

**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 WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009.**

Park District President Thomas Feeney called the meeting to order at 5:06 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
	Edward Chestnut	133 Kenilworth Avenue
	K. Fornek	Pioneer Press

The minutes of the April 8, 2009 meeting were placed before the Board. Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the minutes. Member Kenyon seconded the motion and the minutes, as presented, were unanimously approved.

Secretary Burke reviewed the April bills. He noted there were more than the usual amount of bills because of Spring maintenance supplies and the fact that Superintendent Maggi holds off on purchasing certain items until the end of the fiscal year in order to monitor total budgeted expenditures.

President Feeney noted the Park District has been paying Lacrosse bills this fiscal year for expenditures incurred, yet the District has received no revenue from Lacrosse. Commissioner Kenyon expressed it was his understanding, the Park District used money for this year's expenses from revenue generated by Lacrosse in previous years. Secretary Burke noted the Park District budgeted \$15,000 in revenue from Lacrosse for the current fiscal year, but a third party, True Lacrosse, is administering the program this year, and we have not received any revenue from the program to date. Commissioner Higgins asked why the Park District should put the money out. Commissioner Kenyon asked if Lacrosse receipts go directly into a Lacrosse fund. Commissioner Higgins said the money received from Park District programs all goes into the Recreation Fund. Commissioner Kenyon said he thought he had made it clear that any Lacrosse money should go into a separate fund, and noted Rebel Football had never paid anything to the Park District. President Feeney responded the Park District did not pay any bills for Rebel Football expenses. Secretary Burke explained that there is one pool of money for recreation and all revenues from programs or expenditures are accounted for in the Recreation Fund. Secretary Burke explained the Park District fund structure.

Secretary Burked notified the Park Board that the New Trier Football Camp was not going to be affiliated with the Kenilworth Park District this year. Brian Doll, who ran the program in the past, has been employed by a different high school and the program has been taken over by other coaches at New Trier who are running it on their own separate and apart from the Kenilworth Park District. Commissioner Higgins said there will be no income from Football Camp but also no expenses.

There was more discussion of how fees for the various sports programs go into one fund and the bills are paid out of that fund. Secretary Burke explained, for example Little Springs brings in a lot of money to the recreation fund, and this program costs the Park District very little. Therefore, the additional program revenue from the summer camp program is available to be directed to offset costs for other programs

A further discussion of revenues and expenditures of the Lacrosse program followed. President Feeney said Lacrosse is run through True Lacrosse and is like a private entity. Commissioner Kenyon said it is a private entity. President Feeney said the Park District pays for coaches. Commissioner Higgins said this sends up a red flag, and the Park District needs the Lacrosse income. Commissioner Kenyon said he would cover the cost of the program; however, he was upset about the \$15,000 in revenue from last year that was incorporated into the Recreation Fund. Secretary Burke said the money is not gone; all program fee revenue is deposited into and accounted for in the Recreation Fund. Secretary Burke noted this has to do with a policy decision and rules and procedures for government accounting, and noted the Park District Board has not directed a separate fund be created to monitor the accounting of the Lacrosse program or any other Recreation Fund program. Commissioner Kenyon said he did not understand the policy decision needed prior to this conversation.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to approve the bills. President Feeney seconded the motion. Commissioner Hanold abstained. The bills were unanimously approved with one abstention.

The Park Board next discussed summer camp. Secretary Burke said Little Springs and Sports Plus enrollments are down a bit. He noted there is usually a rush at the end of the enrollment period. Secretary Burke also said Camp Director Nicole Speropoulos and School Superintendent Kelley Kalinich have both told him some parents do not want to deal with the construction going on at the school this summer. Some parents are afraid of asbestos removal and other construction issues. President Feeney suggested some sort of flyer or mailing letting parents know that it will be a completely safe environment where the camp will be held may be appropriate.

Secretary Burke said he and Superintendent Maggi have started working on the budget. Superintendent Maggi expects to include a broadcast spreader and aeration equipment in the capital expenditures proposed which is equipment needed to aid in the maintenance of Townley Field.

President Feeney suggested maybe hiring an outside landscaper to help with the maintenance of Townley Field. Superintendent Maggi said that is a possibility and he just got some prices from a landscaper to help with the baseball diamond maintenance. Superintendent Maggi noted it was fairly pricey at \$300.00 a day for 3 baseball diamonds. That price is for 6 days a week. President Feeney said there is a KWBA meeting coming up and he would attend it and try to solicit some financial help from that group.

Superintendent Maggi suggested it may be appropriate to find a company that would work on the field weekly or monthly. He said some of the items recommended in the new budget would allow in-house improvement of Townley Field such as treatment with Turface which amends the soil. Commissioner Higgins suggested contacting Wilmette or Winnetka to see if they have someone who works on diamonds. She asked who Superintendent Maggi had gotten his price from. Superintendent Maggi said it was Mr. DiClementi. He went on to say he and his crew had top dressed Townley Field and used a rented aerator to aerate once this season. He also noted the grass seed was starting to grow.

