

APPROVED

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. and roll was called. Commissioners present: President Hilary Lee, Vice President Seth Palatnik, Treasurer Steve Gaines, Commissioner Bob Kimble, Commissioner Andre Lerman; Staff present: Executive Director/Board Secretary Lisa Sheppard, Director of Finance/Human Resources Carol Mensinger, Director of Parks and Maintenance Rick Bold, Director of Recreation and Facilities Dave Figgins, Manager of Marketing and Communications Erin Maassen, Director of Early Childhood Lisa Panizo, Youth and Arts Program Manager Breanne Schnoor, Youth Athletics Program Manager Kraig Owens, and Administrative Assistant Jenny Runkel

Members of the public in attendance included Craig Eisner, Barton and Beth Schneider, Tom Scott, Eagle Scout Candidate Stephen Schneider, GJK Parent Representative Carrie Rose, and Glencoe Anchor Editor Fouad Egbaria.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by President Lee to approve the consent agenda items as presented including Minutes of the August 19, 2014 Regular Board Meeting, Minutes of the September 3, 2014 Board Park and Facility Tour, and Approval of the Bills. Commissioner Kimble seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken:

AYES: Gaines, Kimble, Lerman, Palatnik, Lee
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Matters from the Public: There were no matters from the public.

Discussion of Fourth of July Fireworks: President Lee asked for members of the public's comments.

Craig Eisner, Glencoe, IL: My name is Craig Eisner and I am a 19-year resident of Glencoe. I spoke at the last Board meeting on August 19 and advocated for the option of keeping Glencoe Beach open on Saturday, July 4. Before you vote on this issue, I would like you to consider a few additional data points.

On your About Us webpage, it states, "the purpose of the Park District is to provide recreational facilities, activities and programs to its residents as well as non-residents."

Please keep that in mind as you debate the issue because any decision that you make should benefit the greater good: both residents and non-residents alike.

And that is one of the major reasons why we strongly advocate keeping the beach open on Saturday, July 4. It benefits the most people because more working people will have a day off work on a weekend holiday. By working people, I am talking about people who earn an hourly wage and might have to work during the week. An open beach on Saturday, July 4 is inclusive and allows everyone – residents and non-residents – to celebrate America’s birthday on the public beach.

Opening the beach on a high-volume day is also important because non-residents are a significant revenue stream for the Park District. And because the recent, unscientific Park District survey was sent to only those registered with the Park District, non-resident customers were under-represented in that unscientific survey. Let me illustrate...

On Sunday, August 31 during Labor Day weekend, the beach was packed with people, so I had to park near the train station. I walked to Glencoe Beach, stood on the bluff near the beach entrances and spoke to beachgoers for almost two hours. I collected almost 70 signatures in support of keeping the beach open on July 4. About 85% of the people that I encountered that day were out-of-towners who did not live in Glencoe. They were the bulk of your customer mix on that holiday weekend date. Many were families with two or three kids. It was clearly obvious to any onlooker that an “open” beach on July 4 will generate a much greater turnout at the public beach and, therefore, more revenue for the Park District because of the shift in the customer mix due to a weekend holiday.

An open beach on July 4 is the right decision because it benefits the most people: residents and non-residents. And greater access for more people also means more revenue for the Glencoe Park District.

For these reasons, I, and many others, strongly support opening the beach on Saturday, July 4.

Thank you for your consideration.

There were no further public comments.

Action Item:

Approval to hold Annual Glencoe Fireworks show on either July 3 or July 4: A motion was made by President Lee to approve to hold the Annual Glencoe Fireworks show on July 4. Commissioner Gaines seconded the motion.

Commissioners shared their comments.

Commissioner Gaines stated that looking forward to coming years, July 4 does not always land on a weekend. He would like to see us set a consistent date, so the community can make plans and be consistent in their traditions. In this 24/7 economy, many have to work on holidays. After fully reviewing these facts, he feels comfortable

with July 4 as the date we close and present the Glencoe Fourth of July celebration in the most cohesive manner from the beginning of the day until the end culminating with the fireworks. He added that working with Winnetka Park District to offer other options to our beach was a good solution. If anyone has any other insight that might change his mind, he is willing to hear it.

Commissioner Palatnik verbalized his dislike of closing our most valuable asset that is our beach. Having to choose to close the beach was a fate handed to the Board as a decision due to law changes. Additionally, from the point of view of his career in finance, he does not like closing the beach and losing revenue, however balancing this with long-standing tradition within the community makes this a difficult decision. The best solution would be to hold fireworks on July 4 and not close the beach and we are still looking to solutions to be able to do this. He added this is the toughest decision the Board has made knowing we will not be able to make everyone happy.

