

APPROVED

GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 Green Bay Road
Glencoe, Illinois 60022

RECREATION COMMITTEE
Monday, September 26, 2011
Minutes

Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. and the roll was called. Present were Chair Max Retsky, Bob Kimble, Trent Cornell, and Andre Lerman. Staff present included Don Van Arsdale, Executive Director and Cheryl DeClerck, Director of Recreation, Emily Vanderkamp, Manager of Recreation Services, and Heather Burns, Early Childhood Program Manager.

Also in attendance were Glencoe residents: Carolyn Birkenstein, 892 Thornapple Lane; Helen and Willie Boris, 790 Bluff; Shawna Drobny, 1070 Hohlfelder; Wendy Gale, 417 Adams Avenue; Kelly and Scott Glauber, 1229 Fairfield; Andrea Goldman, 320 Palos Road; Dana Kotler, 694 Willow Tree; Steve Miller, 503 Monroe; Yvette Ostroff, 975 Elm Ridge Drive; and Beverly Walther, 1035 Meadow;

Approval of January 13, 2011 and June 7, 2011 Recreation Committee Minutes The minutes of the Recreation Committee meetings held on January 13, 2011 and June 7, 2011 were approved on a motion from Chair Retsky and seconded by Commissioner Kimble.

Matters from the Public Committee Chair Retsky recognized Ms. Shawna Drobny, a Board member of Glencoe Junior Kindergarten and Nursery School (GJK).

Discussion of Online Registration Director of Finance/Human Resources Mensinger gave a report on the District's discussions and actions taken by staff to look at the registration process, how staff communicates internally and keep on-line versions of programs up-to-date.

Glencoe Goes Green Manager of Recreation Services Vanderkamp reviewed for the Committee information she had received regarding environmental sustainability within the Village and the District. She continued by stating the Village of Glencoe's Plan Commission has formed a sustainability group to study how to expand the recycling efforts in the Village. She continued by stating she had been in discussions with Village staff and she has attended a "Go Green Wilmette" expo last March. She then stated the District would be sponsoring a Glencoe Goes Green EXPO on November 12 at the Takiff Center and she is soliciting exhibitors and presenters to attend.

Discussion of Glencoe Park District Preschool Parent Club Committee Chair Retsky recognized Early Childhood Program Manager Burns. Ms. Burns began her presentation by stating in prior years there has been a preschool parent group whose focus was to provide support the community, primarily preschool parents, for charitable opportunities, socializing opportunities with other families and provide assistance to the classrooms and the teachers. Some years ago the group lapsed. This past winter she asked some of the parents if they would be interested in re-establishing this group and she was pleased with the wonderful response of

parents who wanted to get on the band wagon. This year the group did marvelous things by recognizing the Children's Circle and Early Learning Center teachers and there was a presence by the preschoolers at the 4th of July parade. The name of the group has changed over the years. Committee Chair Retsky indicated the group had no formal name when she was involved in it.

Ms. Burns continued by stating one of the reasons for reestablishing the group was the licensing process and procedure for putting Children's Circle and Early Learning Center under one umbrella license named the Glencoe Park District Preschool. She had discussions with the District's attorney regarding liability issues because the group could be interested in more promotion of the District's programs and might want to use the District's logo, speak on the District's behalf, do more social events, and possibly engage in fund raising activities.

The District's attorney thought this group could be formed as a club under the umbrella of the District. She continued by stating she approached PDRMA to get a further definition of a club; PDRMA provided information on affiliate organizations, but this group would not be an affiliate. She felt the affiliate designation was not appropriate for this group because she wanted to help manage some of the decisions this group might consider and to give the group support. Executive Director Van Arsdale shared the information from PDRMA with the District's attorney to get additional guidance on how this club can operate under the auspices of the District. At this point Ms. Burns indicated the District would like to tentatively propose to move forward with this process and provide more information at the next Recreation Committee meeting once information is received from the District's attorney.

President Cornell supported the group.

