



**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING
May 18, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: President Altpeter called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m.

Director Garvy Called Roll: Commissioners Present: Altpeter
Dombroski
Hummel
Tapella
Wessel

Staff Present:
Director of Parks & Recreation Garvy
Superintendent of Parks Cerutti
Superintendent of Recreation Pratscher
Superintendent of Finance Silver
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Dale
Marketing & Communications Specialist Kosartes

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Altpeter welcomed new board members Dombroski and Tapella and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATIONS

Employee Kimm Biedermann's Retirement – Superintendent of Recreation & Marketing, Jon Pratscher recognized Kimm for her 20 years of service, and said Kimm started at the Lisle Park District in 2003 and has had many roles at the district since then, including her most recent role at Senior Center and at one point was even a bus driver. He said she has enriched the lives of everyone and poured love into the staff and community. Kimm said her best memory was that of her very first potluck and her biggest takeaway is the people she has met.

Senior Center & Recreation Manager, Debbie Breihan, spoke about her time working at the district with Kimm, most recently in her role as Kimm's direct supervisor and previously as her colleague at the Senior Center over the past 8-10 years. Debbie said Kimm is the face of the Senior Center, and the ribs Kimm makes for the Sunday Funday program are a bigger hit than the sports entertainment, saying many come just for Kimm's ribs. Debbie said Kimm was instrumental in bringing senior center activities back during the pandemic and she will be greatly missed by many.

IV. ANNUAL MEETING

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIR:

President Altpeter appointed Commissioner Wessel as the Temporary Chair.

Commissioner Wessel stated, "I will entertain a motion to dissolve the present Slate of Officers of the Board of Park Commissioners".

Motion made by Commissioner Altpeter and second by Commissioner Hummel.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:

Commissioner Wessel stated, "I will entertain nominations for the office of President of the Board of Park Commissioners".

Commissioner Tapella Nominated Commissioner Altpeter for President of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Commissioner Wessel stated, "If there are no other nominations, I will entertain a motion to close the nominations".

Motion made by Commissioner Hummel and second by Commissioner Tapella.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Tapella stated, "I move to elect Commissioner Altpeter as President". Commissioner Hummel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Tapella, Hummel, Dombroski, Wessel, Altpeter

Absent: None.

Nays: None.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

President Altpeter thanked the board and said it's an honor to serve in this capacity and looks forward to working together in the coming year.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:

Commissioner Wessel stated, "I will entertain nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners".

President Altpeter Nominated Commissioner Wessel for Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners. Commissioner Hummel seconded the motion.

Commissioner Wessel stated, "If there are no other nominations, I will entertain a motion to close the nominations".

Motion made by Commissioner Altpeter and second by Commissioner Hummel.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Tapella stated, "I move to elect Commissioner Wessel as Vice President". Commissioner Hummel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Tapella, Hummel, Dombroski, Wessel, Altpeter

Absent: None.

Nays: None.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Vice-president Wessel said he looks forward to trying something new and working together moving forward.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER:

President Altpeter stated there had been opinions about who should be appointed as Treasurer and asked for discussion.

Commissioner Tapella stated she understands that nothing gets signed by the Treasurer that isn't approved by the Park Board first and Superintendent Silver prepares all documentation, attesting to the accuracy of it, and she does not think it appropriate for a commissioner to serve in that capacity. Commissioner Dombroski said he agreed.

Commissioner Hummel said he would like to keep the current process and appoint a member of the Park District Board as Treasurer since that is how it has always been done. Commissioner Tapella asked to clarify if there was any situation in which a non-board member could sign without board approval. Director Garvy stated that nothing is signed by the Treasurer without Park Board approval. Commissioner Dombroski stated that it is a matter of accountability, as the Treasurer is not executing anything for the park district unless approved by the Park District Board.

President Altpeter stated she will entertain a motion to appoint Superintendent Silver as the Treasurer. Motion made by Commissioner Dombroski and seconded by Commissioner Tapella.