Commissioner Lerman agreed with Commissioner Palatnik's viewpoint. The beach is near and dear to him and those who may have moved here for the beach. Fireworks from the barge is a long-standing Glencoe tradition that was a blow not to have this year. The Park District and Village did an excellent job putting on a great show. The best solution would be fireworks on the Fourth of July and the beach remains open. He would like to see us continue to find a way to accomplish this whether it be this coming year or next. He believes it is important to leave the swimming beach open for the points that Mr. Eisner presented. We owe it to those who want to be at Glencoe Beach on the Fourth of July.

Commissioner Kimble stated that he was President when the decision was made to close the beach this year. No one wanted to close the beach on the Fourth of July. It is a reality that if we have fireworks on July 3 or 4 the beach would need to close. Either date could fall on a weekend dependent upon the year. If we move the date annually, the community will become confused as to the date of the event. To compensate for the beach being closed on July 4, staff is working on leaving the beach open later with lifeguards on July 3. The Board's responsibility is to serve the needs of the community and Village. Weather also affects the crowd attracted. If we can find another solution, he would hear it.

President Lee did not want to be redundant as her views coincide with those of the other Commissioners, but added that Glencoe residents are paying for the fireworks. As much as we want to include nonresidents and receive the revenue, the residents are paying and we should give them the benefit. Additionally, fireworks have traditionally occurred on July 4. If we can find a solution to leave the beach open, we will do so.

Approval to hold Annual Glencoe Fireworks show on either July 3 or July 4: An amended motion was vocalized by Executive Director Sheppard to approve closing the Glencoe swimming beach and hold the Annual Glencoe Fireworks show on July 4. Roll call vote taken:

AYES: Gaines, Kimble, Lee

NAYS: Lerman, Palatnik
ABSENT: None

President Lee closed the agenda item by showing appreciation for the community member's comments, which were taken very seriously. Commissioner Lerman added that though a solution looks slim, we will continue to search for another option. Executive Director Sheppard added that it was a difficult process and decision for the staff. President Lee commended staff for a great show this year.

Presentation by Eagle Scout Candidate: Executive Director Sheppard introduced Eagle Scout Candidate, Stephen Schneider. He is working on the project with the Park District on implementation of a Dero Bike Station from planning and fundraising through installation. The Air Kit 3 would be located at Shelton Park between the community garden and tennis courts. The project includes removal of buckthorn to make room for the bike repair station. Removal of buckthorn increases visibility for safety at an intersection where porta-potties are located. Additional benefits include that children can play in the gazebo and playground while parents use the bike station and is a safe distance far from the railroad tracks.

In response to a question, Mr. Schneider verified that there is only one bike pump connector, but he will look into seeing if both styles of connectors are an option.

President Lee stated that Glencoe would be proud to have this facility and proud to have Mr. Schneider work on this amazing project.

Commissioner Lerman commended Mr. Schneider for participating in the Eagle Scouts and creating an innovative amenity for biking in a community where biking is so popular.

Executive Director Sheppard added that Mr. Schneider needs to fundraise for all funds and coordinate volunteers required with the exception of a Park District staff member overseeing requirements and the concrete pad installation. She ended the presentation with thanks to Mr. Schneider for working on such a wonderful project and thinking of Glencoe Park District.

Presentation by Glencoe Junior High Project: This presentation has been postponed until January 2015.

Glencoe Park District Day Camp Report and Presentation: The summer camp program managers, Breanne Schnoor, Kraig Owens, and Lisa Panizo began with an introduction of the specific camps they oversee and highlighted the Summer Camp 2014 Report available in the September 2014 Board Packet.

Commissioner Gaines asked about use of NSSRA inclusion services during camp, for which, Director Figgins stated that we have six children and that is an average number for camps.

Commissioner Lerman commended the camp team for their presentation and should be proud of the program, positive responses, increase in attendance, and the number who will come back next year. The culture of improvement shows in the program response, which builds the momentum of marketing our camp program through positive feedback. He also confirmed with Director Figgins that we have doubled in camp participants within the last five years, a testament to a great program.

Executive Director Sheppard shared that staff is enthusiastic all summer and the survey results are outstanding.

Financial Report: Director of Finance/Human Resources Mensinger stated we are six months into the fiscal year. Director Mensinger stated that Recreation, Day Care, and Beach are all up. She noted that the Budget and Legal Timeline was included in the Board Report and has important dates.

