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

Roll Call of Commissioners
Present: President Minogue and Commissioners Aubrey, Nephew, Kinzler, Dallman, Creech and Hess.

Staff members present were Executive Director Atwell, Executive Assistant Sesto, Superintendent of Recreation Esposito, Communication & Marketing Supervisor Talenco, Superintendent of Parks Scarmardo, Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Woods, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Defiglia, Parks Foreman Warnstedt, Parks Horticulturist Voegtle and Recreation Supervisor Kroger. Attorney Tibble was also present.

Changes to the Agenda
None

Public Participation
Owner of Earthwerks Mr. Dan Davies, 540 N. Columbine, stated that it was brought to his attention by staff members that there were some concerns or issues regarding the Village Green Park project. If the Board had any questions he would be happy to answer them.

Commissioner Kinzler commented that he arrived for the meeting early and had the opportunity to go over all the contracts and plans for the project with Director Atwell and Superintendent Scarmardo. Last weekend the two Pinto fields were being played on. Field four still had problems with the mound which will be addressed later in the week. After the work was done to the infields and filling in the low spots, after a substantial rain the puddles were gone. It looked like Mr. Davies had remedied the problems and he appreciated the work.

Mr. Davies commented that he had done a lot of projects for the Park District and any time there is an issue he tries to take care of it as soon as possible. It has been a very rainy spring and they have done their best. He was aware there was a deadline for the grand opening and his staff worked very hard to make sure everything was completed as much as they could for the opening. They have been struggling with the weather this year on all their projects.

Commissioner Hess commented that the Board and staff really appreciated all Mr. Davies time and effort. Other projects he had done for the Park District have always been exceptional and Mr. Davies has given the Park District extra services at no additional charge. By and far the park looks great. The only fault may be that they tried to get on the fields a little too early.

Mr. Davies commented that he is a resident of the Park District and appreciates all the parks. Everyone wants to use the parks and he will do whatever it takes to do the job right.

President Minogue thanked Mr. Davies for attending the meeting.

Eagle Scout Project - Maryknoll Park
Parks Foreman Warnstedt reported that a few weeks ago Jill Voegtle, the Park District’s horticulturist, assisted on an Eagle Scout project Brendan Durkin designed for the pond areas in Maryknoll Park. The project turned out great and he wanted to recognize Brendan’s work and the great job he did not only in planning the project but all phases of the work to completion.
Brendan Durkin explained that when he first met with Mr. Warnstedt they went over different possibilities for his project and he chose the Maryknoll Park pond because it was close to his house and he didn’t like the way it looked. They removed shrub bushes that were growing next to the pond and planted irises, sedge grass and prairie smoke for bank stabilization to stop erosion. Rocks that had fallen were re-stacked, garden beds were weeded and mulch was added. Two shrub trees that were growing inside the pond were removed.

Brendan thanked Mr. Warnstedt and Ms. Voegtle for helping him with the project.

President Minogue commented that the pond area looks beautiful and the Board was glad that he had chosen to do a project with the Park District.

Commissioner Creech commented that she and her children were at Maryknoll Park and a lot of people were around the pond area. One person caught a large tad pole. She thanked Brendan for his work.

Commissioner Nephew commented that she was at Maryknoll Park with friends and everyone had a good time seeing the frogs, looking at the fish and the pond area looked great.

Commissioner Dallman thanked Brendan for his efforts and for doing a great job.

**Resolution 09-04 - Resolution of Authorization IDNR/OSLAD Grand Application**
Superintendent Scarmardo introduced John Vann of LandTech Landscape Architects, the architect for the Churchill Park nature center project.

Mr. Vann thanked the Board and staff for the opportunity to work with them again and hoped this would be another winning project with the State OSLAD grant program.

Phase III improvements for Churchill Park will make the site even better for educational use. Phase II occurred in 2004/2005 which consisted of the construction of the boardwalk, plantings, work on the detention basin and construction of a shelter. Basically the entire north side of the park was improved at that time. Phase III, the last phase, will restore and enhance the existing area to the south that goes down to the school and Geneva Road.