President Altpeter said all those in favor signify by saying I. Commissioners Dombroski, Tapella, and Wessel said I. President Altpeter asked if anyone was opposed. Commissioner Hummel said I. Motion Passed.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY:

President Altpeter stated, "I will entertain a motion to appoint Director Garvy to the office of Park Board Secretary". Motion made by Commissioner Wessel and second by Commissioner Dombroski.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

APPOINTMENT OF SEASPAR REPRESENTATIVE:

President Altpeter stated, "I will entertain a motion to appoint Director Garvy as the Lisle Park District representative to SEASPAR". Motion made by Vice President Wessel and second by Commissioner Dombroski. Commissioner Dombroski asked if anyone else was interested. There were none.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Altpeter asked if anyone was interested in addressing the Park Board and reminded those in attendance that there will be a 5-minute time limit per speaker

Mr. Brian Fredricks said he lives at 1950 Pine Road in Lisle, and he has been a Lisle Park District resident since 1975 and had 4 children go through programs and now his grandchildren enjoy the parks. He said all three concept plans for Tate Woods Park that are presented are nice plans. He said the park district has a history of making improvements that have increased park usage and improved property values. He said that while Plan A is the most expensive, it would be the best option. He stated he plays pickleball too much in Woodridge, Glen Ellyn, Downers Grove, Warrenville, Naperville,

and Lifetime Fitness and Lisle needs to have courts like the ones being proposed in Plan A. He said Plan A is a good option because it relieves the stress of parking and adds a shelter facility and picnic tables near the playground.

Lorraine Krzywosz said she lives at 5539 Rainer Drive, she is a 27-year Lisle resident, and she is representing the pickleball community. She said she had four points she wanted to emphasize.

1. She thanked the Park Board for commissioning the Strategic Master Plan project, as it provides a road map for future improvements. She said the results of the study show unmet needs for pickleball and they should be a top investment priority.
2. She said the park district's pickleball instruction program is second to none and the park district hired an extremely qualified instructor. She said because of the quality instructor, classes have been maxed out and additional classes have been added. She said there is a huge demand for the only two park district pickleball courts at Abbeywood Park, so people go elsewhere, which she has experienced firsthand.
3. She stated Lisle's neighboring communities are increasing and developing pickleball courts too. She said Woodridge is building four more, Glen Ellyn six, and Naperville is building another 12. She said trends reflect that pickleball is a top recreational sport locally and regionally.
4. She said Tate Woods park can address unmet needs and she advocates for an 8-court pickleball hub, depending on funding. She said this would help eliminate some of the issues at Abbeywood Park. She stated there are 21 tennis courts in Lisle in comparison to just 2 pickleball courts.

She said this is the time for park district leaders to decide to incorporate recommendations from the Strategic Master Plan and the overwhelming support from the pickleball community, including the more than 200 signatures that were collected. She said Tate Woods Park is an ideal location for courts and the Park Board and staff should strongly consider this request.

Mr. William Brown said he is not a Lisle Park District resident but is a Trustee at DuPage AME Church and he is speaking on behalf of Pastor C. who was unable to attend

He said he appreciates the plans and the upgrades to Tate Woods Park and commends the Park Board on the proposal that has been brought forth. He said he has seen families come out and participate in tennis at the park and stated the location is important for local families to have access to tennis courts. He said he is not a fan of displacing things that are currently used but hopes to add and grow what is already there and in place. He said although he is no longer a tennis player himself, he hopes there is a place to accommodate the pickleball group and maintain access to tennis courts.

VI. APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

President Altpeter said she would like to move the item under Closed Session to New Business so the board can discuss the Tate Woods Park – Village of Lisle Right-of-Way situation openly. Commissioner Hummel moved to approve the meeting agenda for the regular meeting for Thursday, May 18, 2023 with that change.

Commissioner Wessel seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

President Hummel moved to approve consent agenda items A, B, C & D.

- A. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 20, 2023.
- B. Approve the May 2023 Voucher List in the amount of \$569,352.54.
- C. Temporary lifting of park district policy prohibiting the possession and consumption of alcoholic liquor for the 2023 Summer Entertainment Series in Community Park.
- D. Ordinance 23-01, An Ordinance approving the disposal of personal property owned by the Lisle Park District.

