I. Call to Order
President Kinzler called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners
Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Nephew, Pierce, Dunn, and President Kinzler. Commissioner Creech arrived at 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Cornell arrived at 7:25 p.m. Commissioner Mayo was absent.

Staff members present were Executive Director Harris, Superintendent of Parks Hopkins, and Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani, Superintendent of Recreation Esposito, Marketing & Communications Supervisor O’Kray, and Recreation Supervisor Berry.

III. Pledge of Allegiance
President Kinzler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda
None.

V. Public Participation
Mary Beth Bletsas, 557 Glendale Avenue, addressed the Board and stated she is the administrator of the Glen Ellyn field hockey club that is part of the Park District. She briefly provided background regarding the program highlighting the growth in participation with over 150 girls in the program. Ms. Bledsas then addressed her concerns about ongoing communication challenges between Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center, the Park District athletic coordinator and the field hockey club regarding scheduling use of the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center. She explained that the group from her perspective is continuing to not get the scheduled times that were committed to them.

Staff stated that they will look into the situation as they were not aware of this situation and will work to resolve the concern.
VI. Consent Agenda
Commissioner Dunn moved, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, to approve the consent agenda.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Dunn, Pierce, Nephew, and President Kinzler.
Nay: None.

Motion Carried.

VII. New Business
A. Western DuPage Special Recreation Association Volunteer Association
The Glen Ellyn Park District Board of Commissioner recognized Ted Kus for his volunteer efforts for the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA). President Kinzler provided the following comments - Ted, a resident of Glen Ellyn, a frequent and passionate user of the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center, first began to volunteer for WDSRA after witnessing a WDSRA Halloween “Costume Ball” held at the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center. Since that chance encounter, Ted offered to volunteer for several WDSRA programs including two of their largest events, the Holiday Dinner Dance and the New Years Eve Extravaganza. Ted also volunteered for the WDSRA Saturday Buddies, where participants are paired up with a volunteer from the community who serves as a friend and mentor. Additionally, Ted has assisted taking groups to Chicago Thunder and Chicago Blackhawks games which are quite challenging. His assistance has been invaluable during these trips as the most routine task can require resourcefulness, quick thinking, calmness, confidence and sensitivity, all characteristics his supervisors identify he displays during these events.

Most recently, Ted volunteered weekly for WDSRA’s “Lose to Live” program from September to December 2013. Modeled after the “Biggest Loser”, “Lose to Live” was designed to affect the lives of the participants and their families through the promotion of healthy lifestyles. The goals of the program were: lose weight and improve overall health and wellness, live an active lifestyle, and learn to shop/prepare/eat the right foods. The “Lose to Live” teams met every Monday at Ackerman to work out with a personal trainer, met on Wednesdays at WDSRA’s office to work with nutritionist and met every Saturday for fun and active field trip. Ted, being very passionate about fitness and exercise, served as the head fitness instructor on Monday night. According to Ted’s supervisor, and witnessed firsthand by me, Ted was instrumental in inspiring, mentoring and educating the participants and their families. He used his fitness expertise and passion to teach them how to properly use the equipment and most importantly encouraged and motivated the participants to set goals, work hard and to persevere. On the last day of the program, Ted gave each participant a personalized fitness book that reflected their unique personality.

The Glen Ellyn community is very fortunate to have many great volunteers as Glen Ellyn is truly the “Village of Volunteers”. However, it is not often that you come across a volunteer who has no personal connection to the program or activity they are dedicating and committing themselves to. Ted’s selflessness, passion, dedication and commitment to the Western DuPage
Special Recreation Association and its families and participants is volunteerism at its finest. To be able to positively influence the lives of others is one of the greatest accomplishments. Ted Kus has certainly influenced and had a positive effect on many lives.

Following the remarks and comments by President Kinzler, the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Board of Commissioners recognized Ted Kus for his dedication, efforts, volunteerism and commitment to the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association and the community members of the nine park districts it represents.

VIII. Unfinished Business
A. Lake Ellyn Park Improvements – Phase II Approval of Agreement with CDF
President Kinzler stated he was in favor of the project but disagrees with some of the expenses associated with the project as he believes they are redundant with previous expenses incurred at the time the Lake Ellyn Park master plan was developed. The remaining Board members believed it was not and that it was a responsible and necessary step in order to begin implementing some elements of the master plan.

Commissioner Creech moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunn, to approve the agreement with Conservation Design Forum for landscape architecture and civil engineering services for the Lake Ellyn Park improvements and to compile and complete an O.S.L.A.D. grant, all related to the Lake Ellyn Park master plan, in amount not to exceed $49,952.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Creech, Dunn, Nephew, Cornell, and Pierce. Nay: President Kinzler.

Motion Carried.

B. Ackerman Park Master Plan Final Presentation
Mr. Keith Demchinski, of Norris Design presented the Board with the review of the final Ackerman Park Master Plan. He highlighted the changes that have been made as a result of comments and direction from the previous presentation at the January 14th Board Meeting. Some of the changes included the possibility of artificial turf being installed in the lower Ackerman open space in the appendix with the potential work being funded by non-park district resources. The recommended lower Ackerman shelter has been moved to south of the playground, it had been previously located at in the northwest corner of lower Ackerman near the Great Western Trail. The natural area recommendations have been simplified and made more practical.

Mr. Demchinski went on to review the recommendations for the Lenox Road properties which included a dog park, garden plots and a maintenance garage. He also reviewed the impacts to fields if an indoor aquatics facility was added on to the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center.

The Board thanked Mr. Demchinski for his presentation.
Ms. Laura Flamion, 226 Woodstock Avenue, stated she was a member of the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative, the indoor aquatic feasibility study should be completed soon, and the group was anxious to receive the results. She also stated that the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative is excited to engage the community and see if this is something feasible.

