

**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, SEPTEMBER 6, 2007.**

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
	Jason Hanold	Commissioner
	Heidi Higgins	Commissioner
Absent:	Chip Kenyon	Commissioner
Others Present:	Brad Burke	Secretary
	Lou Maggi	Superintendent
	Mary Cole	Secretary to Mr. Burke
	Maryann Van Dyke	Finance Administrator
Others Present:	John McGovern	NSSRA

The minutes of the July 12, 2007 meeting were placed before the Board. Commissioner Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Hanold seconded the motion, which, upon a voice-vote was unanimously approved 4-0.

Secretary Burke reviewed the July and August payables. He noted the July payables reflected expenses for the summer camp program. The August payables included \$66,000 for the renovation of Pee Wee Park, the North Suburban Special Recreation Association inclusion fee, and unclaimed property to the State of Illinois. Secretary Burke reported that the Park District was right on track with its budget; however, next month's expenditures will reflect storm damage expenses.

Commissioner Peterson asked if there was a time limit on the unclaimed property in the form of unclaimed paychecks. Finance Administrator Van Dyke said it is seven years and it must be published in the newspaper. Commissioner Peterson asked if she had done that. Finance Administrator Van Dyke said she has been trying to address the requirements for unclaimed property on a yearly basis to meet state law.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the payables as presented. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried 4-0, and the payables for July and August were approved.

President Feeney introduced John McGovern, Executive Director of the North Suburban Special Recreation Association. Secretary Burke said a few words of introduction also, explaining the role of the NSSRA.

Mr. McGovern gave a brief report, noting the NSSRA had formulated a three year plan with a focus on marketing. He handed out some new brochures. He explained what the NSSRA does on behalf of the Kenilworth Park District. He asked that the Board encourage the disabled who need assistance to contact the NSSRA.

Finance Administrator Van Dyke asked if NSSRA was for adults too. Mr. McGovern said yes, they have people from 3 to 83, and noted 50% of their participants were over 21.

Mr. McGovern went on to say that Secretary Burke was a capable, active member of the NSSRA Board. He said there have been significant changes in the last four years. He said the Village of Highwood had rejoined the organization in 2007. Mr. McGovern discussed new innovations in special recreation programming. He also discussed a \$100,000 grant which had been vetoed by the governor and was now in limbo. He felt that the NSSRA would recoup this through fundraising. He said the NSSRA had recently won the "Enriched Lifestyles Program" award for a new program provided through its office.

Commissioner Peterson asked about Kenilworth's direct involvement in the NSSRA. Mr. McGovern said the NSSRA uses members' facilities and based on Kenilworth's population, they should use Kenilworth's facilities 1½ to 2% of the time. He said they had used the Kenilworth Village House for a recent summer camp program so Kenilworth's obligation was met.

Secretary Burke noted the Little Springs/Sport Plus summer camp programs had received NSSRA staff support. He said the NSSRA is a great organization and a great resource.

Mr. McGovern said families of the handicapped often want to come to Park District meetings and he would try to arrange that in the future.

Commissioner Hanold asked about the number of people in Kenilworth using the NSSRA.

Secretary Burke said the numbers on the monthly inclusion report sent out by the NSSRA can be provided to the Park Board.

Mr. McGovern concluded by, again, urging Board members to have the handicapped contact the NSSRA.

Secretary Burke passed out a summer camp spread sheet which included all this year's expenses. He noted the net profit was \$21,843.38. Secretary Burke noted more camp counselors were hired this year than last year.

Commissioner Peterson asked if there was a formula used by the directors for hiring, such as for every 10 students, 1 counselor. He noted this is significant less profit than last year.

Commissioner Hanold asked about the \$40 for T-shirts. Secretary Burke said they had extra T-shirts from the camp season and made them available for purchase by campers or their families.

Commissioner Hanold asked if feedback was requested. Secretary Burke said that would be the next step. This year he had introduced a counselor handbook to the directors and staff, and next year Secretary Burke stated he planned to introduce an evaluation process for campers and counselors.

Commissioner Higgins asked where the summer camp directors got their T-shirts. Secretary Burke said Co-Director Mark Drelicharz had a contract, and he would get that information to Commissioner Higgins.

Commissioner Higgins asked about a bonus for the Directors, Mark and Amy. She asked that the staff look up past amounts.

Commissioner Peterson asked if their salaries were higher. Secretary Burke said they were actually lower with this being both the director and assistant director's first year overseeing the camp.