Commissioner Wessel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Hummel, Wessel, Tapella, Dombroski, Altpeter

Absent: None.

Motion Passed.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. President Altpeter congratulated finance staff on Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting for 2021

B. Memorial Day Annual Parade & Remembrance Ceremony – President Altpeter stated that the parade leaves from the Jr. High and if there is interest in participating to please let Director Garvy know.

President Altpeter reported she received Mr. Bill Littell's email with signatures in support of multiple pickleball courts at Tate Woods Park.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 052023 – A Resolution Forming a Committee on Local Government Efficiency

President Altpeter stated that the Park Board has until June 11 to form a committee, and the committee must meet 3 times in next 18 months. She said her preference is for the public members of the committee to be politically neutral, have a knowledge of the park district, and have an interest in the community. She said she received an additional recommendation for a committee member from Commissioner Hummel.

Commissioner Hummel asked what the intergovernmental experience and relationship with government is for two proposed candidates Les Lavin and Susan Ross and expressed his concern about their lack of experience on this topic.

President Altpeter explained the committee will be researching the district's efficiencies and will consist of staff including Directory Garvy & Superintendent Pratscher, in addition to the entire Park Board and the 2 appointed committee members. She said she is nominating Les Lavin and Susan Ross who have experience with the park district, Chamber of Commerce, Green Trails, and the Morton Arboretum, and she believes they have very useful experience.

Commissioner Dombroski asked what the powers and responsibilities of the committee members are. Director Garvy explained that the committee is charged with looking at the efficiencies of the park district, reporting those efficiencies, and making

recommendations on how we can improve and be even more efficient. He said there is a good amount of confusion around this requirement amongst other park districts, and the Illinois Association of Park Districts has prepared some information that was included in the board packet. He said this committee will ultimately provide a written report to the DuPage County Board, and it is unknown what the county board will do with this information. President Altpeter noted that it is not definitive if the committee would continue to exist after the 18-month term.

Commissioner Dombroski asked how we can tell if the proposed committee members are qualified if we are unclear on the role or responsibilities of the committee. Director Garvy stated committee members were considered based on how they can bring a wider lens to the District, they are non-controversial, and does not have a political position in community, which is what President Altpeter had asked to be the criteria for consideration.

President Altpeter expressed that the committee cannot take action, just make suggestions, compile a report using provided template, and state ideas on how the District can collectively become more efficient. Commissioner Dombroski said he believes the role of the park board is to continually study and consider efficiency, to which Director Garvy said he agrees.

Commissioner Tapella asked what are the duties of the committee – do they study statutes, ordinances, and do some research to provide recommendations? She then noted that all recommendations must come to the board, which is also a part of the committee, and the Board would collectively decide if they wanted to consider or adopt the recommendations. She said she has no issue with proposed candidates, and both candidates agreed to be a part of the committee.

President Altpeter stated she will entertain a motion to adopt Resolution 052023 – A Resolution Forming a Committee on Local Government Efficiency with resident delegates Les Lavin and Susan Ross.

Motion made by Commissioner Wessel, seconded by Commissioner Tapella.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Wessel, Tapella, Dombroski, Altpeter

Nay: Hummel

Absent: None.

Motion Passed.

B. Tate Woods Park Village of Lisle Right-of-Way Discussion.

Director Garvy explained that the Village of Lisle has an unimproved right-of-way going east-west through Tate Woods park. He reported he had discussed this with Village of Lisle staff, and they explained the process they have followed when someone has sought conveyance of an unimproved right-of-way was for the requesting party to secure an appraisal of the property, which is then used to negotiate a price. He referenced a current situation in the Oak Hill subdivision where two property owners apparently paid to acquire a portion of a right-of-way, which then became their property. He said the difference with the Tate Woods Park right-of-way is there is an active sanitary sewer line within it, which will still limit any construction or placement of any permanent structure over it.

Director Garvy reported he had a conversation with a local appraiser who stated there is indeed a value to a right-of-way, but in this case, it would be discounted twice: once because this right-of-way is not buildable, and a second time because of the presence of a utility line, which would require an easement that would limit any activity over it. He said the cost for this appraisal would be \$2,500.

