I. Call to Order
President Nephew called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners
Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Pierce, Mayo, Creech, Kinzler, Wilson and President Nephew. Commissioner Cornell arrived at 7:18 p.m.

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

III. Pledge of Allegiance
Commissioner Nephew led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda
None

V. Public Participation
None.

VI. Consent Agenda
Commissioner Mayo moved, seconded by Commissioner Creech, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Finance Report, the Voucher List of Bills totaling $308,541.34 and the December 15, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Mayo, Creech, Pierce, Kinzler, Wilson, and President Nephew.
Nay: None.

Motion Carried.

VII. Unfinished Business
A. Glen Ellyn Platform Tennis Club (GEPTC) revised Proposal
Executive Director Harris stated that the Glen Ellyn Platform Tennis Club (GEPTC) had previously approached the Park District to construct two (2) additional platform tennis courts at Maryknoll Park. GEPTC representatives initially met with staff to discuss ideas and receive direction and then met with the GEPD’s Citizens’ Finance Committee for further feedback and direction. Harris reviewed the proposal that was presented to the Board at the December 15, 2015
Regular Board Meeting and stated that at that meeting the Board was appreciative of the effort expended but questioned various sections of the business plan along with overall concerns related to the proposed expansion. Harris then presented a detailed report that responded to questions and concerns raised during the December 15 meeting.

Jeff Gahris of 520 Longfellow Ave., Glen Ellyn, spoke regarding the Glen Ellyn Platform Tennis facility. Mr. Gahris stated that he has passed the facility and believes it is a beneficial recreation resource but questioned the energy consumption of this activity as it consumes gas and electricity. He inquired if the Park District was researching possibilities of sustainability and conservation related to this project and encouraged the District to look at ways of reducing energy consumption as a whole.

President Nephew then suggested that Commissioner Mayo speak as he was absent from the December 15, 2015 meeting when the proposal was first discussed. Mayo stated that looking back several years ago there was skepticism regarding Platform Tennis and the original construction of the project but now it has proven to be a viable recreational activity largely for adults which have been an underserved demographic. Mayo believes there is a need and it is a project that would benefit not only the GEPTC but the entire District. Mayo felt this should be an easy discussion and questioned the concerns of the Board.

Commissioner Mayo then made a motion and Commissioner Pierce seconded the motion to direct staff to initiate the formal bidding process to construct two (2) additional platform tennis courts while also finalizing a user agreement between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Glen Ellyn Platform Tennis Club as the current agreement is expiring April, 2016.

The Board then had a lengthy discussion regarding the proposal and the presented motion. Commissioner Kinzler spoke regarding the proposal and wanted to make sure the District was making a correct decision, weighing the pros and cons of this decision and the fairness to the community of the dollars being expended. Commissioner Creech agreed with Commissioner Mayo of the stability of GEPTC and that it is an asset to the community and was not concerned with the fiscal scenarios but reiterated that this was not considered in the original budgeting process and the dollars are significant. Creech stated that several projects were removed from the budget and deferred so as to not stretch the reserves of the District. Creech would like an opportunity for other recreational activities be considered in comparison to the proposal for two additional platform tennis courts in future budgeting. Creech stated she did not feel like this was the best use of District’s funds at this time. Commissioner Pierce stated that this Board has brought fiscal responsibility, sustainable processing while providing recreational services to the community. Pierce questioned some of the expenditures over the past few years that are not producing revenue and questioned how some of these expenditures do not follow our mission statement. Pierce felt this proposal aligns with the Park District’s mission statement of providing a community-based leisure recreational opportunity and feels the Board needs to consider these public-private proposals particularly after being vetted through the Citizens’ Finance Committee and that will possibly generate revenue in the future. Commissioner Cornell stated she was not comfortable with a platform tennis investment for the Park District.
Commissioner Wilson stated she would not be supporting this proposal and thanked the GEPTC. Commissioner Mayo stated that this community values their taxes but believes this is a responsible use of funds right as the District would most likely generate a return on the investment while improving an existing asset and expanding recreational opportunities. Commissioner Nephew stated that we need to balance what is and what is not generating revenue while remaining consistent with the District’s mission statement. Nephew expressed her appreciation for diversity of this Board and thanked the GEPTC for their effort but would not be supporting this proposal.

