Call to Order
President Minogue called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call of Commissioners
Upon roll call those answering present were Commissioners Schoen, Dallman, Jourdan, Taylor, Aubrey, Hess and President Minogue.

Staff members present were Executive Director Atwell, Superintendent of Recreation Esposito, Executive Assistant Sesto, Communications & Marketing Supervisor Talenco, and Superintendent of Parks Scarmardo. Attorney Adams was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance
President Minogue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda
None

Consent Agenda
Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jourdan, to approve the Consent Agenda. Items on the Consent Agenda for approval were: Minutes of the February 20, 2009 Regular Meeting, March 3, 2009 Special Meeting and March 3, 2009 Workshop Meeting; Treasurer’s Report; Voucher List of Bills Totaling $1,260,499.86; Pay Requests for Ackerman Sports Complex Project Totaling $793,175.31; and Ordinance 09-03 Authorizing Disposal of Property.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Dallman, Jourdan, Schoen, Hess, Aubrey, Taylor and President Minogue  Nay: None  Motion Carried

Public Participation
Mr. Jim Blankshain, Executive Co-Chair of Glen Ellyn Girls Softball Association, said as they begin their new year they like to thank the Board for their support. In an economy where registration is off this year they are still pursuing avenues to increase registration. It is an uphill battle but one they feel they can overcome.

The good news is the tournament is full with 72 teams participating. That tells him Glen Ellyn puts on a good effort for their program and with the help of the Board it is a success. The tournament is the Association’s largest fund raising event.

He thanked the Board for their support and all their endeavors, the staff including Scott Norman, Jason Norman, Paul Pitts, James Warnstedt and without Dan Kroger they would be no where. He is good for the program and always there when they need him. He also thanked the people who work at the front desk saying they always help the people when they call in and always have a smile on their faces.
President Minogue commented that she can’t tell him how nice it is to have someone thank the Board. They normally hear the other side. The program’s success could not have been accomplished without Mr. Blankshain and all the other volunteers. The Board is forever grateful to the volunteers and softball has always been a great group and great program.

Mr. Paul Leak, 697 Lake Road, wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s Day. He and his wife received the Park District’s brochure and thought it was very nice and looked like the Park District is doing some very good things at Ackerman with the new building, Village Green Park and other areas.

Mr. Leak attended the March 3 Board meeting where President Minogue and Director Atwell responded to a question regarding the Park District’s involvement with School District 87 in their plan for turf and lights at Memorial Park and Duchon Field. In their response it was stated that the Park District has no funds for the project, is not considering the issue, is not involved in modifying any intergovernmental agreement with District 87 and are not in any negotiations with District 87 regarding funding for the project.

Mr. Leak asked if all Board members agreed with the response given by President Minogue and Director Atwell, clarification of apparent disparities in information he obtained from District 87 related to information he heard at the last Park Board meeting, and the current involvement and intent of the Park District’s dealings with District 87 regarding lights and turf at Memorial Park and Duchon Field.

President Minogue commented that something very important to point out is that the Park District and School District are constantly having discussions and constantly trying to work together. It only makes sense for them to work together because they are all serving the residents. As far as the turf and lights situation she felt what the Board had said was there were not any specifics that had been brought to the Board for them to vote on so they have not taken an official stand as far as the fields are concerned. There are some key points that have been brought back to them as far as turf fields and lights, specifically at Memorial. The school would have less busing which would save them money, better usage for PE and teams, and could use the field after inclement weather when use of other fields comes to a halt. District 87 would like assistance from the Park District but the difficulty is the assistance they want is monetary. The Park District has a lot to do and is always looking at ways to keep up facilities. If the Park District had an extra $1 million they would put a turf field at Newton Park. The Board cannot say that they would never work with the school board because of the fact they don’t have anything in front of them as to what they truly want. A lot of things have gone back and forth but none have been agreed on.