In 2003 the Park District had a wetland delineation report done of the area. At that time there were very few wetland spots in the woods. However now, since the County did improvements on Geneva Road, more and more water is coming into the park. There is a 30" storm drain flowing water into the park. With all the rain experienced this spring the entire 6 acres is now a swamp. He and staff have met with the County and are trying to figure out what to do with the situation. What was being used as an educational area is not usable anymore. Instead of trying to prove culpability, he and staff agreed to figure out a way to deal with the area.

Mr. Vann explained in detail the improvements planned for the park and educational features that would be introduced into the park. Work would include extending the trail, improving accessibility, channel the flow from the drain pipe and creating wetland depressions and sensitive environmental pockets, planting wetland plants and native plants and trees, educational signage along the trail system, replace existing footbridge with a steel footbridge, construct a boardwalk area, create interactive exhibits, a small camping area that Scout troops could use, clear non-native trees and shrubs, construct a low ropes course, construct a 30'x50' enclosed shelter to be used as the educational center, and demolish the existing old house. Mr. Vann also explained how the site could be used for environmental classes for schools, Scouts and other groups. Phase III will be the culmination for all planned improvements to the park.

A public meeting will be held January 10 to present the plan to the neighbors of the park. The budget for the plan is $600,000. If a matching grant is awarded from IDNR the Park District would be responsible for $300,000.
The grant application must be submitted to IDNR by July 1. In early fall the Park District will be notified if the grant was chosen for the final review and will be asked to make a presentation to IDNR in Springfield.

Considering the problem with the wetland area, Commissioner Hess asked all the documentation necessary was being put together to prove what is and what is not a wetland area.

Mr. Vann explained that to solve some of the current issues, they will be comparing the wetland delineation report that was done before the pipe was fixed. Now the site is wet. They can argue about when the 6 acre site became a wetland but how good it is is another question. From what they have seen it meets the hydraulic factor but there is not a lot of good growth. A new wetland delineation report will be ordered and that will tell them where they can or can’t go. If a boardwalk is constructed and the County feels that the wetlands are being disturbed, mitigation or creation of a new wetland would have to be created.

Commissioner Hess asked if the pipe was draining per the engineering and if there was anything that could be done to make it smaller.

Superintendent Scarmardo explained he had heard from Julie Crane with DuPage County and she had not heard back the engineer. He Village is working on the problem with residents in the Saddlewood subdivision draining their sump pump into the park.

Mr. Vann commented that they have to deal with the water one way or the other so the plan is to make the area a useful resource. The park can handle the water but it is washing away the trail that was made through the park. There are several different types of wetlands and these will not always have water in them. It will be a wooded or a femoral wetland which is seasonally flooded and then dries up. It will have a different type of plant base than plants around lakes.

Commissioner Creech asked if the County’s wetland requirements will be matched with the project.

Mr. Vann explained that a new wetland delineation will be completed and with that information and a concept plan they can work with the County.

Commissioner Kinzler thanked Mr. Vann for the presentation and asked if there are any good trees in that area that were there before it was a wetland and would the plan be built around them.

Mr. Vann explained that there are some decent trees in the area but there is also a lot of garbage that has come up over the years. There are stands of good trees they want to preserve them. Their task will be to find the tree survey that was conducted several years ago and go to the site to reconfirm it to see if there is anything good to save. There are a lot of ash trees which are not good. Some ash trees are good to have but not a lot of ash trees. There are a lot of cherry, buckthorn, apple and crab apple trees which also are not good. The County will have a say in what goes away and what doesn’t. There are several different types of wetlands that will be created and one is a wooded wetland. Because it is now a wetland many trees are under water and dying. Those trees should be removed and not replaced because of all the water. Many have fallen over during storms because they are not made to be inundated in water.

Commissioner Hess asked if the ultimate choice on what trees would be removed would be made by the County.

Mr. Vann explained that the decision will be up to the Park District, County and himself as the designer. Everyone has to a part of the approval process.

