

**Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2025
185 Spring Avenue**

I. Call to Order

President Stortz called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 7:34 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, Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani, Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia, Director of Recreation & Facilities Lim, Downtown Park Events & Sponsorship Manager Susan Smentek, and Board Secretary & Directors' Assistant Dikker.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

President Stortz led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda

None.

V. Recognition – Commissioner Rob Weber

President Stortz, the District and Park Board of Commissioners shared their gratitude to Rob Weber for nine years of dedicated service to the Glen Ellyn Park District. Stortz shared that Weber played a vital role alongside fellow board members in enhancing our parks, facilities, and community resources. Stortz provided that Commissioner Weber contributed to numerous projects, including renovations at Lake Ellyn Park, Sunset Pool, and Newton Park; playground upgrades across multiple sites; the expansion of platform tennis; strategic land acquisitions; and the completion of the Frank Johnson Center. Notably, Rob provided valuable guidance in the acquisition of the Downtown Park, securing an essential green space for our community.

President Stortz stated Rob's commitment and collaborative spirit made a lasting impact in the District and wished him well on his next endeavors. Commissioner Nephew thanked Weber for volunteering to fill in and continuing to serve and appreciated his reminder of fiscal responsibility.

Staff presented Commissioner Weber with a small token of appreciation and thanked him for his time serving the District and the community.

VI. Public Participation

None.

VII. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Nephew moved, seconded by Commissioner Crickmore, to approve the Consent Agenda including the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$580,299.27 and minutes from the April 15, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes.

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

Motion Carried.

VIII. Oath of Office – Inauguration of Commissioners

Directors' Assistant & Board Secretary Dikker administered the Oath of Office for newly re-elected Commissioners Michael Ward, Alex Durham, and Julia Nephew. Commissioner Weber stepped down from his office of Park Commissioner thus leaving a vacant seat on the Park Board.

IX. Election of Officers

President

Commissioner Crickmore nominated Commissioner Nephew for the Office of President. Commissioner Ward seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to close the nominations.
Motion Carried.

Vote to elect Commissioner Nephew as President of the Board.

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

Nay: None.

Motion Carried.

Vice President

Commissioner Ward nominated Commissioner Crickmore for the Office of Vice President. Commissioner Nephew seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to close the nominations.
Motion Carried.

Vote to elect Commissioner Crickmore as Vice President of the Board.

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

Nay: None.

Motion Carried.

Treasurer

Commissioner Crickmore nominated Commissioner Ward for the Office of Treasurer.
Commissioner Durham seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to close the nominations.

Motion Carried.

Vote to elect Commissioner Ward as Treasurer of the Board.

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

Motion Carried.

X. Appointments

Board Secretary

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to appoint Kimberly Dikker as Board Secretary.

Motion Carried.

OMA Officer

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Crickmore, to appoint Kimberly Dikker as the OMA Officer.

Motion Carried

FOIA Officer

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to appoint Kimberly Dikker as the FOIA Officer.

Motion Carried

ADA Officer

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to appoint Stacey Lim as the ADA Officer.

Motion Carried

WDSRA Representative

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz, to appoint Dave Thommes as the WDSRA representative.

Motion Carried.

Law Firm

Commissioner Crickmore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to appoint Ancel Glink as the Park District law firm.

Motion Carried.

GEPD Citizens' Finance Committee Liaisons

Following discussion, Commissioners Durham will be serving on the Citizens' Finance Committee.

Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center Advisory Committee Co-Chairs

Commissioners Stortz and Crickmore will serve on the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center Advisory Committee.

GEPD Citizens' Environmental Advisory Committee Co-Chairs

Commissioners Cornell and Nephew will continue to serve as Co-Chairs on the GEPD Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee.

Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation Liaison(s)

Commissioners Cornell will continue to serve as liaison to the Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation.

XI. New Business

A. Audit Presentation

Jasleen Kaur of Lauterbach & Amen presented the 2024 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Management letter. Ms. Kaur explained the report in detail and provided general information to the Board about the yearly audit process for the Park District. Ms. Kaur stated that it was a clean audit, and the District received the Certification of Achievement for Excellence Award for 2024. She stated any follow up questions could be directed to the team. The Park Board had no discussion of the report, and thanked Ms. Kaur and the Lauterbach and Amen audit team while expressing their appreciation for Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani and the financial team for their time expended on the audit and again achieving the Certification of Achievement Award for 2024.

B Village of Glen Ellyn Parking Lot License Agreement

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia provided that the Intergovernmental Redevelopment Agreement (RDA) dated March 26, 2025, requires the Village and the District to negotiate a parking license agreement to authorize the Village to use the parking lot at 453 Forest Avenue ("Property") for the Downtown Business District parking purposes after the Village transfers ownership of the Property to the District.

Troia shared that the Agreement allows the Village to continue to offer parking at the Property to downtown business customers and though the number of stalls may decrease as the District begins demolition of the area, the District and Village will work together to minimize disruption to the parking lot users. Commissioner Stortz asked if the Agreement has been reviewed by legal which Troia shared it has been reviewed and approved. Following Commissioner Durham

moved, seconded by Commissioner Crickmore, to approve the Parking Lot License Agreement for 453 Forest Avenue.

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

Motion Carried.