Committee Chair Retsky asked if the group has officers; Ms. Burns indicated there are no officers and she thought it was best to put the group's plans on hold at this point until there is a more formal recognition of the group. The group understands the formation of a club must be approved by the Board of Park Commissioners.

President Cornell stated he supported the group and its enthusiasm and to keep pushing ahead. Committee Chair Retsky said that the group should continue and just run its ideas through Ms. Burns. Ms. Burns indicated she has attended a couple of the group's meetings and has had conversations with them. The group would like to do some fund raising and reach out to new families in Glencoe. The group was reluctant to start collecting money at this stage.

Director of Recreation DeClerck indicated that Rob Bush suggested the group be formed as a 501(c)3. Ms. Retsky said just sending an informational flyer to parents with a dollar amount to join usually generates donations.

Commissioner Lerman stated the Strategic Plan Road Map stated a step is a focus group for parents involved in District programs. He thought this was a great way to expand customer service.

President Cornell stated the District is starting to get names of residents who are interested in particular programs at the District.

Commissioner Lerman stated at a recent Special Projects and Facilities Committee meeting it was suggested that as patrons register for programs at the District they indicate their areas of

interest at the District so they can be target marketed for appropriate material and upcoming District programs. Mr. Lerman stated with the list of parents already interested in Children's Circle and Early Learning Center programs, he felt it was important to share the information with them and invite the parents to upcoming District meetings. The Committee indicated it agreed with the staff recommendation.

President Cornell stated he thought it was important to integrate some the parents into a Customer Service Committee that is being formed.

Committee Chair Retsky thought it was appropriate to have staff and Board members attend the preschool parents group's upcoming meetings and events.

She then inquired about how long it would take before the District's attorney responds. Executive Director/Secretary Van Arsdale indicated he should hear from the attorney within the next day or two. President Cornell stated if Mr. Van Arsdale does not hear from the attorney in the next day or two regarding the Glencoe Preschool Parent Club to let him know.

Discussion of Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013 Program Fees Director of Recreation DeClerck stated there were a couple items she wanted to discuss with the Committee and is looking for recommendations and approval at the next Board meeting. Specifically, she wanted to discuss the fees for Children's Circle, Early Learning Center, and Adventures in Learning. She stated that Ms. Burns was going to discuss proposed Children's Circles fees. Ms. Burns stated Children's Circle is seeing good financial growth and there was no fee increase last year. Ms. Burns stated there is low enrollment in the youngest classrooms that then progress through other programs. Toddlers and 2-year old programs are quite often the entry age for new families to enter preschool programs. The higher fees for the 2-year old program might be a deterrent for enrolling a child in the program.

Commissioner Retsky inquired about comparing apples to apples with other programs in the area with the same number of hours per day and also if programs were charged on a monthly basis or not. Ms. Burns continued by stating the District charges by the month and prorates when a child enrolls mid-month.

She stated staff is proposing toddler fees remain the same for the upcoming year. She stated the enrollment in the 2-year programs is low; there is some suggestion that those fees may be a deterrent to signing up for a program. Staff is suggesting not increasing the fees for 15 – 24 month children and decrease the rates for the 2 year classes to encourage enrollment. Staff is also considering a reduction starting in December in the fees for the 2-year old program to see if there is an upswing in enrollment for January and February.

President Cornell asked if the 15 – 24 month group will be the 2 to 3-year old group next year or will there be new enrollments in January. Ms. Burns indicated there are new enrollments in January, which is difficult to generalize.

Ms. Burns stated there is full enrollment in the 3- 4 year old and 4 – 5 year old classes and before and after kindergarten classes.

Ms. Retsky asked about the capacity for the 15 – 24 month old programs. Ms. Burns stated the capacity is 15 children, but she stated it gets out of hand with full enrollment for these children and likes to keep the enrollment closer to ten children. Ms. Retsky then inquired about the

enrollment numbers for the other classes. Ms. Burns stated that some days there are fewer children per day per class as not all children are enrolled for the five day a week program.