Commissioner Hess commented that there was some misinformation on the internet that the project was costing $900,000. He wanted to make it clear that the project cost is $600,000 of which the Park District would pay $300,000.
Commissioner Creech asked where the budget was for the project and Mr. Vann explained that they are working with the $600,000 number and are making different cost centers to make sure there is enough money for all the work involved. When the grant is submitted to the State of Illinois the $600,000 budget has to be broken out by line item. The grant application is submitted on a line item basis. The State knows it is a concept plan and that through final planning things may change. A path might have to be moved due to final plans with the County. The State does allow you to take from one line item and put it in another, give or take about 10%. When the grant is submitted the numbers have to be close.

Mr. Vann explained that at the next meeting the Board has to approve a Resolution authorizing staff to apply for the grant and the Board will have the budget in front of them.

Commissioner Hess asked what groups of people staff felt would be using the facility.

Mr. Vann explained they had been talking with various groups in the community who are interested in using the nature center. Renee Frigo, who now works with the Park District, is a horticulturist who worked with the St. Charles Park District and she has many plans for programming. School districts have also indicated they would use the facility.

Commissioner Dallman asked if that would help with the grant process and Mr. Vann said it would.

As a former Commissioner, Mr. Marty Durkin, 854 Abbey Drive, commented that it was wonderful to see the project finally back before the Board. He could remember back in 2000 when the Park District acquired the property and began working on the development plan, multiple tours of the park took place and it was nice to see it finally coming to fruition. It was good to hear the Board talking about the wetlands that are there and talking about putting in plants that will not only thrive in water but actually control the water and make the ground more absorbent of the water and reduce the flooding that takes place. He felt it was nice to see the Park District working as a good citizen to improve the land and putting something back for the citizens to use as a great interpretive center. It’s only taken nine years.

Commissioner Aubrey asked if it had been determined what caused the problem with the drain pipe and what it would cost to fix it.

Mr. Vann commented that officially, they did not know who caused the problem. What caused the problem is the 30" pipe draining into the park. He did not know how anyone got away with that because you can’t dump your storm water on your neighbor’s property. The problem is there and won’t go away and that is why they have come up with the wetland approach.

Commissioner Aubrey did not have a problem with intent of the project and coming up with a solution that is permanent. He did have a concern with getting to the root cause of the problem and holding that entity responsible. He did not like having to budget a portion of the $600,000 to fix a problem that was not caused by the Park District and he did not want the County to compromise the Park District’s ability to finish the project after approval from IDNR.

Mr. Vann explained that the application to the State is not carved in stone until mid-October. That is when the State asks the people who have made the first cut to make a 3 minute presentation in Springfield. At that time the State considers the plan locked in so he and staff have from now until October to work with the County. In creating a new wetland the Park District has created a wetland bank. If a developer needs to mitigate against wetland damage the Park District may be able to receive money or use it for development in other parks within the watershed.

Commissioner Kinzler commented that in the grant application it states that an agency may be penalized if they do not speak with IDNR grant staff prior to submittal. He asked if Mr. Vann had spoken to them and if so what they thought about the wetland issue.
Mr. Vann assured Commissioner Kinzler that he speaks to IDNR grant staff. As far as the wetland, what IDNR does not want is a project being submitted to them without them looking at it. All discussions to date with IDNR have been favorable.

Commissioner Nephew asked that the actual grant application be included in their packet for the June 16 Board meeting.

Mr. Vann explained the different documentation that would be included in the application and would present all that is completed by that date.

Commissioner Nephew asked if the location for the interpretive center was to make it closer to the school.

Superintendent Scarmardo explained that the location creates a buffer from all the homes in Saddlwood. It also lines up the utility connection.

Mr. Vann commented that it will also overlook the two ponds and provide more function to the low ropes course and the middle of the site.

Commissioner Nephew commented that she walked through the area and felt it was property with amazing potential and hoped it would all turn out well.

Commissioner Creech asked if staff was soliciting public input for the project other than the public meeting being held next week.

Commissioner Dallman commented that the Board has been talking about the project for 10 years in many public meetings and it has always been one of the top five projects. It is clearly something that has been out there for those who wanted to attend meetings and hear about it.

Commissioner Creech asked that Mr. Vann explain the need for the amenities in the nature center.