Commissioner Dallman commented that the Park District has ongoing discussions with District 87 and have existing agreements with them but none of the agreements currently in place have anything to do with Memorial. Dr. Meissen would love that to be the case and frequently asks staff.

Commissioner Schoen commented that they have never met board to board regarding the issue. The issue comes from their staff to Park District staff and that is translated back to the Board.

Mr. Leak asked if they had discussed the issue individually with District 87 or with Gain Ground people.

Commissioner Taylor commented that he had been approached by people with Gain Ground and several months ago the group made a presentation to the Board. In any discussions they have had with Director Atwell or when they made their presentation to the Board the usage for the Park District would be minimal.
President Minogue commented that if District 87 ends up putting the field at Memorial Park the Park District would like to rent the field for programs.

Commissioner Taylor agreed saying it would not make sense for the Park District to put the kind of money Gain Ground is talking about into something the Park District would not get significant usage out of. As President Minogue said the Park District would be better off renting it if it was built, just like the School District rents fields at Ackerman, Village Green and Newton parks.

President Minogue asked Mr. Leak if they had answered his questions and he thanked them saying they had.

Unfinished Business
Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation - Safety Village Project
Director Atwell explained that local architect Craig Pryde of PPKS Architects has been putting the architectural plans together on the small buildings and homes that will replicate downtown Glen Ellyn. The Park District has been working for years on Safety Village and staff and the Foundation have finally gotten to a point where they see some real things happening. Funding has been developed over the last few months and the project is now at the point where they need to take the next step and a lot of that depends on the architectural aspect. The Foundation is planning to have one or two of the new buildings constructed and pulled in the 4th of July Parade, will be a great opportunity to market Safety Village to the community.

Mr. Pryde presented a video and explained that the idea in creating Safety Village is to bring the character and ambience of Glen Ellyn into it so when you are teaching them safety you are also teaching them familiar sites. In seeking donors for the project they are trying to replicate not only civic buildings but also some of the buildings people may want to sponsor. They discussed how to execute the construction and through connections of Director Atwell, himself and Rotary they reached out to Technology Center of DuPage to see if they would be interested in partnering on the project with their construction class. TCD has come back and said they would love to build the buildings. He then reached out to the International Masonry Institute and asked them for the commercial buildings, which will be clad in a thin veneer brick, if they would be interested in using their training facility once the building shell is completed.

Once constructed the buildings would be placed on a mobile trailer and taken to the Masonry Institute to have their tradesmen and beginning masons put the masonry on them before being taken back to TCD to have them surface mount the windows and store fronts that would give them their finished look.

At this time the concept is to build momentum and he felt they would reach a fulcrum point where it is going to be down hill and they won’t be able to stop it. Tracey Kreiling, owner of Bells and Whistles, wants to sponsor the construction of the replica of her building so TCD priced out the construction and the material costs including the brick should come in between $1500 and $2000 for the entire structure. The material cost for everything except the roofing and the brick is around $900 from F.E. Wheaton. The tentative construction start date for the Bells & Whistles building is April 7.

He explained how the process would work including TCD taking it on as a class experience and ordering all materials from F.E. Wheaton. Providing there is appropriate funding TCD will construct all the buildings. He has not had a final answer from International Masonry Institute but had received communication that they were interested in the project.
Mr. Pryde felt the program was taking shape and coming together nicely. Only one building within Safety Village will be occupied and that is the Civic Center which is the largest structure at 12’ x 18’. A story in Safety Village is 3’ tall. The downtown area will consist of the civic center, Methodist church, Inland Bank building, the Glen Theater, the Park Avenue Station Condos and the Boathouse. A replica Lake Ellyn will serve as a detention pond for the project. There will be a small park across from Lake Ellyn where children can have a picnic and adjacent to that will be the Library and Community Bank who has agreed to be a sponsor. Off to the side will be residential row consisting of 3 to 4 different home styles.

