

**Glen Ellyn Park District  
Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
April 19, 2022  
185 Spring Avenue**

**I. Call to Order**

President Durham called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**II. Roll Call of Commissioners**

Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Ward, Bischoff, Nephew, and President Durham. Commissioner Cornell participated remotely and arrived at 7:20 pm. She then arrived in-person at 8:00 pm.

Staff members present were Executive Director Harris, Superintendent of Finance & Personnel Cinquegrani, Superintendent of Planning and Natural Areas Troia, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Miller, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Robinson, Assistant Superintendent of Athletics Superintendent Babicz

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Durham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. Changes to the Agenda**

None.

**V. Public Participation**

None

**VI. Recognition – Julie Carlson**

Assistant Superintendent Robinson stated that on behalf of the Glen Ellyn Park District Board of Commissioners, we would like to recognize Julie Carlson for her hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Park District Preschool Education program, as well as additional Recreation Department duties beyond her initial scope of work.

Sometimes in work and life, we come across wonderful people that can always be relied on for support and assistance regardless of the situation. What initially began as a part time Preschool Coordinator position quickly became much more than that for Julie and the Park District. As she transitioned out of the classroom after many years of teaching, Julie initially agreed to assist and provide additional support for the preschool program including administrative duties, running errands, assisting in classrooms, and serving as a staff mentor.

Julie has been with the Park District since 2010, and started as the Kindergarten Enrichment classroom aide, eventually moving into the lead teacher position. As the pandemic emerged and continued, Julie found herself at an unusual crossroads, return to the classroom or choose a new path. The opportunity of

Preschool Coordinator offered her the option to do both while taking on new challenges and different responsibilities.

Recently, when Assistant Superintendent Robinson needed to take an extended leave of absence, Julie was asked to assume even greater responsibilities than her role as Preschool Coordinator during Jeannie’s absence. She stepped up and took on several additional duties that were not part of the original job description! For several months, she assisted with decision making on behalf of the Preschool Program, became a leader and advocate for the families and staff, took on additional administrative duties to assist with the Lake Ellyn Boathouse operation, and helped wherever necessary to support full and part-time staff.

While many do not have the capacity and willingness to give so freely of themselves, Julie certainly does and has done so with grace, open mindedness, ALWAYS a positive attitude and in the best interest of the Park District. She is extremely generous with her time and has been an asset to the Glen Ellyn Park District and the community since starting here twelve (12) years ago. Her “can do” attitude is well appreciated and certainly has had a tremendous impact on all the programs that she has been involved with. We look forward to her continued role with the Park District whatever that might entail - in her current role, in the classroom or at one of our parks where she also assists with the outdoor education program or some other unforeseen opportunity within the Glen Ellyn Park District!

The Park District Board of Commissioners along with Executive Director Harris also expressed their appreciation for Julie’s efforts over the past few months as well as throughout her many years of employment with the District.

**VII. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Nephew, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$137,034.15 and Minutes: March 15, 2022, Regular Meeting and April 5, 2022, Workshop Meeting.

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Nephew, Bischoff, and President Durham  
Nay: None*

*Motion Carried.*

**VIII. New Business**

**A. State of Illinois Capital Grant Project**

Superintendent Troia reminded the Board regarding funding that the District had received at the binning of 2022 through the Rebuild Illinois Grant, administered by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). The total amount funded at this time to the Glen Ellyn Park District is \$323,600. As a reminder, the Glen Ellyn Park District was appropriated over \$900,000 in 2019 but also was unfunded. In addition to the recently funded portion, \$611,000 remains appropriated but unfunded.

While the recent funds are for Ackerman Park, the Park District does have discretion as to the specific use if it is within the park and must follow the bondability guidelines of the DCEO.

Once a project has been selected, staff will complete and submit all necessary paperwork including Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) information, project narrative, cost estimates, and signed disclosures. There is not a specific timeframe for the application, but the sooner completed application forms are submitted, the sooner they are reviewed.