Mr. Vann explained that they are all functions to provide for expanded use of the park. The goal of any park and recreation comprehensive plan is to try and anticipate how people are going to use something or want to use something. Not specifically through a survey was it asked “do you want a camp ground” but it has been mentioned to staff for years. They listen to peoples thoughts because there will be a need if not today, tomorrow. The goal is to come up with new and creative ways for people to get outside and get involved rather than sitting in front of a TV.

Director Atwell asked staff to explain how Wheaton Park District uses their facility.

Superintendent Scarmardo commented that Wheaton’s Lincoln Marsh alone has more programs than in the entire Glen Ellyn Park District.

Ms. Voegtle used to work for Wheaton Park District, at Lincoln Marsh, and commented that every 3rd grader in District 200 went through the wetland program that was provided at Lincoln Marsh. That is on top of all the teams course programming and the interpretive programming. There is always something going on. When she worked at Lincoln Marsh there was a full-time natural resources individual, a full-time preserve person, a teams course facilitator, a full-time interpretive person setting up programs, and many part-time people. At Churchill Park all the school districts could use the center. She has had calls from St. Pet’s who wants to have programs at Churchill.

Mr. Vann commented that creating environmental educational wetland or native sites is the highest priority IDNR has.

Commissioner Kinzler asked if the cost of ongoing maintenance had been considered.
Director Atwell commented that any ongoing maintenance would be the same as what staff does now. Program fees will pay for the person to handle programming.

Superintendent Scarmardo commented that a lot of maintenance will be done by volunteers. School groups and Scout groups will want to be involved. Ms. Voegtle has more people right now than she can handle that want to do cleanup work. For many years Ms. Janet Williams has had an environmental class at Churchill School and they meet in the park every week. Her Girl Scout troop plants seeds and do some trimming. Programming fees will offset utility costs for the 1600 sq. ft. building.

Mr. Vann explained that the gutters on the shelter will be directed to a rain garden for an educational opportunity and they are looking at having solar panels to provide some of the power and use recycled materials.

Commissioner Creech suggested recycling the existing building.

Director Atwell explained that renovating the building had been bid out twice and both times the numbers came in very high. The last low bid was $890,000. There is no use to save a building that doesn’t meet the need. The inside doesn’t have the square footage footprint that is needed. It did not make sense to throw good money after bad to try to save the building.

Commissioner Dallman explained that the original intent was to renovate the house and use it for the nature center. The Board was shocked at the cost to renovate the building.

Commissioner Kinzler asked staff to provide any survey results from past years as to how the project ranked. The issue for him was whether the residents want it. All the details can be worked out if 75% or even 51% of the residents say they want the project but if only 10% of the people want it that would be a big difference. Even though half of the money is coming from the State of Illinois they are still Illinois taxpayers and there is a question as to how much money they have to be giving out.

Commissioner Hess commented that there has never been 51% of the community vote positive for a project. There will be a lot of future uses that one cannot conceptualize at this point. Projects have been done that a quarter of the people wouldn’t vote for because they don’t care about it but those people surrounding that park love it. From what he is hearing the project would have enormous support from schools, the Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts and the Park District’s own programs. The people that would vote against it are the people that are uninformed and people who would never vote for anything like that project. As Mr. Vann mentioned, this type of project is the number one funded by IDNR.

Commissioner Kinzler commented that he realized it takes leadership to make the decisions and go forward but he also realized that $300,000 is a lot of money for the guy from Joliet. There are a lot of people having a hard time paying their property taxes so he wanted to make sure that for one of his first votes that there is support for it.

After lengthy the Board directed staff to provide them with the budget for the project and agreed to place approval of Resolution 09-04, Resolution of Authorization, under Unfinished Business on the June 16 Regular Meeting agenda.

Resolution 09-05 - Authorizing Bank Depositories
Superintendent Woods reported Broadview Bank Group has proposed an attractive rate on a money market fund. They are willing to take liquid money as well as some of the investment money. Before funds can be invested with Broadview Bank Group the Board must approve a resolution authorizing them as a bank depository.