The education building will be a two room school house with bathrooms and a small office. TCD will prefabricate the building and haul it to Maryknoll where it will be installed by the class. Rotary and the Park District previously worked with them in that capacity for the gazebo in Prairie Path Park.

TCD is an excited partner because with their program they build the same shed over and over. It is constructed and taken down then burned by their fire department class. They are thrilled to have the opportunity to do something different and requires a different level of thinking.

President Minogue commented that they have talked about a Safety Village for many years and it is now at the point of being beyond exciting.

The Board thanked Mr. Pryde for all his efforts.

Director Atwell commented that the Foundation did not want to start the project without the money and couldn’t raise the money without showing what it would look like. Thanks to Craig and to TCD, the Foundation finally has the balance they have been looking for.

Village of Glen Ellyn Riford/St. Charles Road Improvement Project
Director Atwell reported that as had been requested by Park District counsel, staff received a letter from Mr. Robert Minix, Village Engineer, providing the Park District a letter of commitment regarding responsibilities for monitoring, reporting and management of the wetland buffer areas on the north side of St. Charles, what will be disturbed and restored as part of their proposed Riford Road Reconstruction Project. Mr. Minix indicated in the letter that the Village Public Works Department will be the party responsible for conducting required monitoring, and submitting annual reports through the receipt of written acceptance from the Village’s stormwater administrator and special management area consultant that mitigation has satisfied performance requirements.

If the Board wishes to move forward with the project Director Atwell asked that in their approval be based on receiving project approval from the Illinois Department of Transportation and DuPage County, review by the Park District’s consultant and legal counsel. Unless those contingencies are in the Board’s approval he would recommend not approving the project.

Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Village of Glen Ellyn Riford-St. Charles Road improvement project contingent upon the review by the Park District consultant, contingent upon the approval of Illinois Department of Transportation and DuPage County, and contingent upon review by counselor Steve Adams.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Dallman, Taylor, Aubrey, Hess, Schoen, Jourdan and President Minogue
Nay: None
Motion Carried
New Business
Award Bid for Sale of Vehicle
Superintendent Scarmardo reported staff advertised the sale of a 1993 Jeep with a minimum bid of $2,500. Bids were due on Thursday, March 12 at 10:00 a.m. One bid was received for $2,506 from Mark Kapper of Olney, Illinois.

Staff recommended the Board approve awarding the bid to sell the 1993 Jeep to Mark Kapper in the amount of $2,506.

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Hess, to approve the awarding of the sale of the 1993 Jeep Wrangler to Mr. Mark Kapper in the amount of $2,506.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Taylor, Hess, Aubrey, Jourdan, Dallman, Schoen and President Minogue
Nay: None
Motion Carried

Western Illinois University - Community attitude & Interest Survey
Superintendent Esposito commented that as the Board may recall, last fall staff met with representatives from Western Illinois University to discuss another survey of Park District residents. In 2003 WIU conducted the Park District’s Attitude and Interest Survey. At that time WIU sent out 5,000 surveys to residents through a random sampling method. 1,000 responses, or 22%, were returned. WIU was very pleased with the return and presented the results of the survey to the Board.

Instead of reinventing the survey staff discussed upgrading the survey with WIU. Residents will be asked for feedback on programs, parks, facilities and communication. Staff hopes to receive valuable information to use as a guide in decision making and improve in services where they may be lacking. Each survey will contain a self-addressed stamped envelope to be mailed directly to WIU, who will tabulate the results and present them to the Board and staff.

Commissioner Dallman asked what the survey would cost and Superintendent Esposito explained that Western Illinois University charges a basic fee of $10,000 to $11,000, depending on the number surveyed, plus the cost for printing the survey.

Commissioner Dallman felt going with Western Illinois University was a better decision than using a program such as Survey Monkey on the web.

Superintendent Esposito commented that staff uses Survey Money for the larger Park District programs.

Commissioner Hess asked why the Park District would do a survey.

