Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting Minutes
Lisle Hilton, 3003 Corporate West Drive, Lisle, IL
August 29, 2009

Call to Order
President Minogue called the Special Meeting to order at 8:14 a.m.

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

Director Atwell was also present.

Boardsmanship
Director Atwell introduced the topic of boardsmanship. Commissioners explained why they wanted to serve on the Board.

Commissioner Dallman: Strong belief in community service. Brings common and business acumen to strategic and long range planning.

Commissioner Creech: Communication and fiscal responsibility. She recently attended the IAPD Boot Camp for new Commissioners.

Commissioner Aubrey: Started working out of home in 2003 and found time for community and philanthropic services. As a Commissioner you have to represent people with whom you do not agree, listen to both sides, make decisions for community, build consensus even if you don’t agree, have to put on a unified face with the Board. He has gotten bitten a lot by speaking in the public inadvertently.

Commissioner Hess: Reasons included getting involved, wanted to be involved with positive Park District complexion, this past election appeared to be change, a poorly run district, wanted to get involved with local government and how to address small interest groups.

Commissioner Nephew: Important decisions, balancing all different parts, listening; her family, her park district, want it more responsive and stronger; elected has greater responsibility than appointed position; community needs more people to step up; active - careful examine of positions; make already wonderful Park District stronger.

Commissioner Kinzler: Eldest son of five, hard driving father, head of transplants at Loyola at 32, life change to get involved with kids sports through Park District; got involved with more and more Park District programs; started own practice at Elmhurst Hospital; it is in his nature to know the details and thoroughly understand all aspects; other ways to look at things; hearts in the right place; there are other points of view.

President Minogue: Had been coaching forever; giving back with coaching, committee, school district; initially scared when she ran the first time; incredibly rewarding; if District 41 had visionary people they
would be in different situation; need to be visionary and look to the future; value of Park District working with the other governmental entities; stand together as a board.

Commissioner Dallman commended Director Atwell on his personal growth as the Executive Director.

Director Atwell: People do not appreciate the fact of how much the Park District works with other agencies. He’s thankful to the Commissioners for caring enough to be on the Board.

Commissioner Nephew: Coming back to “Hearts in the Right Place” might have different views on roles of and view of Mission Statement, new members seem to be more focused on open space.

Commissioner Dallman stated he had always been in favor of open space.

Commissioner Hess questioned the view/definition of open space.

Commissioner Nephew: Facilities, Village Green, Maryknoll, Ackerman does not appear to be focus on open space acquisition.

Commissioner Hess discussed facility renovations and open space acquisition at Churchill, Maryknoll and Lenox Road.

Director Atwell explained the Cash in Lieu concept. Money from developers is to be used in parks near development.

After wide ranging discussion by all it appeared the Board was closer in their ideas regarding their desire for open space than originally thought.

Commissioner Creech’s vision for open vision is in total agreement with the other Commissioners.

Director Atwell explained how the Park District can use the services of the Conservation Trust to help with the down payment when acquiring land. The Park District could then apply for a IDNR OSLAD grant to pay for the land. It has been the practice of the Park District to stay away from “pocket parks” which are very small parks.

**Capital Planning**
Discussion took place regarding changing budget column title from “Proposed” to “Possible” Future Capital Expenditures.

Director Atwell provided overview on taxes, fund balances, how to pay for miscellaneous expenses/projects throughout the year and the tax levy.

Director Atwell reviewed the capital projects for 2010.

Discussion took place regarding fees for splash park and whether to raise the fee.

**Community Survey**
Director Atwell briefly discussed the survey and asked Commissioners to take some time going over the report and have questions ready for Dr. Digrino and Dr. Yader who will be presenting the report to the
Board at their September 1 Workshop Meeting.

**Park Board Liaison**
Director Atwell introduced the topic and stressed the need to remain silent at the meetings. If there were to be a Board liaison attending meetings they would be there to listen only and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Kinzler discussed pros and cons using analogy of how Village Trustees rotate on the various committees, i.e., Recreation, Architectural, Environmental.

Commissioner Dallman expressed concern with lack of passion being forced to attend meetings.

Commissioner Hess brought up the idea of instead of Commissioners attending meetings, have the non-staff Co-Chairperson attend a meeting and brief the Board on a regular basis.

Commissioner Kinzler felt Commissioners had an area of focus, i.e., the pool, and the could attend the staff meetings.

Commissioner Dallman pointed out that staff works on the programs and comes to the Board with recommendations.

Commissioner Kinzler would like a staff person to take the lead on various initiatives and report back. He did not feel comfortable with various aspects.

Director Atwell reminded Commissioners that they can always call him if they have any question regarding the Park District or call Superintendent Woods directly if they have questions regarding the budget.

**Adjourn**
Commissioner Dallman moved, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 12:04 p.m.  

*Motion Carried*

Respectfully submitted,

Director Atwell