Troia presented three (3) eligible options:

- **Improve Softball fields #5 and #6**  
Those fields were included as an alternate within the 2018 Ackerman Park Improvement Project. Due to the bid amount and available funds, the alternate bid was not accepted, and the fields have remained in their current condition. This includes outdated dugouts, sideline fencing and backstops; lack of adequate surfacing for the dugouts and public areas; poor infield mix, and the size of the infields are much larger than required. The estimated cost to complete the improvements is \$300,000 and can be completed in its entirety within a six months - Fall and ready for spring, 2023
- **Ackerman Parking lot – center, north and far east lots and driving lanes**  
While the lots need repair and improvement, the project costs far exceed the project's estimated cost (\$900,000). However, the available grant funds would defer anticipated expenses. If the district was to proceed in this direction, the parking lot improvements would be done in phases due to available funding. Finally, the Park district has budgeted the project in 2023 and 2024.
- **Ackerman SFC interior**  
As the District has intention of improving and renovating some interior areas of the facility, the Capital Bill funds could be allocated to A & E expenses and some preliminary construction expenses. It would only likely fund a portion of the improvements and the projects would likely extend over several years.

While this is intended for discussion only and there is no formal staff recommendation, nor Board motion required, the Board consensus was to move forward with allocating the funds towards Field #5 and #6 improvements. Staff will develop plans and compile bid documents to be publicized this summer.

#### **A. ASFC Athletic Training Flooring**

Troia reminded the Board that earlier this year improvements were made to the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center Training Room. A room formally occupied by HGA. Flexible configured batting cages were installed in January, along with painting and fitness equipment improvements. The existing flooring is original to the construction of Ackerman – a very thin basic artificial turf. To best utilize and maximize the potential of this room, staff has investigated flooring improvements.

Within the Board packet, is a proposal for flooring improvements for the Ackerman Indoor Training Room in the amount of \$69,516 from Tarkett Sports Company. FieldTurf is a subsidiary of Tarkett Sports and has installed the outdoor and indoor sports turf fields for the Glen Ellyn Park District. Purchasing is done through the SmartBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program which fulfills the bidding requirements.

The entry and area most used by group exercise will be converted to a rubber flooring. The remaining flooring, mostly under the batting cages will be an artificial turf specifically designed for multipurpose athletic training rooms. This new turf system will be durable, long lasting, and can even hold up to heavy usage such as CrossFit.

The total budgeted amount for Ackerman Facility improvements for 2022 is \$201,000. After the recommended approval of the Ackerman flooring replacement, total expenses for the year would be \$155,050. The remaining budget will be used for additional facility improvements outlined in the FY2022 annual budget.

Commissioner Bischoff moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to approve Tarkett Sports Company proposal for the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center flooring in the amount of \$69,516.

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Bischoff, Ward, Cornell, Nephew, and President Durham  
Nay: None*

*Motion Carried.*

## **B. Winter Athletic Update**

Assistant Superintendent Babicz reviewed and highlighted some of the many programs and activities that took place during the winter.

### Basketball

The Youth Basketball program fielded 86 teams from Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade this winter. The Kindergarten program, which was new this year, was extremely popular with almost 100 participants for the inaugural season. Kindergarten games were played at the Main Street Recreation Center, with all other games played at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center. Instructional levels played an eight (8) game season, while the Competitive levels (grades 3-8) played a seven (7) game season followed by playoffs. Most of the playoff games were close, with multiple games going into overtime.

Free skills clinics for grades 1 & 2, grades 3 & 4 and grades 5-8 were held in November and December. The nine sessions drew 218 participants and were led by Big 3 Basketball.

New this season, Rob Hudson and Big 3 Basketball assisted with all boy's teams and Ryan Edwards from Glenbard West assisted with all girl's teams. They provided professional coaches for two practices per team to provide higher level instruction for players, as well as educating and serving as resources for the volunteer coaches. This new component will continue next season.

The Men's Basketball League was held on Monday evenings at the Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center with 10 teams.

