

**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JANUARY 17, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** President Cook called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. in the Lisle Park District Community Center Board Room, 1825 Short Street, Lisle, IL 60532.

Roll Call:	Commissioners Present:	Hough Carballo Morse Cook Kanzler
	Also Present:	
	Director	Garvy
	Superintendent of Recreation	Toohy
	Superintendent of Operations	Leone
	Superintendent of Parks	Cerutti
	Human Resources Manager	Welge
	General Manager	Zajicek
	Golf Operations Manager	Culbertson

**PRESENTATION**

Director Garvy introduced Brian Margulis from Creative Hospitality Associates. Mr. Margulis introduced Chef Joel Ingegno, Chuck Hamburg and Michael Abraham. He reviewed their assignment, reporting they have been working with park district staff in the development of a new menu, facility improvements, refining standard operating procedures, job descriptions and developing customized employee and manager manuals. He introduced Ms. Janice Connolly as their interior design contractor. Ms. Connolly explained the prairie motif and presented samples of carpeting, wall coverings, lighting, seating fabric, window treatments, general color schemes and various facility improvements. She invited the Board to the display boards for closer looks. Discussion ensued.

Commissioners Morse and Kanzler stated they liked the design and the overall concept as presented. Ms. Connolly explained the recommendation to open the space up to create a more unified feel between the bar area and dining room. Mr. Margulis stated that while some changes look dramatic, he has had conversations with Superintendent of Parks & Facilities Cerutti and both parties agree that much of the work can be done by park district staff. General Manager Zajicek explained the seating flexibility the proposed design allows.

Mr. Margulis summarized Ms. Connolly's presentation by stating the park district can choose to make all the changes, some of the changes, or none of them. He reported that there are certainly some key elements that should be considered, including the kitchen

improvements, seating, carpet & walls, and lighting with the goal being to create a more open, welcoming facility, as well as allowing for the kitchen to function more efficiently. Mr. Margulis introduced Chef Joel Ingegno to introduce the draft menu. Chef Ingegno introduced the Midwestern theme and the importance of the menu being executable. He reported the menu is not too complicated and the trend in the industry is hyper local, with an emphasis on organic, fresh and local ingredients. He stated his goal with this menu is to feature the bountiful Midwest. He explained the challenges in the kitchen and that his recommended changes are not a short term fix but a long term solution. He stressed the importance of creating more space to prep and redistributing the cooking load to make more efficient use of space. Chef Ingegno stated the menu capitalizes on local fare. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Morse asked about a kids menu, to which Mr. Chuck Hamburg replied there will be traditional kid friendly offerings as well as some variety.

Mr. Margulis introduced the standard operating procedures manuals as well as employee and managers manuals. He reported Mr. Abraham has been working with park district HR Manager Welge in the manuals' customization. He mentioned that they remain works in progress and that they will be further customized. Chef Ingegno said he will continue to cost out the menu. Director Garvy asked if the menu items are at the same price points as the current menu, to which Mr. Margulis said it is. Mr. Margulis said the goal is to drive traffic to the restaurant and is confident this menu will do just that.

Mr. Hamburg stated that in choosing a name, one word names are the trend. He stated this restaurant needs to draw from outside of Lisle and the name should denote hearty, local cuisine. He emphasized the importance of stressing Midwestern values; that young families with children as well as seniors will be drawn to the restaurant. He stated this restaurant with the proposed menu and facility changes is not to make it a destination restaurant, but a lifestyle restaurant. Discussion ensued.

President Cook asked about a specialty that would go on every table, such as some sort of relish or bread. Chef Ingegno reported that will be considered now that there is buy in on the concept.

Commissioner Carballo stated he likes the concept and the recommended changes. He asked when this transformation would take place, would the restaurant need to be closed while these renovations are taking place, is signage being considered, and the budget. Director Garvy reported the goal is to launch the new concept in the middle of March, that staff wants to avoid closing the restaurant so a lot of the work will be performed in the evenings & early mornings, and signage will be included. Mr. Margulis estimated the cost of the kitchen equipment being proposed should be in the \$20,000 - \$25,000 range. Director Garvy said staff will be gathering proposals on some of the other recommendations, specifically new carpeting, seating, painting & wall coverings, window coverings and lighting, and he expects the budget to be in the neighborhood of another \$45,000. Commissioner Carballo asked about another sign for the building itself. Commissioner Morse asked if the deck seating should be addressed as well. Director Garvy said those are good ideas and arguably can be beneficial, but suggested they wait. He stated some of these other recommendations, while interesting in concept, should wait

too. President Cook stated he agrees with Commissioner Carballo's opinions about the new concept and really likes the recommended changes, too. Commissioners Kanzler, Morse, and Hough agreed. The Board thanked Mr. Margulis and the Creative Hospitality Associates team for their work and is looking forward to implementing their recommendations.

**ADJOURN OPEN MEETING**

MOTION: Commissioner Kanzler moved to adjourn the special meeting at 8:05 p.m. Commissioner Hough seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.