

**Glen Ellyn Park District commissioners reverse position
on construction of soccer fields at Ackerman Park**

Glen Ellyn, IL – The Glen Ellyn Park District Board of Commissioners has decided to drop its pursuit of soccer field construction in Ackerman Park.

The decision came at a special meeting preceding its regular monthly workshop meeting Tuesday. By a vote of four to one, commissioners approved the pursuit of “formal modification to the previously approved regional storm water agreement with the Village of Glen Ellyn to eliminate construction of the soccer fields in order to prevent tree removal in the field location.”

Commissioners Dallman, Schoen, Sandra Minogue and board president Bill Taylor voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Jeff Jourdan voted against it. Commissioners Ron Aubrey and Ed Hess were absent.

Immediately following the vote, president Taylor read a prepared statement to those in attendance at the meeting. Commenting later on the board’s decision, Taylor said, “The board has made a decision to modify the existing intergovernmental agreement by which the park district will not be building soccer fields, thereby preserving over 300 trees which had been scheduled for removal had the soccer fields been built. While it was not a unanimous decision, we felt that the public opinion and sentiment for saving wooded areas outweighed the immediate need for the fields. We look forward to working with the community on possible other options for this area.”

According to Dallman, he made the motion to drop the idea of soccer field construction because “from the get go, I was queasy about the amount of vegetation that would be removed. I support the expansion of athletic programs, but the cost benefit didn’t seem to add up for this one.”

Dallman said the board’s action was a common sense, practical approach to serving needs. He explained that he would have made his position public earlier, but was unable to attend the May board meetings.

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