

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2008**

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

Present: Commissioner: Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard, Executive Director Salski

Visitors: Dave Peterson (Director of Business and Facility Services), Andy Thurman (Facility and Wellness Services Manager), John Bauer, John and Karen McIntosh, Tom Kerf, Edie Risher, Margaret Abel, Warren Crews, Jay Pezza

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Engelhard called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following Commissioners were present when the roll was called:

Commissioners Conroy, Ehrhard, Gronau, Engelhard.

Commissioners Hart, Meierhoff and Ganfield were absent with prior notice given.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gronau, seconded by Commissioner Conroy to approve the agenda of December 8, 2008. By unanimous voice vote, the agenda was approved as presented.

4. STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS

None

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Recreation Programs and Facilities Committee

Platform Tennis: Executive Director presented information about the challenges with the screening. Staff met with W-T Engineering to determine what is the appropriate number and size of fencing. WT-Engineering recommends 21 – 6” poles due to the height and wind load. Executive Director Salski recommended researching the landscape option (taller trees) with Cliff Miller before installing the fencing; however it is best to ask the residents. Executive Director Salski mentioned that this is not a stall tactic but wanted to make sure it was the right thing to do. This would be a permanent structure and it would inhibit the aesthetic view for neighbors. Executive Director Salski mentioned if the residents agreed with a landscape plan, the Board would be required to go back to the Village for approval. There are no guarantees.

The Board asked the residents what they would like the Park District to do. John Bauer and John McIntosh recommended talking with Cliff Miller first before installing. Mr. Bauer and Mr. McIntosh mentioned it was important that any landscape plan provide enough coverage as they are concerned about the lights in the winter time.

The Board recommended Executive Director Salski to work with Cliff Miller and determine if a plan is viable.

Executive Director Salski mentioned the Platform Tennis Hut is behind schedule and anticipated to open February 1.

Installation of Temporary Tent: Executive Director Salski presented information about the Park District requesting a Special Use Permit to install a tent and asphalt pad. The tent would be similar to the Martin Outing tent which held over 200 people. The Park District would like to focus on golf outings with the opportunities for events. The outings would take place during the day and finish after dinner. The Park District is requesting five dates until midnight to accommodate current events or outings as well as three more only. The Park District is requesting the hours of Sunday-Thursday until 9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. This tent would be considered a Pilot Program to better determine if a larger clubhouse is needed in the future. The Park District is going through a Master Plan process to better determine the needs in the community.

The Board requested the residents to ask questions or address concerns.

Mr. Crews was concerned about the noise especially with bands.

Mr. Bauer was concerned with the tent being utilized for big parties.

Mr. McIntosh asked what are the restrictions for the five events?

Mr. Kerf would like for it to be used for Community Functions only and have restraint for the use of alcohol in a Public Park. He mentioned to use good discretion for the use of alcohol. He doesn't believe we need more liquor and be careful with the alcohol. He mentioned Lake Forest does not allow liquor with appropriate programs and facilities. Mr. Kerf was not concerned with pool parties.

Residents were concerned about the speeding down Washington Avenue.

Commissioner Gronau mentioned the focus is golf outings and would like to continue with the Fireman's Ball, Martin Outing, Special Olympics and other charity events. If the community requests private events, the Park District will review on a case by case basis.

The Board appreciated the comments and will consider all comments to find a compromise.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Gronau and seconded by Commissioner Conroy to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approved this 5 day of January 2008
Board of Commissioners
Lake Bluff Park District