Commissioner Retsky inquired about revenues for the revised fees. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Retsky asked when children enroll in the programs. Ms. Burns said more children are enrolled in September and generally, July and August are the lowest enrollment and revenue months because parents make other plans or take vacation. She stated that not all programs offer kindergarten care. She said that 60% of children enrolled in the programs are Glencoe residents. Other children are from Highland Park and occasionally from Winnetka and Northbrook. She continued by stating that the District reaches out to other communities by participating in preschool fairs.

Commissioner Lerman stated he would like other programs to have a similar model for approaching patrons from outside of Glencoe.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Burns stated 40% of the participants are paying the non-resident rate. President Cornell mentioned the 7% price reduction for the 2-year program quite often could make it more difficult to increase other programs. Ms. Burns stated it was a bold step and the fee reduction would keep the fees more in line with other programs in the area.

Discussion ensued with regard to the fee changes for the 15 – 24 month children and 2 year old programs. Ms. Burns indicated the programs for the younger children require more teacher assistance.

President Cornell discussed the fee reduction percentages. Director of Recreation DeClerck explained this was for Recreation Committee review prior to Board approval and was on the agenda for the meeting this evening in order to have information available for the District's next brochure.

Discussion continued. Ms. Burns stated the District programs have a good retention rate and thought it was important to enroll the toddlers because they are then enrolled in other District programs. Ms. Burns stated the District will be participating in preschool fair in Winnetka in October.

Commissioner Lerman felt marketing to more communities was important. Commissioner Kimble inquired if most of the children enrolled are from two working parent families. Ms. Burns indicated that many of the children enrolled in the programs are from two working parent families and convenience of getting to the District was important.

Ms. Burns stated the District is doing tandem marketing for the Children's Circle programs and other District programs because of the flexibility of the programs offered.

Ms. Burns then reviewed program fees for Early Learning Center. She looked at area programs fees and the comparisons vary widely. The ELC rates are lower than other area preschool programs. Staff is considering a 5% fee increase, which would still keep the fees at the low end of the scale even if other preschools increase their rates. There was no fee increase last year.

President Cornell said it made sense to him.

Ms. Burns then the Adventures in Learning program is the Early Learning Center's extended day program. The children bring their lunch and the programs run the school year. This is a convenience for families because it runs for a year and the enrichment programs change frequently. An adjustment for the hourly rates was considered for per session and per hour fees. Staff was recommending a 5% increase in Adventures in Learning fees.

Director of Recreation DeClerck explained staff is beginning its budget planning process and the impact the fee increase would have on program fees. Ms. DeClerck is envisioning different rate increases for different programs. Discussion ensued.

This ended the discussion of fiscal year 2012 – 2013 programs and fees.

Committee Chair Retsky then asked that the next agenda item to be discussed is the Glencoe Junior Kindergarten and Nursery School agreement in order to accommodate the audience members.

Discussion of Glencoe Junior Kindergarten and Nursery School Agreement Committee Retsky then recognized Shawna Drobny, a co-president of the Glencoe Junior Kindergarten and Nursery School (GJK) executive board.

Ms. Drobny began her presentation by stating GJK was established in 1942 by parents under the auspices of the Glencoe School District. The location of its programs has changed throughout the years and since the 1980s it has been housed at the Community Center (former North School) and now the Takiff Center. It is currently under an independent contractor license with the District and that agreement expires in May 2012.

She continued by stating she and other members of the GJK Board have been in contract negotiations since October 2010. She stated GJK is beginning to get programs set for the next school year. GJK is a non-for profit organization. It is projected that the young children living in Glencoe will be decreasing and this will probably have an impact on District programs as well as GJK's. This is a competitive market.

GJK brings nearly \$98,000 in revenues to the District, which benefits Glencoe residents. GJK students also take District enrichment programs. GJK also offers enrichment programs.

Ms. Drobny stated there were two long term issues which the GJK board wanted to discuss: long term occupancy at the Takiff Center and expanding its program offerings. GJK parents have expressed interest in expanding the programs GJK is able to offer.