C. Operational Refinements Discussion

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia provided some background on various collaborative agreements that the District has shared with the Village of Glen Ellyn. Some of these operational agreements have been informal and staff from both parties have taken the initiative to transition these agreements to formal agreements. Troia provided information on several initiatives including the sale of salt and fuel from the Village, the mowing of an area of Newton Park by the District and the plowing of Riford Road by the Village when they haul snow from the downtown area. Other discussions include an agreement for a right of way that is within Walnut Glen Park and lastly is a land swap. Troia shared that the District currently owns an area of land at Midway Park which is located within a median in a neighborhood while the Village owns Ruth Candy Parkway which is adjacent to Lake Ellyn Park. Maintenance of those areas were discussed as well and after discussions with the Village it was shared that the two entities would swap parcels with each government entity maintaining its own parcel moving forward. Executive Director stated that the District taking ownership of Ruth Candy Parkway would not increase any liability to the District and the District would grant an easement to the Village for piping that runs underground within that area. Troia shared that a Memorandum of Understanding is being drafted and will be presented to both governmental entity's counsel and will be forthcoming to the Board hopefully by the June 17th Regular Meeting. The Park Board had a brief discussion with Commissioner Crickmore commending both the District and the Village of Glen Ellyn for their collaboration.

D. Downtown Community Park Campaign

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia introduced Susan Smentek, Downtown Park Events & Sponsorship Manager, who would be discussing the Downtown Community Park Campaign and review the sponsorship opportunities and the website. Smentek previewed the new Foundation website that highlighted the Downtown Community Park campaign. There she reviewed that Phase 1 of the park has been funded but the District is launching a campaign to raise an additional \$800,000 to bring additional elements to phase 1 including a play area within the park and a refrigerated ice rink. Smentek discussed the timeline of the project, provided a detailed overview of the website highlighting the sponsorship opportunities and donor recognitions.

The Park Board provided some feedback on the website and discussed the campaign and opportunities to market this to the general public. Executive Director Thommes provided that staff has met with the YMCA for insight into their fundraising campaign of their facility improvements and shared it was very insightful. The Park Board shared that all are very excited for this project and the campaign ahead.

E. Midwest Mechanical Pay Application – HVAC Ackerman

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia shared that four (4) new HVAC units were budgeted for Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center to be replaced per the asset replacement schedule in the amount of \$233,000. Troia shared that the units were at least 16 years old.

Midwest Mechanical, through the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) purchasing cooperative was awarded the contract and the first and final payout request was presented in the amount of \$190,850. Troia shared that the work was completed in April with minimal interruption to the facility.

Following, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz, to approve the Midwest Mechanical payout request in the amount of \$190,850.

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

Motion Carried.

X. Unfinished Business

A. 2023-2025 Project Update(s) – Contingency Report

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia provided an update on the ongoing Capital Projects within the District. Troia shared that the Pickleball Courts at Ackerman Park are progressing nicely. He said the pavement should be poured this week, weather dependent and will hopefully be opening in mid-June. Lastly, the Lenox Road Garden Plots project should be getting started in the next few weeks as well.

XI. Staff Reports

A. Finance Report (For information only)

Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani shared that per the direction of Commissioner Crickmore an additional report has been added to the Finance Report. This report is on page 80 of the Board Packet and provides a facility summary overview from year to year. Commissioner Crickmore thanked Cinquegrani for this addition as did Executive Director Thommes who shared this a self-created report from Cinquegrani, so he appreciated his efforts. Commissioner Cornell inquired how the District was faring financially which Cinquegrani responded operationally they are doing well and will look into issuance of non-referendum bonds later in the year to hopefully capture a better interest rate.

B. Staff Reports

Executive Director Thommes shared that also included in the Finance Report is a Social Media/Sponsorship report which highlights the effectiveness of the District's Social Media. Commissioner Ward suggested the District look into Blue Sky as well for a platform. Directors' Assistant & Board Secretary Dikker shared that the District would be placing an announcement for the vacancy in office on the Park Board on the District's website this week. The District will

be accepting nominations through June 3rd and would set up a follow-up interview with Commissioners the following week. The goal would be to bring the discussion of the candidates in Executive Session at the June 17th Regular Meeting, followed by a vote to appoint in open session. The new candidate would be sworn in and take office at the July 15th Regular Meeting. Director of Recreation and Facilities Lim provided that Sunset Pool is to open this weekend and staff will be monitoring the weather. If the weather is sunny and above 65 degrees, the pool may open but unfortunately that would be a day of decision. Lim also provided that swim lessons begin June 9th along with Summer camps.

XII. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Cornell thanked Executive Director Thommes for his notes this past week. Commissioner Crickmore shared her report which detailed her insights from the IAPD Springfield event. Crickmore also discussed her City Nature Challenge and provided photos of the restoration of Lake Ellyn, Ada Harmon Wildflower Preserve, and the Ellynwood Nature Preserve. Crickmore shared she enjoyed her Thursday morning birdwatching group and commended Chris Gutmann, the District's Manager of Natural Areas and Education on his knowledge. Crickmore also attended a tree planting demonstration with Go Green as well as the Touch A Truck Event and commended staff on the event. Lastly, Crickmore shared some comments from residents regarding panfish park and the trails. Commissioner Ward commended the District on providing space at Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center for Glenbard West's Post Prom while Commissioner Stortz congratulated the graduates at West, thanked Cinquegrani for a successful audit, and shared that after attending the concert in downtown Glen Ellyn last week was even more excited for the Downtown Park to come to fruition. President Nephew shared that after picking up her child from lifeguard training, she was looking forward to summer and the opening of the Pool.

XIII. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Cornell, to adjourn the Meeting at 8:18 p.m.

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

Motion Carried.