

**Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025
185 Spring Avenue**

I. Call to Order

President Stortz called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners

Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Crickmore, Ward, Weber, Durham, Nephew, and President Stortz. Commissioner Cornell arrived at 7:21 p.m.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Crickmore, Ward, Weber, Durham, Nephew, and President Stortz

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Staff members present were Executive Director Dave Thommes, Executive Deputy Director Cinquegrani, Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia, Director of Recreation & Facilities Lim, Board Secretary & Directors' Assistant Dikker and Attorney Andrew Payne.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

President Stortz led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda

None.

V. Public Participation

None.

VI. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Nephew moved, seconded by Commissioner Crickmore, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$536,482.13 and minutes from the February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Nephew, Crickmore, Ward, Weber, Durham, and President Stortz

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

VII. Adjourn to Executive Session

At 7:05 p.m., Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to move into Executive Session under Section 2 (c) 5 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 Ward, Durham, Crickmore, Weber, Nephew, and President Stortz
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

VIII. Reconvene to Open Session

The Park Board reconvened open session at 8:33 p.m.

IX. Change Order of Agenda Items

Per request of Executive Director, Dave Thommes, Commissioner Ward motioned, seconded by Commissioner Durham to change the order of the agenda items and move agenda item C. Redevelopment Agreement between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Property Located at 453 Forest Avenue to the A. position. All other items on the agenda will follow accordingly.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Durham, Cornell, Crickmore, Weber, Nephew and President Stortz
Nay: None

X. New Business

A. Redevelopment Agreement between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Property Located at 453 Forest Avenue

Park Board President Stortz presented the RDA (Redevelopment Agreement) between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Property Located at 453 Forest Avenue and opened it for discussion. Commissioner Weber stated he would be voting against this agreement as he has negotiated this agreement over the last four years and while he believes they have come close to an agreement that reflects the goal of the Park District, unfortunately he does not believe the document reflects the terms that were agreed upon by this Board in the terms sheet the last time that they met, nor the financial obligations/commitments of the Village and does not feel that the Park District has long term control of the property. He expressed sentiments that the District is entering into a partnership without that of a true partner. Commissioner Crickmore shared that she would be voting yes although it is not a perfect agreement, she feels it is important to get this approved now so that the work can be done in a timely manner. Crickmore has confidence that the Village of Glen Ellyn will act in good faith and that the Park District and the Village will be able to work together to bring the community a park in the Downtown area. Commissioner Cornell agreed with Commissioner Crickmore's comments and wanted all to keep in mind the shared constituency of the Park District and the Village and stated while not a perfect agreement when the project is discussed with patrons that are familiar with the project they were in favor and excited for the project. Commissioner Nephew shared that

while disappointed after four years of negotiations with the Village the agreement that came before them does not reflect the Village as more of a partner on the project, she hopes as Commissioner Crickmore stated that the Village will show good faith and will remember that they (the Village of Glen Ellyn and the District) are serving the same constituents, taxpayers and families as the Park District and will be generous and understand the efforts that the Park District will be putting in to this event center for this community. Commissioner Durham agreed with the sentiments of the last three Commissioners who spoke. President Stortz shared that he was excited for this project and that both organizations are working with the best interests in mind and what is best for this community. Stortz feels that while this comes down to a matter of dollars and cents, they will do what is prudent in this matter with the funds available and will move forward and work through the project. He feels they have a good partner in the Village and is in favor of this agreement.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Durham moved, seconded by Commissioner Crickmore, to approve the Redevelopment Agreement between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Property Located at 453 Forest Avenue.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Durham, Crickmore, Cornell, Ward, Nephew and President Stortz
Nay: Commissioner Weber

Motion Carried.

President Stortz thanked Executive Director Thommes and staff for all their time put into executing this agreement and thanked Attorney Andrew Payne for working with the Village of Glen Ellyn on this agreement and shared it is an exciting time for the District. Commissioner Cornell also thanked staff, fellow Commissioners, especially Commissioner Weber for his assistance with this agreement.

B. Panfish Playground Installation Bid Results

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia shared that Panfish Playground was last installed in 1996 and has been identified on the playground replacement plan and included in the budget. The equipment was purchased and received in 2023 for approximately \$52,000.

Staff publicly noticed invitations for bid on January 17th at which time ten (10) sealed bids were received, opened and read aloud. The scope of work included demolition of existing playground, shelter and concrete sidewalks.

D&J Landscape, Incorporated submitted the lowest lump sum bid of \$144,790.83, slightly over the budgeted amount of \$140,000. Troia shared that this contractor previously completed projects at Walnut Glen Park and Main Street Recreation Center. Troia also stated that the District will purchase a small shelter due to lack of shade within the Park and as frequently requested from park patrons. Funding for this shelter will come from capital fund reserves.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Cornell to award the Panfish Playground bid to D&J Landscape for the amount of \$144,790.83.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Crickmore, Cornell, Weber, Durham, Nephew and President Stortz

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

C. Board Approval of Commissioner Travel – Parks Day at the Capitol, Springfield, IL
Executive Director Thommes shared that in accordance with the Local Government Travel Expense Act (ILCS 50/150 et. Seq) the Board of Commissioners must approve any commissioner travel expenses by roll call vote during an open meeting.