President Altpeter stated that the property has no value except to the park district, and paying the Village of Lisle for it would be like having the taxpayers pay for it twice. She said she strongly opposes not only paying for the land but opposes an appraisal because in her opinion there is no value other than what it is being used for today, which is a park.

Commissioner Hummel agreed and asked if this could negatively impact the park's planning process.

Director Garvy stated that all three designs for Tate Woods Park currently avoid this right-of-way except for a pathway, which is what exists at the park currently. He said the grant application will require proof of ownership or permission, which could also be secured through a Right-of-Way Encroachment License through the Village of Lisle. He said village staff informed him that there is such a license with Schmaltz Deli on Ogden Avenue, so this is not an entirely unique situation. He said to meet the grant application deadline, he said he would want this resolved one way or another by the July board meeting.

Commissioner Dombroski said the park district has been maintaining this property for years and there is no use other than what it is today. Commissioner Tapella said she agreed. Commissioner Dombroski said he can consider the cost the park district has spent in maintaining the village right-of-way since the early 1980s as compensation already paid. He said the village will always have the right to access the sanitary line, and the park district paying for it is just trading money back and forth. He said we all are on the same team as we work for the same community. He suggested that the land be transferred from the Village to the Park District at no cost and that we ask the Village to put this on their next Board Meeting's open agenda.

Director Garvy reported he will contact Village of Lisle staff and communicate the Park Board's unanimous consent that the property be given to the park district at no cost without an appraisal.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Tate Woods Park Renovations – Budget Discussion and Direction

President Altpeter noted her appreciation to the community members who came to the meeting to speak and get involved in the development process.

Director Garvy explained the three concepts represent what is possible with each budget target. He said an OSLAD Grant, if received, will cover 50% of the project construction cost up to \$600,000, and all three concepts should be worthy of consideration. He said the architects' confidence improves as more amenities are provided, because they will be able to reference the degree to which this project meets stated demand from the strategic master plan in the narrative portion of the application.

Commissioner Dombroski stated that only 2.75% of the community was surveyed through Master Plan process, which he did not believe to be a lot. Director Garvy stated that even though it is a relatively small sample, it is a statistically valid representation of the entire community.

He said staff have concerns about providing adequate parking with more than six pickleball courts and emphasized the need to be cognizant of DuPage AME Church's use of their adjacent lot for their own needs.

Commissioner Dombroski asked if the park district considered building the courts at Kingston Park. Director Garvy said it had not due to the extremely limited parking there and the proximity of that park to the park's neighbors. Director Garvy said staff underestimated the noise level of pickleball in Abbeywood Park, and Community Park is not an option without displacing a current park feature or use area.

President Altpeter stated that Tate Woods Park was chosen due to location, and it is not within a neighborhood. She said this is about the fifth meeting with members of the pickleball community present and sharing opinions with everyone agreeing the best place for pickleball courts at this time to be Tate Woods. Director Garvy explained the origin of this project was the scheduled replacement of the playground equipment and surfacing, and the deteriorating conditions of the existing tennis and basketball courts and their need to be fully replaced too. He said if ever there was an opportunity to reimagine the park, now is the time, and he referenced the current Arbor View Park project as being in a similar situation two years ago. He said what made Tate Woods Park further appealing is the ambient noise from the tollway and Yackley Avenue, and there are no residents within 250 of the park.

Commissioner Hummel asked if the basketball court gets a lot of use. He said he has concerns with the design of Concept A and the picnic shelter not being close to the pickleball courts. He said he likes Plan B but would like to add more pickleball courts to it.

Director Garvy stated the basketball court is used regularly. He said the focus group from the community meeting identified a shelter at Tate Woods Park as a place to hang out while they watch kids on the playground in addition to an area to wait to play on the courts and said Concept A has a separate seating and waiting area right at the pickleball courts. President Altpeter noted that shade structures were noted as being in high demand from Master Plan results.

Commissioner Hummel asked if we could trade the tennis court for pickleball court in Plan B.