President Cornell inquired about expanded program offerings. Ms. Drobny explained that with the current agreement, for example, a program cannot be moved from one day of the week to another regardless of room availability and these programs are only available for GJK families.

Ms. Drobny stated another concern was a parent and tot program. The program is not available in the current contract and many children then enroll in other parent and tot programs in Glencoe.

A wrap around kindergarten program is another opportunity GJK would like to offer. She stated other GJK parents enroll their children in other programs for after school care which

offer more programs that are academic. She thought additional flexibility would be beneficial to both the District and GJK.

Committee Chair Retsky inquired about the programs GJK offers with regard to the days of the week, how many sections, and times programs are offered.

Commissioner Lerman inquired about some of the details relating to flexibility of the current agreement. Executive Director Van Arsdale stated he was not on staff for the current contract but the proposed agreement has added more flexibility with the current negotiations the District is considering more flexibility in program offering to change every year as part of the proposed agreement.

Director of Recreation DeClerck explained that a parent and tot program is an opportunity to get families into District programs by starting with a parent and tot program and build relationships with families. Commissioner Kimble inquired if the staff has done a financial analysis of the parent and tot program. Mr. Van Arsdale stated an analysis has not been done. Ms. Burns stated that there are 13 enrolled in the District parent and tot programs. Discussion continued.

Ms. Retsky then inquired about how many children could be enrolled in both District and GJK programs for two year olds. Discussion continued. Ms. DeClerck stated from her perspective, it was difficult for the District to plan preschool programs without knowing what preschool programs are also being offered through GJK. It makes District programming difficult when staff does not know what other programs are offered through other vendors in the building.

Commissioner Retsky stated the District is in the third year in the Takiff Center. Ms. DeClerck stated she did not have information on the number of children enrolled in the parent and tot program at Am Shalom and registered for the 2 year old Early Learning Center program. Discussion of enrollment in the parent and tot programs continued.

A GJK parent thought it was good to have two mom and tots programs in the building because she felt it was a good way to get familiar with the building and get to know more families.

President Cornell stated he thought the District lost some families in program registrations, which was a net loss with families not enrolled in District programs. He asked is it better financially if a program is offered by GJK and is the District losing money if other children are not attending programs through the District or GJK?

Commissioner Kimble stated he thought there were several issues that need to be addressed: GJK offering wrap around kindergarten program and parent and tot program, revenue sharing and length of the contract. Mr. Kimble stated he thought all these were covered in an agreement which was brought before the Board but was never enacted.

Committee Chair Retsky stated that contract was illegal.

Commissioner Lerman inquired about the wrap around kindergarten program. A GJK representative responded that under the current agreement the program could not be offered. Ms. DeClerck stated she did not know what GJK planned.

Ms. Kelly Glauberman responded she envisioned a kindergarten program similar to the program offered at the Highland Park Montessori School. She was surveying other parents to see what they were interested in. A GJK parent stated that current enrichment programs offered are for a longer part of the day than current public kindergarten and she would be precluded from enrolling in other programs at the District.

President Cornell stated his daughter is enrolled at GJK and his wife serves on its board. He was trying to get a handle on the programs and wanted to focus on wrap around kindergarten. Discussion ensued. Some parents remove their children from Glencoe programs and opt for a full day kindergarten at another location. Some parents want a longer day program. A GJK parent indicated its board is very much interested in offering a wrap around kindergarten with a kindergarten teacher with more academics.

Committee Chair Retsky indicated if this program would be offered to Glencoe residents. A GJK parent indicated that this program would be offered to all residents, GJK would take a risk, and the District would share in the revenue.

Commissioner Lerman indicated he thought these changes were obvious because it would benefit both GJK and the District. Commissioner Kimble asked if anyone had talked to the District's previous negotiators or District staff regarding the development of the current agreement.

President Cornell indicated that he did not know that GJK enrichment programs are only offered to GJK families.

Commissioner Kimble stated he has never negotiated a contract where the other party is always right. Commissioner Lerman inquired why the District does not give GJK a ten to 15 year lease.