Thomes stated that Parks Day at the Capitol and the Legislative Conference & Reception will take place on April 29-30, 2025. Commissioner Crickmore shared she would like to attend this year along with staff. These events allow valuable opportunity to meet face-to-face with our legislators and to advocate for the impact of parks and recreation within our community.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Cornell moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham to approve the Travel Expense for Commissioner Mary Crickmore for the purpose of attending Parks Day at the Capitol and the Legislative Conference & Reception April 29-30, 2025, in Springfield, IL.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Cornell, Durham, Ward, Weber, Nephew, and President Stortz

Nay: None

Abstain: Commissioner Crickmore

Motion Carried.

D. Lease Agreement Between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Management and Maintenance of Manor Woods

Executive Director Thommes provided some background on the Lease Agreement sharing that this agreement is a 20-year term with the Village contributing \$25,000 annually for maintenance costs. Commissioner Crickmore replied that it is a wonderful natural area and can be thoroughly improved with the intervention of the Park District. Commissioner Weber shared that he does believe that Park Districts should take care of parks and Villages take care of villages but as this is a part of the RDA (Redevelopment Agreement) which he feels is unfavorable to the Park District, he would be voting against both this Lease Agreement and that of Panfish Park. Commissioner Ward asked Executive Director Thommes if he felt this was a good agreement and Thommes shared, he agreed with Commissioner Weber that the Park District should be taking care of Parks and in speaking with staff is comfortable with these thresholds of payments.

Following, Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to approve the Lease Agreement Between the Glen Ellyn Park District and The Village of Glen Ellyn for the Management and Maintenance of Manor Woods.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Crickmore, Durham, Cornell, Ward, Nephew, and President Stortz
Nay: Commissioner Weber

Motion Carried.

E. Lease Agreement Between the Glen Ellyn Park District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for the Management and Maintenance of Panfish Park

Executive Director Thommes provided that the Village will contribute \$30,000 annually toward park maintenance along with a one-time capital contribution of \$300,000 and the Village will maintain the ponds. Deputy Director Cinquegrani provided clarification on sections 3.2 and 3.3 of the agreement and following, Commissioner Nephew moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to approve the Lease Agreement Between the Glen Ellyn Park District and The Village of Glen Ellyn for the Management and Maintenance of Panfish Park.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Nephew, Durham, Cornell, Crickmore, Ward, and President Stortz
Nay: Commissioner Weber

Motion Carried.

XI. Unfinished Business

A. 2023-2025 Project Update(s)

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia provided an update on current projects within the District sharing that the pickleball contractor is ready to begin with hopes to start in the next few weeks. Troia also shared that the Lenox Road Garden plots project will be brought before the Village of Glen Ellyn Plan Commission for the second time this Thursday, March 20th. Commissioner Ward inquired on the timeline for the Downtown Community Park, which Troia shared he would begin the process for notices to bid for demolition and beginning the permitting process with the Village as soon as practicable.

XII. Staff Reports

A. Finance Report (For information only)

B. Staff Reports

Executive Director Dave Thommes provided a recap from staff of items from the IAPD/IPRA conference that was held this past January in Chicago. Thommes shared approximately 12-15 staff members attended conference and participated in over 150 sessions as well as gathered information from within the exhibit hall. Board Secretary and Directors' Assistant Kimberly Dikker reminded the Park Board of Commissioners that emails were sent from the DuPage County Clerk's office on March 4th to complete their Statement of Economic Interest filing. All submissions are due by May 1st after which a fine is imposed. All elected officials holding office through May 1st must submit their filing to the DuPage County Clerks office.

XIII. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Durham stated he was excited to begin work on the Downtown Park and while he agrees this was not in the spirit of what the Village initially sent; he is happy the project will be beginning. Durham also shared that his family enjoyed the Lakers tournament that was held in Louisville, KY. He shared it was a great showing by staff and the Lakers and commended the several teams, including his sons, who won their championships. Commissioner Crickmore shared that her grandson participated in the kids' safe program and commended Gymnastics staff on the adult/tot gymnastics program. Crickmore also shared her many adventures throughout various Parks in the District including Manor Park and Churchill Park. Commissioner Cornell appreciated her time at the IAPD Legislative breakfast held at the Carol Stream Park District and President Stortz shared the news that State Capitol money that was allocated to the Glen Ellyn Park District will be released in the near future.

XIV. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Nephew to adjourn the March 18, 2025, Regular Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Nephew, Cornell, Crickmore, Weber, Durham and President Stortz

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Dikker
Board Secretary & Directors' Assistant