Superintendent Esposito explained that staff looks at it as a report card on how the Park District is doing. Another thing staff looks at is if there are areas that people really like or want. An example would be asking if residents wanted a new concession/storage facility constructed in Newton Park. WIU would be able to determine if only residents in the area around Newton Park didn’t want a new facility or the entire community.

The large professional surveys are not conducted very often. The last large survey was conducted in 2003. Smaller postcard type surveys are conducted in-house. Staff also surveys program participants on an on-going basis.

Commissioner Hess asked why the large survey is not done every year.
Superintendent Esposito commented that it is expensive and Director Atwell didn’t feel they would find much change within one year.

After discussion Superintendent Esposito asked the Board to provide her with their comments or suggestions for survey questions by the end of the week.

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association - March 2009 Executive Summary
The executive summary is provided to WDSRA member park district boards to keep them up to date on association business.

Director Atwell thanked the Board members who were able to attend the recent WDSRA annual charity dinner and auction. A record 450 people attended and they also had record numbers for their auctions.

Matters from Staff
Superintendent Scarmardo reported the Ackerman Sports Complex project was moving along well. Approximately 95% of the steel has been erected. Once the inside of the building dries up the mason, electrical and plumbing work will continue.

Director Atwell reported that because there have been some instances where dogs are taking off and running in the parking lot staff sent a letter to Dog Park permit holders to remind them that their dog must be under control at all times.

Matters from Commissioners
Commissioner Hess commented that the new Spring/Summer Brochure looks wonderful and he was surprised at the amount of new programs. At one time he looked up the number of staff compared to the amount of people in Glen Ellyn and the amount of programs and he doesn’t know how it all gets done. The number of programs in the brochure with the volunteers and the amount of time staff puts in is amazing.

Commissioner Aubrey commented that he had a very good time attending the WDSRA event. It is a first class event for a great cause and probably the best auction one could ever see. He thanked the staff members who participated in the Ackerman Park restoration day and said he looks forward to the Churchill Park restoration day in April.

He met with staff members and a public relations firm and has managed to create some excitement around Safety Village and Modinarri on Main. One individual, who is a resident, has a passion to help put together a promotion for Safety Village and the Modinarri event.

Director Atwell commented that staff is putting information together on Safety Village to get to the individual and they will meet again in April.

Commissioner Taylor thanked all the residents who helped with the recent Ackerman Park restoration. Park District employees Jill Voegtle and Renee Frigo did a fabulous job.

Commissioner Jourdan also thanked all those who helped with the Ackerman Park restoration project saying a lot of hard work went on. He enjoyed the WDSRA event immensely and every year it gets bigger and better. He complimented staff on the new brochure format and said he had received compliments on the brochure from his neighbors.
Commissioner Dallman commented that the brochure looks fantastic. A friend of his, Ms. Eileen McCardle, is very heavy into recycling and is very proud and pleased about the recycling bins being put in various parks and have local businesses sponsor them. She made a specific call to him to say how proud she was of Superintendent Scarmardo for implementing the program.

Commissioner Schoen felt the recent brochure was the best ever. He is very excited with Craig Pryde’s presentation and felt he did an excellent job. He attended the WDSRA event and enjoyed it very much. He and his four year old grandson went to Village Green Park and his grandson enjoyed the new playground.

President Minogue felt the new brochure was the best ever.

**Adjourn to Executive Session Meeting**
At 8:10 p.m. Commissioner Schoen moved, seconded by Commissioner Dallman, to convene into Executive Session under Section 2(c)(1) “discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel for the District” and Section 2(c)(5) “discussion of the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including discussion of whether a particular parcel should be acquired.”

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Schoen, Dallman, Jourdan, Taylor, Aubrey, Hess and President Minogue  Nay: None Motion Carried*

**Reconvene the Regular Meeting**
The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

**Adjourn**
There being no further business Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Hess, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:40 p.m. *Motion Carried*

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanine Sesto  
Board Secretary