Secretary Burke reported that Ken Mrock, Commissioner Higgins, Superintendent Maggi and himself had met to look at Townley Field. Secretary Burke said Mr. Mrock had recommended a variety of options which were all viable. Mr. Mrock said it would take a little time to amend the soil. He suggested one possibility was to remove the turf on the north field and replace it with sod late in the summer when there is a sports program break. Mr. Mrock said the north field is most in need of aggressive attention or reconstruction. The irrigation system needs a new booster pump. He said the Park District may want to develop a field use policy with a person designated to administer the policy. Commissioner Higgins said there could be a hot line or flag erected for days when the field was not to be used. She said Superintendent Maggi already schedules baseball games. Secretary Burke said there is already an extension on the Village Hall phone system for the Park District, but a policy on field usage is needed. Superintendent Maggi said we need to consider weekends when no employees are in town.

Commissioner Higgins said the Park District should start working on letters asking for donations to raise maintenance money. She said Superintendent Maggi had suggested selling engraved bricks to donors in the walkway behind the bleachers.

Commissioner Kenyon suggested the Park District should shoot for late July and August after baseball is over with for scheduling some work on the field.

Secretary Burke again said that the Park District needs a field use policy. He suggested that maybe the affiliates who use the field and the school could pay something for field usage. Commissioner Kenyon agreed and said the letter should find out if people who use the field are willing to help. President Feeney said one possibility is to close the field for two weeks after summer camp and baseball are over with for maintenance.

Commissioner Kenyon felt another person was needed to be out on Townley Field working all day. Commissioner Higgins said it depends on how much money is raised. Commissioner Higgins made a motion to hire Ken Mrock as a consultant. Mr. Mrock had submitted an hourly quote for his services. Commissioner Hanold suggested obtaining a project price rather than an hourly rate which would enable the Park Board to get a better picture of the total anticipated expenses. Secretary Burke said he would ask Mr. Mrock for a per project price bid. President Feeney asked if the Park District had to pay for Mr. Mrock's past advice. Commissioner Kenyon expressed his opinion no payment should be made, and noted Mr. Mrock came out to advertise his services and provide advice to the Park Board. Commissioner Kenyon said the Park Board could hire Mr. Mrock at this point or bid out for consulting services. Commissioner Higgins felt the Park Board should give Mr. Mrock something for his services rendered previously, noting he had been out to the Village several times. She said it appeared to her, Mr. Mrock seemed to be expecting some payment from the group of residents affiliated with the artificial turf proposal. Commissioner Kenyon said he would contact Mr. Mrock to discuss any payments expected from the resident group.

Commissioner Kenyon asked what Mr. Mrock had said about the ice rink. Superintendent Maggi said he recommended not having the ice rink for one year to allow for improvement. He explained that if there is frost in the ground when the ice rink is created, it is okay to drive snow removal equipment on the field surface. If there is no frost, the equipment damages the ground. Secretary Burke said Mr. Mrock felt the field would bounce back with more attention by maintenance personnel. Commissioner Kenyon said the Park District cannot use the liner under the rink because it chokes the oxygen out of the soil.

A further discussion of possible improvements to Townley Field followed.

Commissioner Hanold again said we need to have fixed fees for each project and Mr. Mrock's opinions in writing.

Commissioner Higgins noted, based upon input from Mr. Mrock, she is recommending purchase of an aerator, seeder and top dresser. Secretary Burke added Mr. Mrock had also suggested installing a booster pump for the field irrigation system.

Commissioner Hanold said the Park District should explore possibly having a task force, a foundation or volunteers to help with field improvement. Secretary Burke said a foundation could aid the District in supplementing capital improvements via fundraising activities. He noted some of his fellow Board members on the N.S.S.R.A. board have worked with foundations and he would solicit advice. Commissioner Higgins asked how to start. Commissioner Hanold said to approach a few people who have been interested in Townley Field and then open it up to others. He felt 5 to 8 people could easily be recruited.

Ed Chestnut of 133 Kenilworth Avenue asked about the diamond at the south end of Townley Field. President Feeney said 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade and the pony leagues play

on that field. Mr. Chestnut noted that not too many Kenilworth kids are involved in those games. He felt that maybe Kenilworth did not need that diamond which would make a bigger field and save money on maintenance. A general discussion of field usage followed.

Commissioner Higgins brought up an issue about conflict with field usage. Commissioner Kenyon reported that the field had been double booked but he had resolved the issue.

President Feeney asked if Centennial Park could be used for the little kids' programs. Superintendent Maggi, Commissioner Kenyon and Mr. Chestnut all said yes. President Feeney suggested looking into the use of other fields for the smaller children.

Next, the discussion turned to Tee ball. Secretary Burke reported, in the absence of Commissioner Peterson, that Tee ball was off to a good start though the first Saturday was rained out. Staff reported there were about 35 participants.

Superintendent Maggi brought up the issue of pay rates for his summer help. He recommended a 0.25¢ increase for the returning employee, Kenny Mayfield, which would bring his pay up to \$10.75 per hour. The second year employee will be at the rate of \$10.25 per hour and the new employee will be at \$9.50 per hour. President Feeney made a motion to approve the pay scale for summer employees. Commissioner Higgins seconded the motion which was unanimously carried.

Secretary Burke reported on a group who wanted to use Townley Field for a benefit which would involve about 200 people, the sale of liquor, and a live band. The Park Board was in unanimous agreement to deny the request.

Superintendent Maggi reminded the Board about the Memorial Day Parade and the Open House, which in years past was limited to the Police Department, but this year would include all Village Departments as well as the Park District. Commissioner Higgins said Superintendent Maggi had made a beautiful poster board for the occasion.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hanold seconded the motion which was unanimously carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cole