

**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, NOVEMBER 6, 2008.**

Park District President Thomas Feeney called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m., and the Secretary called the roll as follows:

Present:	Thomas Feeney	President
	Heidi Higgins	Commissioner
	Chip Kenyon	Commissioner
	Jason Hanold	Commissioner
Absent:	Richard Peterson	Commissioner
Others Present:	Brad Burke	Secretary
	Lou Maggi	Superintendent
	Mary Cole	Mr. Burke's Secretary
	Kevin Flannery	350 Melrose Avenue
	Debbie Killion	515 Cumnor Road
	Roy Leonard	412 Cumnor Road
	Kevin Killion	515 Cumnor Road
	Rachel Noel	141 Kenilworth Avenue
	Larry Evangelides	338 Melrose Avenue
	Amy Madigan	353 Melrose Avenue
	Lois Stanley	167 Sheridan Road

The minutes of the October 8, 2008 meeting were placed before the Board. Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the minutes. President Feeney seconded the motion, and the minutes as presented were unanimously approved.

Secretary Burke gave a brief overview of the month's payables which included only 12 bills. Secretary Burke reported there was nothing unusual in the payables.

President Feeney made a motion to approve the payables. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved

President Feeney said the next order of business was discussion of the Basketball Program. Commissioner Hanold reported that he is still receiving applications, and at this point, has 30 first grade players, 37 second grade players, and 30 third grade players. Commissioner Hanold explained teams will be organized with Commissioner Higgin's help. Commissioner Hanold also reported that he would be ordering the shirts for the program in December.

Commissioner Higgins asked if Commissioner Hanold had talked to Bill Doll about coaching again. Commissioner Hanold said he has talked to people who were coaches last year and want to come back.

President Feeney said the Board, next, needed to discuss the referendum question.

Secretary Burke said this has to be passed via a resolution by the Park Board, then sent to Cook County who will put it on the ballot. He said it must be received by the County by February 2, 2009. Secretary Burke explained a ballot question of this type will be an advisory referendum, and the Board must come up with the phrasing of the question.

Commissioner Hanold asked if the Board should have a draft at the next meeting. Secretary Burke explained President Feeney had thought the group of donators for Field Turf should develop and recommend the phrasing of the questions, with the Park Board having the final say.

Commissioner Higgins said she thought the group had already come up with something she remembered from one of their emails. A discussion of the ballot question suggested previously by private donors followed. Commissioner Higgins express her opinion she wanted assurance the Park Board can edit what the group suggests.

Kevin Flannery said he thought it was moot to discuss the phrasing for the ballot until the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District approved the project. Commissioner Kenyon said there has been a slight delay in getting an answer from the MWRD, but indicated the Park Board can start working on the wording for the ballot.

President Feeney said the Park District anticipates having the results from the MWRD before April and noted due to the timing required to place a question on the ballot, the Park Board may have to approve a resolution placing the advisory question on the April ballot prior to receiving official word from MWRD.

Mr. Flannery asked if the Board had a possible date. Commissioner Kenyon said he would check to see the status of the MWRD review.

Kevin Flannery asked about the lighting issue and if there was money set aside in the budget for lights. Secretary Burke responded there is not money set aside in the budget.

Next, Superintendent Maggi gave his monthly report. He said he and his crew have been busy with fall clean up. There are lots of leaves down, and also they have planted all the spring bulbs. He went on to say the hockey rink will go up before Thanksgiving and they will put the liner in. Superintendent Maggi said he needs skating guards.

Commissioner Hanold asked about the requirements for the skating guard positions. Superintendent Maggi said they have to be at least 16 years old.

Superintendent Maggi said the holiday tree will go up after Thanksgiving. He also reported that he received another proposal and is still gathering information for using natural grass on Townley Field.

Commissioner Hanold said if the referendum indicates no support for artificial turf, and the Park District has to do something with natural grass, the District will need funds which it does not currently have. He wondered what the District should do.

Secretary Burke said the Board will need to look at raising additional revenue possibly through program fees or a voter approved bond issue.

Commissioner Hanold asked if this were too unilateral and if there could be a dual referendum to seek voter input on a possible bond issue.

Secretary Burke said there could be up to 3 questions on the ballot. However, it may be difficult to determine the wording of a potential ballot questions pertaining to long term debt financing without a clear plan in mind for the field.

Commissioner Hanold expressed his opinion may be better than waiting for another election to see how the residents feel about paying additional taxes to support field improvements.

Rachel Noel asked how the Board would decide whether or not to go forward with this project, if this is an advisory election. Commissioner Higgins said the Park Board has consistently stated if the advisory referendum does not pass, the Park District will not pursue the artificial turf option.

Commissioner Hanold said the Board is looking for guidance from the public.

Roy Leonard asked about the cost of natural grass. Commissioner Higgins said it is less expensive initially, but more expensive to maintain in the long-term. Commissioner Kenyon explained the cost of maintaining natural turf could be as much as \$50,000 every 2 years.

Lois Stanley asked if \$50,000 is accurate. Commissioner Kenyon said that was just one expert's opinion.

Commissioner Hanold said the expert who talked to the Park Board seemed reasonable. He had said the large amount of usage of Townley Field made maintenance more expensive.

Lois Stanley said perhaps some of the costs are for normal maintenance that could be done by the Park District crews. Commissioner Kenyon said the Park crew would not be able to keep up with regular responsibilities and assignments if it were directed to dedicate so much time to maintenance of the field.

Kevin Flannery said program fees would have to increase to keep up the field. Commissioner Hanold expressed his opinion the Park Board should try to offset maintenance costs with fees.

Secretary Burke reported that the Park District audit will be ready next month. He also reported that he had been on the search committee to find a new director for the North Suburban Special Recreation Association and they had offered the job to Craig Culp from the Main-Nile Special Recreation Association. Secretary Burke noted Mr. Culp will start in December.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kenyon seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cole