Both President Cornell and Committee Chair Retsky indicated the District could not have an agreement for that length of time.

President Cornell inquired if the District is better off to have GJK offer a program, even if GJK losses money on it since the District will benefit through revenue sharing since the District will still collect money for the class. He would rather have the program at the Takiff Center.

Committee Chair Retsky inquired if GJK has more children wanting to be in a program than enrollment would allow, would there be a lottery. GJK representatives indicated a lottery would be held.

Mr. Boris stated with the new building the District and GJK programs were allowed in the renovated building, which would also permit the children to enroll in programs offered by other independent contractors offering programs in the building. In the past year, GJK has offered programs that coincide with programs offered by the independent contractors, which has negatively impacted the enrollment in those programs. There is a finite number of children in the area who use District and GJK programs.

Ms. Helen Boris then spoke and stated when the plans for the renovation of the Community Center (now Takiff Center) were being developed, she was asked to expand the programs offered by Helen's Ultimate Fitness (HUF) because there was nothing else going on. She then

offered Mitey Movement, which was located just across the hall from Helen's space. She continued by stating that enrichment programs she offered were under the District's name, not Helen's Ultimate Fitness. GJK did not offer enrichment programs. Over the past several years, programs she used to offer had diminishing enrollment because other enrichment programs were being offered.

She continued by saying diminishing results in District program impact the use of the building and the families that are brought into the building. She continued by stating some of the enrichment programs the District has offered for years were cancelled due to low enrollment. She wanted the Committee to look at the balance of programs offered in Glencoe and look at all parts of the puzzle.

President Cornell then inquired if programs offered by HUF shared revenue with the District. Ms. Boris indicated that revenues have always been shared as part of her agreement. Her fitness programs were separate and offered as a HUF program and the youth programs offered through the District are based on shared revenue. Ms. Boris stated there are other District programs which are completely District programs.

President Cornell inquired about the net revenue numbers if a program is run through the District or run through an independent contractor. For some programs, the District has to supply the staff and other programs there is no staff involved.

One parent stated she has three children; her two older children attended GJK and she felt vested financially and emotionally in GJK and had an uncomfortable feeling about District programs and it was difficult on her family. When she dropped off her 2 year old son, he was confused, unfamiliar with the building and did not like the program.

Another parent stated there are at least two sides to review. She stated the financial numbers could be put together, but the other thing to take under consideration is the push for the District to ignore what the constituents want. People have left the District to get other services. What is really right for the families in the community? Consideration of all factors is important.

President Cornell stated something that has been said resonated with him. When people are going to Highland Park why are they going there? One parent said it was because there was no program being offered like a parent and tot or a wrap around kindergarten program. She would like the programs she wants offered at the Takiff Center because she is not willing to sacrifice convenience for the programs she wants.

President Cornell then stated if she was not getting the programs she wanted, had she contacted anyone at the District? The parent stated Director of Recreation DeClerck and she created a new recreation program because the parent had a clear idea of what she wanted; she investigated options and got the District to offer it. She continued by stating the program was never advertised and she contacted families she thought would be interested in the program. One parent said last year her kindergarten age daughter was enrolled in KinderCulture and KinderStructures and the District accommodated all the children on the waiting list; however, this year there are fewer kindergarten classes in School District #35 so all the children interested in KinderCulture and KinderStructures were able to easily enroll in the programs.

Mr. Boris stated when the District programs go well so do the GJK programs. Discussion continued. Several parents will enroll in an enrichment program for their children based on the parents' schedule.

President Cornell inquired of Ms. DeClerck when the programming for 2012-2013 needs to be finalized. She stated the brochure goes to print on October 21.

A GJK parent indicated that information for a proposed wrap around kindergarten program would not be needed until May for the September start date. She thought she would like to have a teaser in the brochure so families know about the new programs and do not sign up for other programs at other locations.

Discussion continued with regard to programs that are offered by the District and GJK where families cannot enroll in classes offered by both programs.