Staff recommended, and the Board agreed, to place formal approval of Resolution 09-05, Authorizing Bank Depositories, on the June 16, 2009 Regular Meeting consent agenda.
Pay Request for Ackerman Sports Complex Project
Superintendent Scarmardo presented Pay Request #7 for the Ackerman Sports Complex project and gave an update on construction progress. Pay Request #7, in the amount of $693,384.45, was reviewed by staff and Professional Building Service and all paperwork submitted was found in order. Contractors receiving payment for work completed are Cosgrove Construction, Entre Prises, Manusos Contracting, Associated Electrical, Earthwerks, mechanical Concepts, G. Porter & Co., M.G. Mechanical Plumbing, Spancrete, Absolute Fire Protection, and Professional Building Services.

Commissioner Dallman asked if the rain had adversely affected the work schedule.

Superintendent Scarmardo explained that the work is sectioned off so when the weather is good the exterior can be worked on. In inclement weather there is work to be done on walls, columns and windows.

Staff recommended, and the Board agreed, to place formal approval of Pay Request #7 for the Ackerman Sports Complex, in the amount of $693,384.45, on the June 16, 2009 Regular Meeting consent agenda.

Documents of Park District Website
Director Atwell deferred to Commissioner Creech who requested the agenda item.

Commissioner Creech said one of the things that they have been hearing from the community is that people are more interested in knowing what is going on at the Park District, what the plans are and how the Park District operates. She provided the Board a grid showing what some neighboring park districts and governing bodies have on their website. She was interested in talking about what kind of additional things that as a Board they would be interested putting on the Park District’s website to increase transparency and let the public know what the Board is doing.

Commissioner Dallman felt it was a great idea and that is why the Board talked about it initially, five years ago. He was glad to see on the survey conducted by staff that there were ‘yes’ columns marked indicating the documents on the Park District’s website.

Commissioner Nephew commented that comparing what Commissioner Creech prepared and the survey conducted by staff, there may have been a difference in definition of budget. Commissioner Creech shows budgets online for Downers Grove and Naperville park districts but on the survey from staff the question was “detailed budget”.

Superintendent Woods commented that she conducted the survey and took what Commissioner Creech had written in her email as the documents she wanted on the website and one was “detailed budget”. When she checked the budget posted on Naperville’s website it was not what she would consider detailed. The Board receives a detailed budget with every line item, every revenue, every expense, every salary charged to a program. None of that information is on either Naperville or Downers Grove’s websites. If what is on their website is being considered a detailed budget, the Glen Ellyn Park District has the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance on the website which lists the same budget information as the Naperville and Downers Grove park districts report on their respective websites. The majority of the 44 park districts she surveyed did not have their detailed budget on their website. Only 4 out of 44 park districts have a detailed budget on their website.

Unlike Commissioner Creech, Superintendent Woods explained that she did not use school districts or villages for comparison purposes because their resources are completely different than the Glen Ellyn Park District. In her survey of 44 park districts she also asked the number of IT and Marketing people on staff. School districts and villages have much greater resources than a park district has. The Glen Ellyn Park District has an IT person one day per week and has one marketing person. The Naperville Park District has 3.75 IT staff and 3 marketing staff. What you can afford as far as salaries also impacts what can be done and how their resources are used. You also have to consider who hosts the website. The Glen Ellyn Park District website is hosted off-site and a cost is incurred when the data being stored off-site is expanded.
Commissioner Aubrey commented that proposed legislation may define what has to be on the website.

Commissioner Nephew felt the question was how much would the Board be willing to put on the website instead of people having to fill out a Freedom of Information request. People might want to have information on a project before attending a meeting when the project was going to be discussed. More documents may foster an interest and people will understand what the Park District is doing. It would be easier to communicate what they are doing if the people can get to the information.

Commissioner Hess agreed with the concept but before they move ahead with more discussion he wanted to see a better definition of what the items were that Commissioner Creech wanted on the website. In his mind, Board highlights or results are already on the website because the minutes and newsletter are already on there. He felt there was sufficient budget information already on the website as well as survey results. Commissioner Kinzler has been very adamant about fiscal responsibility and what is being asked to be done is not a small thing. When you compare Glen Ellyn’s marketing staff with other park districts, 19 out of 36 have significantly more marketing staff than Glen Ellyn and that is something the Board needs to consider. He felt the documents in question needed to be defined so the Board would have better information before them to discuss.