Staff Reports:

Director Bold stated it was a busy month for projects. A new paved walkway was installed from the sidewalk up to the Community Hall entrance, an enhancement for Community Hall rentals, rotten wood border at Lakefront Park playground was replaced with brick pavers, and cleanup of damage from the last storm which included branches down at Lakefront Park and by the Maintenance Area. Glencoe Youth Services building plumbing issues have been brought forth and the next step will be to determine the best course of action. The building will be discussed as part of our Master Plan. Our PDRMA evaluation is 75% complete and is looking good so far. In response to a question from Commissioner Palatnik about the condition of Watts Ice Center, Director Bold stated that tuckpointing and interior work have just been completed this past year; all planned for within the budget. Watts Ice Center will also be addressed in the Master Plan.

Director Figgins stated that school programs are in session at both Watts and Takiff and staff has been busy coordinating. A Watts Advisory Group meeting was held last week. The Paddleboard Agreement with Winnetka Park District has been approved.

Manager Maassen was happy to pass on that the reskin of our website, or mini-makeover, is almost complete including the benefit of a mobile version. At the beginning of the summer, the Groupon for paddle boarding and kayaking sold 79 and only 20 were redeemed. We will look to do something similar for Watts Ice Center. Executive Director Sheppard stated we would honor anyone who wishes to use their unused Groupon offer in summer 2015. This program brought awareness to those who were not aware we had a beach. Commissioner Lerman praised Manager Maassen for her innovation.

Executive Director Report:

Later in the meeting, we will be asking the Board to approve the new Mission, Vision and Value Statement created as part of the Master Plan.

NSSRA would like to add a new program with a 1:4 ratio (current program has a 1:1 ratio) for those who have graduated out of the New Trier program. They compared four member agencies and identified Takiff Center to be the most ideal location, we have space available, and there are many Glencoe residents who take advantage of this opportunity. It would not impact parking as the participants are dropped off and they have bus transportation. The program would most likely occur in Community Room #3, kitchen, ceramics room, and gym. They would pay a usage fee as this program would have a program fee. This is an action item later in the meeting for the Board to approve beginning negotiations. The program needs at least 8 participants at the 1:4 ratio with a minimum of 2 staff in order to run. In response to a question from the GJK Parent Representative, this program would not use the early childhood wing, although they might share space such as the gym.

Executive Director Sheppard, who is on the NSSRA Facility Committee, reviewed the update for NSSRA's search for a new facility within a Park District. They are looking for a larger space than we can accommodate including offices, classrooms, gym, etc. Their goal is a centrally located facility that best meets their needs.

Our full-time salary survey by HayGroup is progressing nicely with information coming in November. They are looking at roles and responsibilities for each position and the overall compensation program. Department Head interviews and review of job descriptions are complete.

Harvest Fest is coming up on October 11. The daytime portion will be run by the Park District. The evening event, including beer garden and food booths, will be run by Glencoe Youth Services (GYS) & Glencoe Junior High Project (GJHP) with the assistance of a few Park District staff. Director Figgins and Assistant Recreation Superintendent Beckie Korzyniewski have been assisting both GYS and GJHP. Commissioner Gaines added that the goal of Harvest Fest is to support a sense of community.

Josh Wolf sent a letter of thanks for allowing them to film a graduate student movie at Takiff Center and to visit Black Apple Media Facebook page for updates on the movie.

Action Items:

Approval of Glencoe Park District's new Mission, Vision, and Value Statements: A motion was made by President Lee to approve the new Glencoe Park District Mission, Vision, and Value Statements as presented. Commissioner Kimble seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken:

AYES:	Gaines, Kimble, Lerman, Palatnik, Lee
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None

Approval for staff to work with NSSRA staff to develop an agreement that would allow a new adult day program to be located at Glencoe Park District's Takiff Center: A motion was made by Commissioner Kimble to approve staff to work with NSSRA staff to

develop an agreement that would allow a new adult day program to be located at Glencoe Park District's Takiff Center. Commissioner Gaines seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken:

AYES: Gaines, Kimble, Lerman, Palatnik, Lee
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Matters from the Public: There were no matters from the public.

Other Business: Commissioner Lerman thanked facility staff for opening the beach house last weekend for boating participants. It was packed due to high temperatures. President Lee commented that teachers and students are using the Gaga Pit, a great feature. She continued that South School bought a peaceful playground (ground level game playground) and the training webinar's instructor commented that kids really do not play on playground equipment. Not accurate for our community, she wished that the instructor could come and see all the children at Friends Park playing on our playground equipment.

Adjourn to Closed Session: Executive Director Sheppard stated that there was no reason to go into Executive Session.

Adjourn: President Lee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Commissioner Kimble seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary