

**Glen Ellyn Park District Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Spring Avenue Rec. Center**

Board Observer's Report

Board Observer: Bonnie Gahris

Date: September 20, 2011

Meeting Called to Order: 7:02 p.m.

Meeting adjourned to Exec. Session and did not reconvene

Commissioners present: Aubrey, Cornell, Dunn, Mayo & Nephew and President Creech. Kinzler arrived late.
Park District representatives present: new Executive Director Harris; Superintendents Scarmado and Cinquegrani; Asst. Supt. of Recreation Defiglia; Supervisor Talenco; and Secretary Wendland. Attorney Adams was not present.

Estimates for public attendance: 2 community members.

Following Roll Call and Pledge, there were no changes to the Agenda.

The Consent Agenda (consisting of Finance Report, Voucher List of Bills, Release of Exec. Session Minutes, and the Aug. 16 Regular and Sept. 6 Workshop meeting minutes) was presented.

There was a minor change to the Aug. 16 minutes and a change to the Sept. 16 Workshop minutes regarding Comm. Dunn recusing himself from a vote on the Chamber's request to do a Haunted House at Sunset Pool. Following changes, Consent Agenda was enacted in one motion.

Public Participation: None.

Unfinished Business:

A. Goals and Objectives (G&O): There was quite a bit of discussion regarding Park District (PD) non-referendum bonds and whether they want to do them and when in regard to G&O. The PD has \$1.6 million in Capital Projects budget, but around \$1.2 million is earmarked for repairing Ackerman's roof (this may be recouped later). The Finance Supt. indicated they could go for bonds next spring, summer or fall – the later the better (less interest). Amount is based on CPI, about 2%.

PD needs to decide what projects to do based on G&O. Not all of the Board is in favor of seeking the non-ref. bonds. Old bonds could be paid off with new bonds, but there would be fees. 2012 will be a lean year due to Ackerman roof repairs. The Exec. Director indicated if non-ref bonds are not obtained for Capital projects, money may have to be taken from other areas. The President suggested going for non-ref. bonds in late 2012 or 2013.

One Commissioner asked what kind of public input is required; none, per Finance Supt. The President said they would need to have a definite plan on where/what bond money would be spent and a special hearing for the public would be required. No decisions would be made in a vacuum, one Commissioner asked? Correct, per the President; however, PD may lose out on further bond increases if they don't seek them in 2012/13.

A dissenting Commissioner mentioned that prior Board over-spent on Ackerman and that he would like to see tax savings/reductions but is in favor of non-ref bonds for protection of property, such as ASC roofing. He said PD needs to find other ways to generate income; e.g., the Boathouse. Suggested PD become more self-sustaining and show residents they are good stewards.

President said there is consensus that PD will go for non-ref bonds next year. Exec. Director said he will go to staff and make Goals & Objectives more realistic.

B. Pihos Grant Update: A suggestion was made to raise fees at Maryknoll to pay for improvements. But it was countered that fees are reasonable and draw people from other towns. The Board will take a trip to Maryknoll to look at shoreline in order to understand why repairs need to be done there.

C. Athletic Fields: Certain soccer field goals were removed due to neighbor complaints, but were added back because it was advertised as being usable. Lacrosse fields have been requested; need to find fields to use.

New Business:

A: Illinois Metro. Invest. Fund Res. 11-05 – Financial Supt. is looking for better interest rate opportunities. Was asked to get more info.

B, C: Resolutions 11-06 & 11-07, having to do with bank depositories and authorizing signatures on checks, were approved.

D: Auditing Services. Audit was completed for 2010. Staff received three bids for Auditing services. Board went with Staff recommendation. One Commissioner asked about a cancellation clause and this will be checked on.

E. Maryknoll Safety and Rec. Ctr. pay req. #2 – Hold up until sprinkler design is approved by Village.

Matters from Staff:

Exec. Director attended Open House of Paddle Hut Tennis that was attended by approx. 30 members and 30 guests. He received two requests from patrons: extend decking in two places, complete fireplace; and add an apron to deck. It would save funds to do this now. Paddle Hut users would provide funding upfront. Consensus from Board is needed to issue a change order and it was granted. Two Commissioners asked about costs of maintaining these amenities and making sure all costs are covered by paddle tennis group. In reply, it was mentioned that there is an \$18,000 contingency fund from donors/members.

Matters from Commissioners:

Each Commissioner brought up events, projects or other items they had involvement with or attended, such as: Poochpalooza; Holes & Knolls event; Shop with a Cop; COD joint projects & internships; Historical Society reception with Park District; Historical Soc. Tavern Days; Archive project started up with intern on Park District history at Hist. Soc. resource room; thank you's to staff; Park Dist. Finance Committee meeting regularly; autumn baseball has started at ASC; Village recognized Park Dist. in regards to Public Lands Day; Sunset Pool a good resource.

Adjournment to Executive Session

At approx. 8:45 p.m. the Board went into Exec. Session and would not reconvene.

League Concerns/Observations:

We need to keep an eye on Park District non-referendum bonds (See item A under Goals and Objectives.) Learned that the overage on Ackerman Sports Complex (around \$4 million) was funded by non-ref. bonds! Some Board members are sensitive to the over-spending by prior Board.