Director Garvy noted that Plan B or any plans can be and will be tweaked and changed based on what budget direction is given. He said the three concepts show generally what you can get for a given total project cost. He said staff are not comfortable with Plan B because it crams everything on one area, has poor circulation, and will create tensions between the various user groups. He said it does not expand parking and staff is certain the four pickleball courts will draw more people than the park district lot can accommodate and adding more courts in lieu of the tennis court will make matters worse. He said Concept C really doesn't do anything other than keep everything where it is today and does not contemplate much of what the neighbors said was a priority.

President Altpeter stated that after sitting through the Master Plan process, she would not approve a plan without extra parking, as residents don't want to be denied using an area because there is no parking.

Commissioner Tapella said she supports a budget of \$1.2 million for the project.

Commissioner Wessel stated he supports a budget of \$1.2 million and asked questions about the grant application – if we don't get grant funds, can we scale it back to \$1 million? Are we still committed to the \$1.2 million project after grant application?

Director Garvy stated that we will not find out about the grant until the end of January or into February, and recommended the park district be prepared to bid the project in December so we can be in a position to award the work so we can get on contractors' schedules sooner than later to complete the project as soon as possible in 2024. He said if we wait until we learn about the grant before we prepare bid documents and bid the project, we will likely have a difficult time getting started in the spring.

Commissioner Hummel asked if we need to have the money to submit the grant.

Director Garvy stated that we need to demonstrate we have the funding available as part of the application. He said the grant is a reimbursement grant and we need to verify we have the money available.

Commissioner Dombroski asked if we could move forward with all three concepts as shown and decide which own to construct when we learn of the grant, saying the extra money spent on having different construction documents prepared would be a lot less than the difference in the project costs.

Director Garvy said that is an option, and asked the Park Board what the concerns were with staff's recommendation of a budget of \$1.2 million. He said the master plan demonstrates a clear desire by the community to make these sorts of improvements, that the majority of the community is supportive of maintaining or increasing funding, that on a micro level the neighbors of Tate Woods Park have the same opinions as the community through the master plan process, and that staff is comfortable recommending a budget of \$1.2 million in accordance with funding practices the majority of the community has supported.

President Altpeter stated that we are here to represent the taxpayers and our residents, and we should plan to uphold what they want.

Commissioner Hummel stated that he is not opposed to the \$1.2 million budget. He said if we get the grant, we can do more going forward. If we don't get the grant, there is an opportunity cost because we can't do something else in the future.

Director Garvy stated staff's confidence in a \$1.2 million budget does not assume the grant, and if the grant is received that is a bonus.

Superintendent Silver stated the park district has issued a bond every few years and he will continue to recommend that practice moving forward. Commissioner Dombroski asked about the issuing of bonds. Superintendent Silver explained the District's funding position and reported these bonds cover future projects, not previous ones. He said with an allocation of \$1.2 million for this project, he is comfortable. He said this funding process gives us the ability to do these bigger projects every couple of years.

Commissioner Tapella said her recommendation is for a \$1.2 budget.

President Altpeter asked if there was consensus with directing staff with a budget of \$1.2 million. Consensus followed.

XII. LISLE PARTNERS FOR PARKS FOUNDATION REPORT

Submitted

XIII. SEASPAR REPORT

Submitted

XIV. OFFICER REPORTS

A. President Altpeter

B. Treasurer, Superintendent Silver

i. Financial Reports ending April 30, 2023

Superintendent Silver reported all park district investments are FDIC insured and/or collateralized so nothing at risk. He reported the enterprise fund – golf revenue is up over last year, and the Recreation Fund revenue is showing better than at this time last year.

C. Commissioners' Reports.

Commissioner Hummel stated that Saturday is the coast guard event from 9am-3pm in Community Park. He said Arbor View Park looks good and progress is coming along nicely.

President Altpeter stated that she attended a legislative event in Springfield with Director Garvy and that it is important the park district be represented at state events, especially when applying for an OSLAD grant. She reported she has been appointed to the Illinois Association of Park District's Program Committee and is currently planning events and programs for board members at the next conference.

XV. ADJOURN OPEN MEETING

Commissioner Tapella moved to adjourn the regular board meeting. Commissioner Wessel seconded.

There was no further discussion and motion passed unanimously by voice vote at 9:02 p.m.