

**LAKE BLUFF PARK DISTRICT
PARKS AND BEACH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2016**

The Parks and Beach Committee Meeting of the Lake Bluff Park District, Lake County, Illinois, was held at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair McKendry.

The following Committee Members were present when the roll was called: Kauri McKendry, George Russell and Ron Salski,

Committee Member Ehrhard informed Chair McKendry that she would be late.

Staff members present were Jim Lakeman and Ed Heiser.

Approval of Agenda

Committee Member Russel moved, seconded by Chair McKendry to approve the October 19, 2016 Agenda. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Statement of Visitors – None

Approval of Minutes

Member Russell noted that on page 4, his discussion about the erosion control and beach staircase should read that he felt beach erosion protection was most important, and that he was not in favor of the stair system at the north end. Also, on page 6 near the bottom, the minutes should state that he said to take careful review of light #16 due to its potential impact on neighbors.

Member Russell moved, seconded by Chair McKendry, to approve the meeting minutes of the Beach and Parks Committee for September 15, 2016, as amended. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

Committee Member Ehrhard now present at 1:35 p.m.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Short and Long Term Options – Discussion

Executive Director Salski questioned if the Committee Members wanted to move forward on Shabica & Associates report on beach erosion control or if they wanted him to get a second opinion from either a consultant or an engineering firm.

Member Russell felt that a second opinion was definitely needed because of the large expense involved. Chair McKendry suggested possibly using the same firm or individual that North Shore Sanitary District uses.

Executive Director Salski noted that there are several small slivers of property owned by the Village of Lake Bluff that could possibly be donated to the Park District, and the Village also wants the Park District to go through “institutional zoning” on the property involved.

Executive Director Salski said that the North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRC) was wondering what to do with the spoiled soils, and an idea was to build them out and place armor stone in front. The completion goal for the project is 2018 because it will take a number of public meetings to obtain “institutional zoning”. All Committee Members were in favor of not doing any armor stone now and just replacing the sand for the short term.

Member Russell said that this project is complex and something has to be worked out with the Yacht Club eventually. Executive Director Salski said there have been constant discussions with the Yacht Club.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Bluff Maintenance – Tree Removal – Approval

Executive Director Salski advised that tree replacement is not included in the Phase II tree removal proposal. He noted that a neighbor approached him and said he would be willing to start a fundraiser to purchase new trees. Executive Director Salski said he could get the Garden Club involved in this project also.

After some discussion, Committee Members definitely wanted to see trees replaced.

Member Russell moved, seconded by Commissioner Ehrhard, to recommend to the full Board of Directors that the current proposal for tree removal, in the amount of \$31,414 be approved, with the provision that a plan for tree replacement be developed with Cliff Miller. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Daily and Shelter Rental Fees – Discussion

Superintendent Lakeman advised that daily shelter rental rates were \$8.00 in 2001 and were raised to \$10.00 in 2002; and beach shelter rates were \$35.00 in 2013 and were raised to \$40.00 in 2014. He said the beach shelter fees go to the Beach Sub Fund and Operations for the beach, and the most money is made on daily non-resident rates.

Superintendent Lakeman said that the beach shelters are only supposed to be rented to residents; however, that rule has been abused in the recent past because of residents arranging rentals for non-residents. Staff is trying to control this by requiring the resident to appear in person, with their driver’s license, on the day of the rental.

A discussion ensued about other problems occurring at the shelters, especially on the weekends, such as smoking, loud noise, drinking, rudeness, and not leaving shelter areas clean. Suggestions made to alleviate these problems included counting Friday through Sunday as the weekend and charging prime rate (6 hour period for rentals); raising fee from \$100 to \$150 or \$200; charging a clean-up fee deposit; and holding back part of the deposit for smoking offenses. It was also suggested to raise the daily fee from \$10 to \$12 and the shelter fee on Monday through Thursday until 4:00 p.m. from \$40 to \$50.

Member Russell was in favor of a \$12 daily fee, but wanted to only raise the shelter weekend prime rate fee to \$150. He liked the idea of a clean-up fee deposit.

Executive Director Salski stated that approximately \$20,000 was collected for non-resident daily fees last year, so raising it was \$10 to \$12 would mean another \$2,000.

There was consensus among Committee Members to raise the daily fee from \$10 to \$12, weekday shelter fee from \$40 to \$50 and to assess a clean-up fee deposit for shelter rentals. As far as raising the weekend shelter fee from \$100, Commissioners Ehrhard and McKendry favored a fee of \$200, while Member Russell was in favor of a \$150 fee.

Executive Director Salski said this would be discussed further by staff and full Board.

Sunrise Park and Beach – Dog Passes – Discussion

Executive Salski said that there is no fee for dog passes right now. Chair McKendry suggested charging \$7.00 per pass, per dog. She said that amount would just cover the Park District's expenses for dog tags and dog-waste bags. All Committee Members were in favor.

Recreation Center – Parking Lot Lights – Discussion

Superintendent Heiser stated that they are in Phase I right now of retrofitting existing light fixtures. He noted that Light #16 will remain non-functioning because of a conduit issue. Approximately \$1,000 to \$2,000 in grant money is available for this project and the project can be started and completed before the grant money is received.

Member Russell commented that a critical spot is by the Paddle Courts. Superintendent Heiser said that they can look into purchasing new LED heads for certain lights, rather than retrofitting.

Executive Director Salski told Members about a new light he saw displayed at the IPRA Convention which uses solar and wind for power. He said the cost is \$4,000 and there is no electrical hook-up expense.

Committee Members were in favor of proceeding with the first phase of the parking lot light project, and researching solar and wind lights for the future.

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Superintendent Heiser gave an update on playground construction which is a little behind schedule at both parks. Artesian is behind because soil samples contained debris (glass, etc.) and this needs a special disposal method. Blair is behind because concrete plants are not open due to the cold weather. He said playground equipment has been delivered. A meeting is being held tomorrow and the timeline will be updated.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion was made by Member Russell, seconded by Commissioner Ehrhard, and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Approved this 7th day of February, 2017
Lake Bluff Park District