Ms. Sally Goggin, 228 Merton Avenue, asked if there were any other full-sized lighted fields within the Glen Ellyn Park District, since she believes there is a shortage within Glen Ellyn.

President Kinzler explained that the Board is addressing some of those needs by installing a turf field, and possible installing lights in the future at Newton Park as a result of a recently approved I.G.A. with School District 87. Furthermore, the development of a master plan for Ackerman hopes to address those athletic field challenges as well.

Ms. Goggin said that she would prefer to see Ackerman with the turf and lighted fields, since Ackerman Park, in her opinion, has the resources to deal with the additional use. She also mentioned that she heard the indoor turf field located inside Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center could be expanded and, if so, she would like to see that considered if additional construction, such as the pool, were to take place.

Mr. Bill Cleaver, 304 Van Damin Avenue, the Co-Chair of Lakers, highlighted that the Lakers soccer organization has over 450 participants and they are the largest stakeholder group currently using Ackerman Park. As their program has expanded, fields and space has become more challenging to meet the demands of the program. Cleaver stated the Lakers are very interested in the artificial turf option and would possibly participate in providing funding resources.

Ms. Claudia Brown, 1N161 Forest Avenue, also part of the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative, expressed appreciation for those people who came to the Board Meeting tonight to support the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative.

Mr. Jeff Cooper, 22W111 Glenrise Court, raised a question about Appendix A in the master plan. Mr. Cooper wanted to know about the private funding and how absolute it was.

President Kinzler explained the Ackerman Park Master Plan is just a plan to provide direction and a roadmap for future potential maintenance and improvements for the park. The master plan is necessary in order to plan accordingly and efficiently even if the goal is just to maintain the current asset. The plan as presented certainly cannot be completed as there are not sufficient Park District financial resources to do so.

Mr. Cooper stated there was nothing in the plan for replacement of the proposed artificial turf fields. Director Harris explained present Board direction is that both funding of the original installation of the artificial turf along with a replacement plan of that field must be provided for the district to consider turf installation.
Mr. Cooper concluded by stating he had reviewed the Community Survey again, and he said that 75% of the respondents wanted the Park District to maintain what they currently have, and that the indoor pool had only 49% in favor of it. The indoor pool was also only number six on the priority list. He asked that the Board look very closely at the Community Survey.

President Kinzler explained the park district does not have the financial ability to fund an indoor pool. If it is to be constructed, it will have to be done through private donations and/or a referendum. A referendum would be a true test to determine if the community would support an indoor pool.

Mr. Cooper said he is against higher taxes and if the indoor pool is installed soccer fields would be removed.

The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding ideas for future use of the Lenox Road property and the Ackerman Woods. Commissioner Dunn was appreciative and supportive of the concept to naturalize the Lennox Road property and remove the current road when able to do so. The Board was agreeable to that concept but wanted the other ideas included as well since the decision on what to do with the property is most likely several years away. The Board also further discussed the artificial turf and where and how it should be included in the master plan. The consensus was to place the idea of artificial turf within the appendix and also remove it from the priority recommendation list.

Commissioner Creech moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunn, to remove from the priority recommendation section on page 58, objective 1.11; on page 72 second to the last sentence should read “dependent upon Park Board approval and non-Park District funding for the entire project” rather than “dependent on Park Board approval and private funding resources”; page 61 section 4.03 consider future uses of Lenox Road properties to potentially include open space, woodland preservation, a dog park, maintenance building and storage facility, or garden plots.

*Roll Call:*  
**Aye:** Commissioners Creech, Dunn, Nephew, Cornell, and President Kinzler.  
**Nay:** Commissioner Pierce.  

*Motion Carried.*

Commissioner Pierce moved, seconded by Commissioner Dunn to accept the Ackerman Park master plan as amended.

*Roll Call:*  
**Aye:** Commissioners Pierce, Dunn, Nephew, Cornell, Creech, and President Kinzler.  
**Nay:** None.  

*Motion Carried.*
IX. Director’s Report
Superintendent Hopkins informed the Board that staff has started removing the infected Emerald Ash trees in the District and to date there have been a total of 42 trees removed. Work also continues on the 100 tree program. A more detailed report will be provided at an upcoming Board meeting.

X. Commissioner’s Report
Commissioner Nephew inquired about skating at Lake Ellyn. Superintendent Hopkins informed her Lake Ellyn was currently closed due to the recent rains and they are not sure if it will be reopened.

Commissioner Cornell stated that her neighbors were thrilled about skating at Lake Ellyn, and that she enjoyed driving past the Lake and seeing everyone skating.

Commissioner Pierce informed the Board that she had attended a referendum training class with Commissioner Mayo; she also thanked Superintendent Esposito for meeting with her to discuss platform tennis and various other programs. Commissioner Pierce informed the Board that the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative will be receiving the feasibility study by the end of the week and hope to bring it to the Board at the March 4th workshop meeting, and the public forum regarding the pool will be held on March 26th.

Commissioner Dunn asked if Superintendent Esposito could review briefly what the Chamber will be doing with the Park District. Superintendent Esposito explained that staff will be meeting with other Chamber members to look at opportunities for cross promotion, and sharing each other’s resources regarding marketing. Superintendent Esposito will continue to keep the Board updated on the progress of those efforts.

President Kinzler thanked Superintendent Cinquegrani for saving the Park District $3,500 by paying off some of the Park District bonds early.

XI. Adjourn
There being no further business, Commissioner Dunn moved, seconded by Commissioner Creech to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Harris
Board Secretary