Roll Call:   Aye:  Commissioners Mayo, Pierce  
Nay:  Commissioners Cornell, Creech, Kinzler, Wilson and President Nephew

Motion Failed

VIII. New Business
A. ASFC Lease Space Agreement
Executive Director Harris stated that the Bulls/Sox (B/S) have provided formal notice per the agreement to the Park District of their decision not to continue the license agreement for the 2017 license year. Harris said staff has conducted several meetings to discuss options available with the goal of continuing to generate additional revenue while providing a service that is consistent with the District’s mission. Hard Gainers Athletics (HGA) has previously expressed a desire to expand their services as they are outgrowing their current space at Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center.

HGA and the B/S have agreed to partner in shared use of the room formally used exclusively by the B/S. HGA and the District have met several times and recently came to an agreement on terms and conditions of lease to enable HGA to be the lessee of the room previously used by the B/S. The outcome would provide HGA with an opportunity to expand their sports performance training while still maintaining indoor opportunities for baseball and softball training for the District. Harris stated that the agreement has been forwarded to counsel for review. Director Harris then discussed the details of the agreement and stated that a formal agreement would be presented at one of the February Board meetings. The Board held a discussion and looks forward to the formal agreement being presented in February.

IX. Director’s Report
Executive Director Harris stated that activity at Ackerman Sports and Fitness center has been tremendous with membership increasing significantly over the past two months. He commended the staff for providing many activities at a facility with only a minimal full time and a dedicated part time staff. Harris thanked staff for helping on a wonderful presentation to the Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce regarding the Lake Ellyn Park Project and said it was well received. Harris stated that Glen Ellyn Park District marketing has been outstanding and commended Marketing and Communications Supervisor O’Kray on her efforts. Harris said there is ice skating at Newton Park currently and hopefully the other rink at Newton would
have ice by the weekend. The ice at Lake Ellyn is currently only four inches thick and it needs to reach 8 inches for skating to occur.

X. Commissioners’ Reports
Commissioner Cornell stated that the Boathouse looks great and complimented the cedar shingles on the roof. Commissioner Pierce thanked staff for plowing the paths/trails at Lake Ellyn and would like to strike a balance at Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center on public availability of the courts versus rentals while trying to keep the public informed of open gym and turf availability. Commissioner Mayo commended Marketing & Communications Supervisor O’Kray on the recent ASFC ad in the Glen Ellyn News. Mayo exclaimed that he is baffled by the decision regarding platform tennis and feels the Board has done a disservice to the taxpayers on an investment that would generate revenue, expand and improve recreational services and feels the Board has not been fiscally responsible regarding this issue. Mayo stated he does not understand some of the Nay votes in regards to platform tennis but wonders if there is some lingering resentment against platform tennis. Commissioner Kinzler stated he would like a little less government and taxes in regards to spending on behalf of the Park District. Commissioner Creech and Wilson had no reports.

XI. Adjourn to Executive Session
At 9:26 p.m. Commissioner Cornell moved, seconded by Commissioner Creech to convene into executive session under Section 2 (c) 1 of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel for the district and 2 (c) 21 for the discussion of the minutes of prior executive session meetings, for the purpose of review, approval or release of such minutes.

*Roll Call:*  
*Aye:* Commissioners Cornell, Creech, Pierce, Mayo, Kinzler, Wilson and President Nephew.  
*Nay:* None.  
*Motion Carried.*

XIII. Reconvene to Open Session
The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

XIV. Adjourn
There being no further business, Commissioner Kinzler moved, seconded by Commissioner Creech to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:31 p.m.

*Motion Carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Dikker
Board Secretary