelle Sebastian of the Illinois Girls Lacrosse Association said her group had been kicked off the field even though 90% of the group is Kenilworth kids. She said they would need the field in the springtime for one day a week. Ms. Sebastian said the field lining is awesome in Kenilworth. She said they start at the end of April and go to the beginning of June. They play one evening a week starting at 5pm for an hour and a half.

Commissioner Peterson said if there are no conflicts with other teams and the field lasts, such a request by Illinois Girls Lacrosse Association should be fine.

Commissioner Hanold asked if the representatives from the two lacrosse organizations had looked at alternate sites such as Northfield.

Secretary Burke asked if they have field usage agreements with the towns where they play or if the programs are run through the various Park Districts. Ms. Sebastian said her organizations plans programs both ways and Illinois Girls Lacrosse is fine with either approach.

Kristen Casas asked how field allocation works. She asked what the Park Board's mission and/or goal is with regard to programs and services. President Feeney said the Park District has never had to allocate field time before because it has never been a problem. Ms. Casas reiterated her question regarding the District's mission. President Feeney said the operation of the whole Park District system of parks and programs is the Board's mission. He said they had spent a lot of time on Mahoney Park in the past

few years with the restoration of that area. President Feeney said Townley Field has become the new issue as it has gotten torn up due to higher usage in recent years.

Kristen Casas suggested the Board needs a vision. She said the demand exceeds the space. The Board needs to define its number one priority which is to serve the community.

President Feeney said the intensity of Lacrosse tears up the field more than other sports. President Feeney noted the Park Board is trying to figure out how to respond to this new reality and look at field maintenance and usage in a new way now that there is more demand. The Board wants to have a field scheduling tsar and find out what is needed. Commissioner Hanold added the Board wants to be more systematic about the solution. Ms. Casas expressed her opinion the Park Board needs to get a concrete time line out.

President Feeney said Secretary Burke has been talking to other communities to find out how they handle their field usage scheduling. Secretary Burke said the challenge is that there is no staff directly responsible for scheduling and overseeing field usage.

Kristen Casas said the District has the website and volunteers. Scheduling has to be centralized. She asked what a reasonable expectation is for the November meeting. President Feeney said policy can be determined. Commissioner Kenyon said that is difficult at a regular meeting. Ms. Casas said policy could be determined at a sub-committee meeting. This could be done independent of the whole Board.

President Feeney reiterated that the District is looking at other community's methodologies. Commissioner Peterson said other Park Districts have the option to move teams around from field to field, but in Kenilworth someone will be out when the field renovation is started.

Commissioner Hanold said again we are talking to other communities to get their best practices.

Kristen Casas expressed her willingness to help with developing a policy/program for field usage. She asked Michelle Sebastian if she knew of similar Park Districts with such space limitations and how they handle this challenge.

Michelle Sebastian said some small park districts combine with other small districts or they use reciprocation. Ms. Sebastian said she deals with 40 communities and may have information at her office that could be of assistance to the Kenilworth Park District.

**Commissioner Hanol made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kenyon seconded the motion which was unanimously carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Cole