Commissioner Creech agreed but felt the only thing that might have a cost associated with it was putting audio/video online. She recommended staff research that issue and coming up with some low cost options for things such as video digital recording equipment and incorporate that cost into the budget for next year.

Commissioner Hess also questioned the legal aspect. It may seem very innocuous to have certain documents on the website but the Park District may be held to task if the documents are not kept updated. He felt the Park District’s attorneys as well as PDRMA attorneys should look at the issue from a risk standpoint.

Commissioner Dallman commented that he was not prepared to make a decision at this point. He felt it was a great idea and that is why many years ago the Board pushed to have documents online. He looked to staff for a recommendation.

After lengthy discussion it was agreed to direct staff to research the issue and prepare a report for the Board’s consideration.

Amend Governing Ordinance and Fishing Regulations
Director Atwell reported that recently a resident was in the office to purchase a boat permit which allows them to take the boat on Lake Ellyn. Persons purchasing boat permits must agree to a list of rules which include “fishing from the boat is prohibited”. After being asked why that was not allowed staff contact PDRMA’s legal counsel, Ed Dutton. Mr. Dutton’s opinion was that from a legal and risk management standpoint if fishing is allowed on the lake, either from the shore, the dock or from a boat, it did not matter one iota.

Staff recommended the Board agree to eliminate fishing regulation #9, “fishing from the boat is prohibited” and replace with *fish must be released alive or removed from Lake property for cleaning and the Park District encourages a ‘catch and release’ practice.* Eliminate Section 4.07 of the Park District’s Governing ordinances that states “fish in any park waters except by permission of the Executive Director” and replace with “feeding of wildlife is prohibited”.

Discussion ensued on why the Park District did not require people to have a fishing license and placing a restriction on the size of the fish that can be taken from the lake if the person does not prescribe to a ‘catch and release program’.

It was agreed staff will research fish length restrictions with IDNR and the Forest Preserve District.
Ordinance 09-05 - Prevailing Wage Ordinance
Director Atwell presented Ordinance 09-05 - Prevailing Wage Ordinance, and explained that the Board is required to approve the Ordinance to adopt the Illinois Department of Labor’s wage rates for DuPage County. The Act assures that all laborers hired for construction contracts will be paid the prevailing wage.

Staff recommended, and the Board agreed, to place approving Ordinance 09-05 - Prevailing Wage Ordinance, on the June 16, 2009 Regular Meeting consent agenda.

Matters from Staff
Superintendent Esposito introduced the Park District’s summer intern, Laura Krist, a student of the University of Illinois.

The Board welcomed Laura to the Park District.

Matters from Commissioners
Commissioner Dallman reported there is a young lady in town, Katie Visco, who is running across the country and hoped to be back home around July 4.

Director Atwell commented that Superintendent Esposito and Recreation Supervisor Kroger are talking about having her at the Freedom 4 Race.

Commissioner Hess commented that he had seen a lot more people fishing at Lake Ellyn.

Commissioner Aubrey reported on the upcoming Modinarrri event and thanked staff for all their help.

Commissioner Nephew reported she had recently walked around Churchill Park and thought it was a lovely park. It was sad to see all the water and it was clear some of the trunks of trees were far too deep in water.

Commissioner Kinzler thanked staff saying all the coaches loved the two new Pinto fields at Village Green Park.

Adjourn to Executive Session
At 9:15 p.m. Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Hess, to convene into Executive Session under Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act, “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 Dallman, Hess, Aubrey, Nephew, Kinzler, Creech and President Minogue
Nay: None Motion Carried

Commissioner Kinzler moved, seconded by Commissioner Dallman, to convene into Executive Session under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act, “discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel for the district.”

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Dallman, Kinzler, Nephew, Aubrey, Hess, Creech and President Minogue
Nay: None Motion Carried

Reconvene the Workshop Meeting
The Workshop Meeting reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

Adjourn
There being no further business, at 9:45 p.m. Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Hess, to adjourn the Workshop Meeting. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanine Sesto, Board Secretary