

APPROVED

**GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 Green Bay Road
Glencoe, Illinois 60022**

**SPECIAL PROJECTS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE
8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 8:45 p. m. Present were Committee members Andre Lerman (Chair), Max Retsky, and Trent Cornell. Also present was Commissioner Bob Kimble. Staff present included Executive Director/ Secretary Don Van Arsdale, Director of Operations Steve Nagle, Beach and Watts Facilities Manager David Johnson and Executive Assistant Nancy Symonds.

Approval of Meeting Minutes Commissioner Lerman moved to approve the minutes held on October 17, 2011. President Cornell seconded the motion that passed with a unanimous voice vote.

At this time, Committee Chair Lerman asked that the agenda order be revised.

Report of the Glencoe Beach and Lakefront Advisory Group Committee Chair Lerman stated the Advisory Group meet on November 28 and its next meeting will be January 12, 2012. At that meeting, the advisory group would like to review the Beach and Boating Final Report and Recommendations for 2011 being presented this evening. The advisory group would then like to have its comments considered at the next Special Projects and Facility Committee meeting when the Beach and Boating Final Report and Recommendations for 2012 are re-presented prior to Board approval.

Mr. Lerman continued by stating the group was only an advisory group; however, he wanted the group members to feel their issues and the Board and staff would hear concerns

2011 Beach and Boating Final Report and Recommendations for 2012 Director of Operations Nagle began the review of the 2011 beach and boating season by highlighting some of the details contained in the Executive Summary. He wanted to commend the staff for its due diligence this past summer. It was a safe summer for patrons. Discussion ensued.

He continued by stating in the recently completed beach survey there were comments from patrons that the swimming area was too small. He stated the District's risk management carrier determines the swimming area as safety responses must be accomplished in a pre-set amount of time. He continued by stating it is difficult to move the swim buoys because it requires specially trained scuba personnel.

Commissioner Kimble remarked that the Glencoe Beach has been named one of the best along the North Shore. Commissioner Lerman stated it is a family friendly beach and he wants to make a good thing better and increase the revenues.

One concern is the removal of abandoned boats. The District's legal counsel offered options for the removal of the boats. Another concern is water testing. There is a time lag between when the water is tested and when the results are available. Discussion ensued

President Cornell indicated he has seen no problem with the size of the swimming area. He continued by stating if the hours are extended, there are additional staff costs to be considered.

Committee Chair Lerman stated parking is a concern because there is only on street parking. He indicated he had spoken with Village representatives about possible changes to the street parking near the Glencoe Beach.

Discussion of the Beach and Boating Final Report and Recommendations for 2012 will continue at the next Special Projects and Facilities Committee meeting.

Update on Comprehensive Master Plan Project Executive Director/Secretary Van Arsdale stated that Request for Proposals were sent to 21 professional planning firms and two state universities for consideration. He stated that three proposals were submitted for review. He stated that department heads and he would conduct interviews on December 14, 2011. President Cornell asked Commissioner Kimble to participate in the interview process. Mr. Kimble agreed to this request

Mr. Van Arsdale stated the three firms considered at all highly respected. He continued by stating the Request for Proposal clearly delineated the component parts of the project to better help staff manage the project. He stated Commissioner Kimble and staff is developing interview questions.

He continued by stating staff will present its recommendation at the next Special Projects and Facilities Committee meeting. Committee Chair Lerman stated he may want to have two firms present at the next Special Projects and Facilities Committee meeting. Discussion ensued.

Update on Proposed Intergovernmental Agreement with Deerfield Park District Executive Director Van Arsdale indicated previously he had written to the Director of the Deerfield Park District regarding possible interest in allowing Glencoe residents to have access to the Sachs Fitness Center at Deerfield resident rates. Currently there are 13 members of the Sachs Center that are residents of Glencoe. Mr. Van Arsdale indicated there was no interest from the Deerfield Park District in this intergovernmental proposal.

Mr. Van Arsdale then indicated he had held discussions with the Director of the Northbrook Park District regarding allowing Glencoe residents to have access to Northbrook's outdoor swimming pools at resident rates and offer Northbrook residents' access to Glencoe Beach at Glencoe resident rates. Discussion ensued.

President Cornell stated parking is a concern at the beach for residents and more patrons would have an impact on parking near the beach.

Discussion continued. Mr. Van Arsdale said something could be in place soon, which would allow enough time to have the information in each District's next program brochure.

President Cornell felt there could be a negative impact from Glencoe residents.

Committee Chair Lerman indicated the Village or District could restrict parking; perhaps by permit only parking might be available at the Metra station. This could be an added value for those who purchase tokens.

Commissioner Kimble stated that the District generates more revenue from daily non-resident users of the beach than from non-resident token purchases.

Committee Chair Lerman inquired if preferential parking could be arranged with transportation service to the beach.

Discussion ensued. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to create an electronic mail survey of current District electronic database participants to generate their interest in a one-year pilot program with the Northbrook Park District for access to its outdoor swimming pools at Northbrook resident rates

President Cornell indicated he would not want to make the neighbors of the beach angry if the number of users is increased; the neighbors are already dealing with the noise at the beach. He continued, however, by saying it was worth it to learn the residents' thoughts and have their input before a final decision is made.

Update on Takiff Room Rental Rate Study Report Director of Operations Nagle stated staff is still reviewing rates for the Takiff Center. He said staff was considering discounted rates for non-peak times in the building and offering discounted rates on the weekends. Mr. Nagle continued by stating the Takiff Center rental opportunities need to be re-defined; the Center is not a wedding destination, for example.

President Cornell stated it was important to get the word out about rental opportunities for birthday parties and especially with the new batting cage in the gymnasium. Discussion continued. It was the consensus of the Committee to continue the Takiff Center room rental prices at an upcoming Committee meeting.

Update on Watts Operations Director of Operations Nagle stated Watts just opened for the ice skating season and everything is going well. Wattson, the District's mascot, was greeting patrons during family night skating opportunities. Facilities Manager Johnson indicated there are curling demonstrations so patrons can learn more about that winter sport.

Commissioner Retsky said e-mail blasts should be sent to patrons so they are informed about the special demonstrations being held at Watts.

Mr. Van Arsdale then stated that the District received a 97.47% rating from the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA), which is a compliment to the staff.

Update on Strategic Plan Road Map Milestones Committee Chair Lerman stated he would like to defer this item.

Update on Shared Services with the Village Executive Director/Secretary Van Arsdale indicated that that District staff would be having discussions with Village staff regarding implementing this one-year pilot program.

Matters from the Public Commissioner Retsky expressed concern about a bench in the lobby of the Takiff Center; she was sitting on it and it slid and she fell. Director of Operations Nagle inquired if she was okay and then said he would have the bench looked at so corrective measures could be taken.

Other There was no further business brought before the Committee.

Adjourn At 10:17 p.m., Commissioner Retsky moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lerman seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald P. Van Arsdale
Secretary