### Gymnastics

Gymnastics programs continued to be popular with over 700 participants registering for the winter season and over 95% of classes filling to maximum capacity and additional classes were offered to help accommodate waitlists. The Grasshoppers Tumbling Team hosted a home meet at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center on December 12<sup>th</sup> with teams from Bloomingdale, Elk Grove, Sokol and Burbank competing. The program then capped off a successful season with all members qualifying to participate in the State Meet in either the individual or team competitions.

The Beginner team placed 1<sup>st</sup> and the Novice 1 team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in their respective divisions. Individual State Champions included Nora Cullerton (Novice 1), Maya Prebe (Advanced Beginner I) and Maddison Gose (Beginner).

### Volleyball

In preparation for the Spring leagues, the Cyclones Volleyball program offered skills and drills classes at the College of DuPage for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 60 participants took part in the winter classes, and they helped drive registration for the Spring league which currently have 131 participants in two (2) divisions.

### Travel Soccer

Travel Soccer winter training was held at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center using the turf field and Training Center. Lakers teams trained once per week and Midwest FC teams trained twice per week. Teams also participated in various indoor leagues throughout the area. Overall, teams were competitive with numerous teams placing well, including:

- 2014 Boys Green: 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- 2013 Boys Green: 1<sup>st</sup> place undefeated (scored 58 goals; allowed 14 goals)
- 2012 Boys Green: 1<sup>st</sup> place undefeated (scored 59 goals; allowed 13 goals)
- 2012 Girls Green: 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 2011 Boys Premier: 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 2009 Girls Premier: 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 2009 Boys Premier: 1<sup>st</sup> place undefeated
- Midwest FC 2008 Girls Elite: 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Midwest FC 2006/2007 Girls Elite: 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Midwest FC 2004 Boys Elite: 2<sup>nd</sup> place

From November through March, private training sessions were also offered, primarily in the Ackerman Training Center. There were 80 sessions and 205 players registered.

### Indoor House Soccer

The Winter House Soccer program offered 6 sessions with 228 total participants. The program, led by Future Pros trainers, utilized the Training Center and turf field at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center.

### Platform Tennis

The Platform Tennis program boasted 537 members, along with 23 men's and women's teams totaling 250 travel players. Of the seven (7) women's teams, two (2) advanced to the semi-finals in their division of their winter league. Seven (7) of sixteen (16) men's teams also advanced to the semi-finals in their division, with two (2) winning to advance to the finals. In addition to league play, several youth classes were offered with approximately 75 players participating.

The Co-Rec In-House Platform Tennis League was held on Monday evenings at the Platform Tennis facility with 90 total participants. The Women's In-House Platform Tennis League was held on Wednesday evenings with 14 total participants.

### Dodgeball

In a nod to childhood gym class, Dodgeball made a big comeback this winter with four (4) youth and two (2) adult tournaments held at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center. The tournaments were well received with 52 teams participating and will continue throughout 2022.

### Field Hockey

The RISE Field Hockey program hosted two, four-week clinics in January and February which focused on preparing players in advance of tryouts for the RISE Select teams. With programs in Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Evanston, Chicago, and Oak Park, partnering with RISE Field Hockey has allowed for more game opportunities along with an increase in the quality of instruction for our participants. The RISE coaching staff has brought new ideas and teaching methods to the program resulting in new participation and enthusiasm for the field hockey program.

### Softball/Baseball

In early January, the start of winter training for the softball and baseball programs was delayed while installation of new batting cage netting was completed in the Ackerman Training Center. When finished, the Phillies Travel Softball and Rebels Travel Baseball used the facility seven days per week during the winter months, totaling almost 500 hours of usage. In addition to the training center, softball and baseball utilized the synthetic turf field at the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center along with Glenbard West and Glenbard South High Schools. Baseball also used space at the DuPage Training Academy. Mike Semprevivo and Glenbard West Head Baseball Coach Andy Schultz provided pitching and hitting instruction for the Rebels teams and Scott Swords and Matthew Lazzarotto provided pitching and catching instruction for the Phillies teams. The House baseball and softball programs have also had the opportunity to utilize the Ackerman Training Center and Turf for practices during the week for all of April. This time ensures that house teams can practice prior to the start of games given the unpredictability of the weather.