Commissioner Lerman stated it is important to serve the Glencoe residents as there could be opportunities to expand all programs in the area and it is okay to offer different programs and different demographics. The market is broader than just Glencoe.

Commissioner Lerman said he wants to do what is right for the District; he continued by stating the target market is beyond Glencoe with different programs and price points. The programs do not necessarily compete because there are different programs.

President Cornell stated the Committee had heard from everyone. Commissioner Kimble had some financial questions to address, and Commissioner Retsky and Executive Director Van Arsdale are working on the agreement. President Cornell wanted a better handle on the financial aspects of the agreement.

Committee Chair Retsky then asked staff to have a financial analysis for the Committee to review. She continued by stating open items include the parent/ and tot, and wrap around kindergarten programs, revenue sharing, and length of contract. President Cornell hoped to have some clarity prior to the October Board meeting.

Committee Chair continued by stating the contract can only be for three years and not the five years that was previously proposed. She indicated she was more than willing to sit down with GJK representatives at any time. She continued by stating she thought it was important to get the contract wrapped up before the brochure goes to print. She wanted to have the GJK representatives write their program descriptions in the best positive way. A GJK parent indicated that its program prices are published in the District's program brochure.

Discussion ensued. Committee members and members of the audience continued discussion with regard to the final items to be negotiated for the contract. Director of Recreation DeClerck stated it was important to get this contract correct for the residents of Glencoe.

Discussion ensued regarding the enrollments for the preschool programs.

Discussion of HUF Agreement Director of Recreation DeClerck stated there have been two extensions for the agreement between the District and Helen's Ultimate Fitness. She continued by stating in the recent community survey many respondents wanted a fitness center. She stated the opening of another fitness center in close proximity of Glencoe has impacted the fitness program offered by Ms. Boris. At this time, staff was recommending

another one month extension of the current license agreement for Mrs. Boris to offer programs. Discussion ensued with regard to the revenue sharing currently being offered with Ms. Boris' adult classes and those offered through the District.

Ms. Boris stated when she started renting space at the District her classes were full and in the last several years with more fitness, personal training, and aerobics competition in the area her enrollment has decreased. She has been asked why there is no fitness center in the Takiff Center for a quick workout with free weights; adding this equipment might bring more adults into the building for the fitness program. She inquired about the costs involved to expand fitness opportunities like installing showers, lockers and equipment.

President Cornell then said he is open to exploring this but he has heard there is concern from residents about the added costs, but in two years knowing Glencoe residents, this does require continuing investment. Would the community really support this? Would residents put money down to see if residents would use the fitness center or not?

Commissioner Chair Retsky then stated in addition to the equipment, there is a staff cost.

Ms. Boris stated that everything should be upgraded from staff to a computer system that would accept swipe cards. She thought people would go out of their way to support this plan Mr. Boris thought it was a good idea to gauge community support.

President Cornell inquired about the financial success of fitness centers in the area. He wanted to get those who use fitness centers to get on board; the taxpayers are the ones who need input.

President Cornell stated it would be a couple of years lag time before one could be established. He then asked Ms. Boris if there are other programs she could offer. She continued by stating noise reduction in the studio classes has been a continual challenge with a quiet yoga class scheduled with a jazz class. She inquired if there was a way to soundproof the rooms. Discussion continued.

Director of Recreation DeClerck stated another kind of springboard flooring and additional soundproofing has been previously discussed; that would cost \$12,000 - \$14,000 and not approved by previous Boards because the new flooring would not have resolved the issue. Ms. Boris inquired if there was additional insulation that could be added to the closet area.

Discussion ensued. She stated many of her program participants have complained that restrooms are not close to the studio, there is no drinking fountain near the classrooms, and the lockers are inadequate in size.

Commissioner Lerman expressed his concern with regard to the issues addressed by Ms. Boris. He continued by stating that there are other issues; he would like to do a cost benefit analysis for further discussion. Why are other programs succeeding and the District's are not? He would like to review the capital expenditures, reviewing to have the building work as it was perceived, not necessarily designed. Mr. Lerman thought it was important to make changes, basic things that other buildings have.