Commissioner Hanold asked if it was too late for a performance survey. Commissioner Higgins said something could be sent home with the school children asking for suggestions and comments. Secretary Burke said he will plan a meeting to talk with the director and assistant director to see if they have any ideas on how to solicit feedback.

Commissioner Peterson asked if there were any problems with any of the summer camp employees. Commissioner Higgins said several counselors in training would not be allowed back next year. Commissioner Peterson said perhaps they needed more training. Commissioner Higgins said some were simply not good employees.

President Feeney asked about Pee Wee Park. Superintendent Maggi said it is coming to the end of the project, and he and his crew have been spreading wood chips. President Feeney asked if it was plastic wood chips. Superintendent Maggi said it was wood.

President Feeney asked if the Park District should hold a grand opening ceremony. He suggested having Katie Nahrwold attend a ribbon cutting ceremony and inviting the people who contributed to the project. Commissioner Higgins suggested putting Ms. Nahrwold in charge of such a ceremony if one is planned. President Feeney said he would contact Ms. Nahrwold.

Secretary Burke said perhaps it could be held before the next meeting in the 5:00 pm time slot, and the meeting could start at 5:30.

Commissioner Higgins suggested putting an item in the Newsletter about this and finding out who else contributed. President Feeney said he would check it out.

President Feeney turned the discussion to Townley Field improvements.

Commissioner Higgins asked if a donation check from the Beautification Committee had come in yet. She said the Beautification Committee wanted it used for trees on the Park Drive median. She also said the Park District would need to send a thank you note.

Superintendent Maggi said Park Drive needs trees.

Superintendent Maggi said he received the soil boring reports for Townley Field which he would pass along to Commissioner Kenyon. He showed the Board, and said he would provide copies to any other members of the Board who wanted to review the results.

Commissioner Higgins said she did not understand where the funding for such artificial turf at Townley Field would be found. Superintendent Maggi explained that Commissioner Kenyon was looking for private funding for the field improvements.

President Feeney said it is doubtful that any Park District funds could be used. The only way this project could go forward would be through private funding.

Secretary Burke explained that Commissioner Kenyon would pay for the soil testing and the Park District would pay for the survey per the direction of the Park Board members from the previous meeting.

A discussion of the topographical survey followed. Superintendent Maggi said the Park District could use the survey. Secretary Burke explained that the survey would show topography, and could help with drainage and other problems.

Commissioner Higgins said she liked the idea of improving Townley Field, but she felt other projects may need to come first.

Commissioner Peterson said it is too expensive of a project at \$700,000, unless it could be privately funded.

Chemical free maintenance of parks was the next issue for discussion. Superintendent Maggi reported that Mary Nomellini had obtained a quote from a company to apply organics to Pee Wee Park. Superintendent Maggi said it had to be done four times a year and Ms. Nomellini would pay for the first treatment. He said the quote was not for the whole field. Superintendent Maggi again expressed concern about the weeds in the fence line. He said the District could use the organic treatment as an experiment, and see what happens. He said he cannot totally eliminate chemicals because of the weed problem. He said he could treat the fence line with vinegar and lemon juice to see if this would address the weed problem.

President Feeney asked about the time element for Park staff. Superintendent Maggi said it is only two more times per year.

Commissioner Higgins asked about the cost. Superintendent Maggi said organic treatment does cost more.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion that Pee Wee be a Park District experiment and be treated with organics. President Feeney seconded the motion which was unanimously carried 4-0.

President Feeney asked if the treatment would cover the parkway.

Superintendent Maggi said he and his crew use chemicals sparingly twice a year. Organic treatment will be needed four times a year and aeration will be needed.

President Feeney asked about storm damage.

Superintendent Maggi reported that 29 trees were lost from storm damage and the backdrop of the baseball diamond at Townley Field was damaged. Superintendent Maggi said he and one of his workers, Kevin Sohn, were out with the Street Department working into the night of the storm. Superintendent Maggi said he wanted to give a special thanks to the Boy Scouts for their help. He said there is still a lot of clean up that needs to take place. The expenses will show up next month. Sunrise Tree Service was called in to help with tree clean up.

Commissioner Peterson asked if the water tower was stressed by the storm. He asked if an engineer needed to be called in to check it. Secretary Burke noted water towers are designed to meet specific standards in response to severe weather and high winds and noted the stability of the tower is not an issue. He thanked Superintendent Maggi and his crew.

Secretary Burke then reported that the Girl Scouts were conducting a car wash by the Village House on Saturday, September 8, 2007 to collect money for the Assembly Hall renovation.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cole