### Other Activities

Also utilizing the Ackerman Training Center was the Girls Lacrosse program. Started in early 2021 in partnership with East Ave Lacrosse, winter training was provided for the first time to Girls Lacrosse participants. The space was also utilized for private soccer lessons, Lakers Academy training, ASFC sports and fitness classes, along with a limited number of rentals. The availability of the Ackerman Training Center has been extremely beneficial for all programs and has helped relieve the need to rent additional facilities elsewhere.

While now focused on spring programming, staff looks to continue the successes of winter throughout the year with new programming including basketball clinics, camps and instructional classes with Glenbard West Varsity Coach Jason Opoka; small group training programs for baseball and softball led by the White Sox youth coaching staff in the Ackerman Training Center; additional private training for baseball, softball, soccer and lacrosse; an indoor lacrosse league hosted with New Wave Lacrosse; and a basketball tournament hosted with Big 3 Basketball.

The Board and staff recognized the efforts and commitment of the many volunteers that assist with the athletic programs. All were very appreciative and grateful for the efforts and selflessness by so many. Additionally, challenges are largely accommodating the huge interest and dealing/adjusting to the challenging weather in relation to the outdoor sports and programs.

**IX. Unfinished Business**

**A. Lake Ellyn Shoreline Improvement Project payout request #2**

Superintendent Troia provided an overview of the Lake Ellyn Park Shoreline improvement project. As a reminder, it connects the boathouse to the existing floating pier with a wide permeable paver walkway. Providing access and additional seating opportunities directly adjacent to the lake edge. The existing stacked limestone retaining wall is being replaced with a stable engineered wall that retains the natural aesthetic.

Included with the Board packet was payout request #2 for the Lake Ellyn Shoreline Improvements in the amount of \$43,560. This is the second payout from Integral Construction Inc., which is the general contractor for this project. This payout includes materials stored on-site, removal of existing materials and some excavation.

The total contract amount is \$370,000. Previous payments total \$15,120. The Balance to finish, including retainage is \$311,320. As a reminder, this project is completely funded by an anonymous donation.

This payout represents the work completed from January through March. Most of that time, construction was halted due to winter weather and rain. To date, the project is approximately 5 % complete, with the site preparation, the start of excavation, and delivery of retaining wall materials.

Currently, all materials are available for the completion of the project, and the project will continue as weather allows with a tentative completion date of June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Commissioner Nephew moved, seconded by Commissioner Bischoff, to approve Integral Construction’s payout request #2 in the amount of \$43,560

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Nephew, Bischoff, Cornell, Ward, and President Durham  
Nay: None*

*Motion Carried.*

**B. Referendum Update.**

Director Harris apprised the Board that a press release announcing the Board’s decision to pursue a referendum this spring would be posted and distributed on Thursday. Additionally, to gather feedback and input regarding the process, focus group meetings would take place on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

**X. Staff Reports**

Staff highlighted the many successful easter related event and reminded the Board of the upcoming events including the Glow Run, Earth Day, Vaccine booster clinic, Food and Blood Drive. Additionally, an open house for regarding Saket Park renovations is Thursday, April 21

**XI. Commissioners’ Reports**

Commissioner Nephew mentioned that her daughters are enrolled in Gators and lacrosse and are both excited. Commissioner Cornell recognizes how excited and eager the community seems regarding the up coming summer and all the related Park District activities, programs, and events. President Durham unfortunately must miss the Glow run as his kids have a soccer tournament at the same time.

**XII. Adjourn to Executive Session**

At 9:05 p.m. Commissioner Bischoff moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to convene into Executive Session under Section 2 (c) 1 for discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, dismissal, performance or personal status of employees, officers, and legal counsel for the park district and under 2 ( c) 11 of the Open meetings Act for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation, or probable and imminent litigation which shall be specifically identified in the Executive Session minutes

**XIII. Reconvene to Open Session**

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:45p.m.

**XV. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Commissioner Bischoff moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:46p.m.

*Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Bischoff, Ward, Cornell, Nephew, and President Durham  
Nay: None*

*Motion Carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Harris  
Board Secretary