President Cornell asked Ms. Boris to inquire about costs, which would be needed. He stated it was all budgeting. He would like her to identify the issues that can be addressed. Ms. Boris said some of the issues are unsolvable. Commissioner Kimble stated bringing this to the Special Projects and Facilities Committee to review was a good idea.

Commissioner Lerman thought it would be appropriate to have a review of the building and its uses; this could be part of a multi-year master plan for the building with some things being able to be done or corrected and some not. Commissioner Kimble stated the District does not have discretionary funds now; a new software project may be needed next year, which could be a large amount of the District's discretionary funds. He continued by stating for several years large budget items were deferred. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Boris said she is committed to the District at least through June 2012 but would like to have some kind of assurance that the District and she can work well together. Ms. Boris said if she sees progress she would appreciate it; but she was not sure how many years she is willing to wait. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Boris stated GJK families support all her programs; Commissioner Chair Retsky stated many GJK families have more disposable income than other people enrolling in the area. This is a difficult economic times and families are struggling. An hour long enrichment class can be very expensive.

President Cornell stated that fitness programs are geared to young children. Ms. Boris stated she would like to have balance in the building to serve all the residents in Glencoe. She would like to not increase her enrichment classes. She also teaches youth and preschool classes and she is paid through revenue sharing. She an independent contractor for the adult fitness programs she teaches.

Discussion continued with regard to the payment for Ms. Boris' classes. Ms. Boris stated there was much discussion regarding the programs she currently offers and what she used to offer. Her programs are advertised in the District's brochure.

Committee Chair Retsky requested a list of classes which have been offered through the District currently and those classes which are no longer offered. Discussion ensued. Ms. Boris stated that to get an acting class started, she had to contract an outside contractor who was satisfactory to her; she was unhappy with a previous contractor.

Ms. Boris was concerned with class cancellations because of so many similar programs being offered in the building.

Commissioner Kimble stated the financial impact of programs in the building will help the Committee in future negotiations.

Ms. Boris stated when she leaves the District, the District will then have to take over those programs. Discussion ensued.

President Cornell thought it was important that GJK, Helen's Fitness, and the District's Early Learning Center programs all succeed because it is beneficial to all Glencoe tax payers. If GJK classes are lost, the participants are gone for several years because families don't necessarily come back to the Takiff Center. Discussion ensued.

Committee Chair Retsky stated some classes are not geared for kindergarten age boys; they do not sit still.

President Cornell stated there is a large price point for the programs offered in Glencoe. He does not understand the distress between the program offerings and he would like to be able to share GJK programs with District families. He likes the concept of three really good programs that are being offered now. He looks at the economics first; then if GJK gets programs going, he would like to have the District do the same. He continued by stating he has two concerns: economics and then the community. He struggles with where does the District go? He is concerned about the perception of GJK priority of itself; if parents send their kindergarten children to Sacred Heart or Am Shalom, will these families come back to District programs? Is there something the District can do to offer a similar program and offer it with GJK and change the revenue sharing percentage?

Discussion ensued. Committee Chair Retsky expressed concern with discussion about GJK with no representatives of GJK in attendance. Other Commissioners disagreed because all the programs offered through GJK, the District, or Helen's program impact all the programs in the building.

Discussion continued with enrichment programs which are offered on different days of the week. These can be wait listed and when one additional session of an enrichment class is added, it quite often will cancel a District program. Mr. Boris said for years Ms. Boris ran a yoga program; then the District started one. The enrollment in the District's yoga classes declined and now the District does not offer yoga classes. He continued by stating programs Ms. Boris' runs are perceived to be the District's programs. Ms. Boris stated there has been a balance of classes offered through the District, GJK, or HUF. She stated historically her programs have been supported by GJK families. She would like to have more ELC parents enroll in HUF programs. Discussion continued. It was mentioned that all the programs include marketing and there was an assumption that GJK families have more disposable income.

Commissioner Kimble wanted to assure the community that the programs are the best offered. One of the things to consider is the Board has to put cancellations and cancellation policies on the backburner and might have to change the way cancellations occur.

Discussion ensued. President Cornell stated he and Commissioner Kimble wanted to look at the financial analysis for all the programs. He said the great unknown is why are there 20 children in one program and only a few registered in a similar program. The population shift would not justify the enrollments.

Ms. Boris stated that last year there were more 3-year old children enrolled in programs which filled classes and this year there are fewer 3-year old children in the program.

Committee Chair Retsky mentioned that HUF is a for profit business and GJK is not. Mr. Boris asked what difference does it make. He said there should be a better way for all the parties to work better together.

President Cornell stated it was important to concentrate on working together for all the residents of Glencoe. He felt it was important to have all the service providers in the District coexist. He inquired of Ms. Boris what she would like. Discussion continued.

She stated she would like to feel there is no competition within the building with regard to all the programs that run in the building. Ms. Boris stated that GJK families tend to support the GJK programs.

Discussion of Winter Programs Director of Recreation DeClerck shared with the Committee copies of the proposed program brochure. She brought copies of the brochure to share with the Committee.

Discussion of Registration Reports President Cornell thanked her for the registration information. He reviewed the registration numbers and there could be a population shift for changes in program registration numbers.

Committee Chair Retsky thought there could be some double counting in the numbers. Ms. Retsky inquired if there were fewer children taking classes; are we currently offering more classes with fewer people.

Ms. DeClerck hopes for a mutual partnership and relationship with the Committee and the staff. She stated it would be very beneficial to have advisory groups brought in.

Committee Chair Retsky felt the mentality of residents is that the District's doesn't listen and doesn't care.

Ms. DeClerck said she would like to have some kind of working meetings to help focus on priorities and what the community would like to see. She would like the Committee to give her direction. She would like to see a shift in communication.

President Cornell stated he wanted to let Ms. DeClerck do what she needs to do; she should be communicating with Mr. Van Arsdale. He tries to be respectful. He wants positive interaction.

Ms. DeClerck stated it does make an impact and she is looking for direction. Not all changes and improvements can be done at once; some things can be prioritized.

President Cornell stated some of the information is helpful and the numbers are really helpful. He would like to know if a staff member is being attacked or piled on and don't have Committee members call her. Ms. DeClerck asked for direction and priority.

Ms. Retsky asked for information that Ms. DeClerck asks for. She was wondering what Ms. DeClerck is looking for. Is the reduction in classes a trend or an indication of the economy? Some programs are declining while other programs are increased. Five years ago what programs would have been discontinued then?

President Cornell was concerned about the software program because of the time involved in Ms. DeClerck having to create a spreadsheet for information that that Committee and Board want.

Commissioner Lerman then asked Mr. Van Arsdale about enrollment trends, why are there so many cancellations, what is the District doing about it? Mr. Van Arsdale stated he felt this was an unfair question to ask. Mr. Lerman felt that 80% of the new programs are not running. He felt Mr. Van Arsdale should be able to answer the questions and numbers are unacceptable. He is concerned when he is asked by residents on the street that some District responses are unacceptable.

President Cornell stated ultimately said it is not his position to be pushing and demanding of staff; what are the changes or are things just getting muddled up or are there things that

should be done better?. Direction needs to shift as staff looks for answers for Mr. Van Arsdale and then the Board. Everyone does have a good goal in mind.

Ms. DeClerck stated she thought there it would be beneficial to have a Board workshop. Several years ago there was a recreational programming retreat. Committee Chair Retsky said that was a shotgun approach. Ms. DeClerck stated she was told the community wanted a full range of programs for all constituents. No one told her not to offer new programs.

Other Business There was no further business to discuss.

Adjourn With no further business, on a motion from President Cornell and a second from Commissioner Retsky the meeting adjourned at 12:05 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Donald P. Van Arsdale
Donald P. Van Arsdale
Secretary