

**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
December 4, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** President Cook called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Lisle Park District Recreation Multipurpose Room, 1925 Ohio Street, Lisle, IL 60532.

Director Garvy Called Roll:	Commissioners Present:	Altpeter Buchelt Cook Hough Richter
	Absent:	None
	Also Present:	
	Director of Parks & Recreation	Garvy

Mayor Broda called the Village Board meeting to order. Present were Mayor Broda; Trustees Boyle, Cawiezel, Hettich and Mandel. Also present were Village Manager Sprecher, Village Clerk Seeden and Deputy Village Clerk Curran.

**II. PRESENTATION**

President Don Cook turned the meeting over to the Lisle Veterans' Memorial Committee. Commissioner Richter presented the Veterans' Memorial Committee report by way of a power point presentation. Commissioner Richter indicated that the goal was to find a better location for the memorial that is currently in Community Park. He reported the criteria developed for a new location includes the following:

1. Municipally owned parcel
2. Visible to the public
3. A quiet place for contemplation
4. Easy inclusive access
5. Ample parking

Using these criteria, a list of possible locations was developed:

1. Lisle Station Park area
2. North of Prairie Walk Pond
3. South of Prairie Walk Pond
4. East of Prairie Walk Pond
5. West side of Main Street, south of the tracks
6. Community Park

Committee member Bob Tarasewicz added he believes this location will provide good connectivity between properties and the din of the fountains is quite pleasant. Committee member Scott Fotre said he agrees that the fountains drown out any traffic noise and added that there will be a lot of people around the area to enjoy the memorial. He added this site would also provide for a good educational opportunity for

local schools and there is parking already present. Committee member Dennis Lovick agreed, adding that it can tie the business district to the park and that a lot of infrastructure is already present including parking, lighting, pathways, electrical power and more and stated only minor improvements would be needed. He suggested the memorial should be a "living" memorial whereby individuals can buy bricks to commemorate a love one who is currently serving, thereby drawing more attention and support.

Trustee Boyle asked if there was a selection criteria and were any of the criteria weighted. Committee member Scott Fotre replied the committee discussed pros and cons of each site but the individual criteria were not weighted.

Mayor Broda explained the flood plain limits and stated the southern lot is prime for development. He asked Village Manager Sprecher about the two lots east of Garfield, to which Manager Sprecher replied they are anticipated for future development and that parking has been discussed but has not been completely determined. Scott Fotre stated that the memorial would only need a small portion of one of these lots.

Trustee Mandel stated he believes all three sites would work and added if this moves forward, he wants to be sure it's done right. He added that if development to the south lot were to occur, it could take away from the site selection criteria of the east lots.

Commissioner Hough stated she had always envisioned the new memorial at the park district property adjacent to Lisle Station Park. She stated President Cook has been working on this project for years and has been the reason this project remains alive today. She said this is a whole new idea to place it near Prairie Walk Pond and said she always thought it should be near the parade route and near the cemetery. She said she believed the areas adjacent to Prairie Walk Pond were reserved for potential retail development and said she too wants to see this done right. Committee member Tarasewicz stated the area adjacent to Lisle Station Park has a lot of great qualities but that in the committee's opinion, the lots near Prairie Walk Pond just seemed to work better, and that the park district could be the preferred site should the Village of Lisle sites fall through.

President Cook stated he preferred the site near the museum for several reasons. He said the presence of educational opportunities exists around Lisle Station Park as well. He stated there is infrastructure present at the park district site, too. He added that the park district owns this property, will maintain the memorial on this site and the park board already approved the use of the site for a veterans' memorial back in April. He added the site is also outside of the floodplain and can't see building an \$80,000 + memorial in an area known to flood. He said many memorials he's seen across the country are directly tied to a museum or cemetery and that this location would tie this memorial to both. He explained the Facebook page "If you grew up in Lisle, IL you remember" and read two passages from soldiers who recalled purchasing their tickets and boarding the train at the Lisle Depot when drafted to the Viet Nam war and how important he believes the memorial is to the history of Lisle. He said the Depot and Lisle Station Park ties it all together. He also reported how important he feels it is to have the memorial close to the cemetery and that coupled with the history of the Depot museum, the memorial being located at the park district site on School and Center ties it all together that much more.

Committee member Kim Carlson stated the committee does like the park district site adjacent to Lisle Station Park, but stated they were tasked with finding alternatives to that site.

Maureen Lovick said that she only goes to the museum site once or twice a year while she goes to the pond area almost every day. She feels the memorial would have more visibility at Prairie Walk Pond.

Mayor Broda stated that leaving the memorial in its current location is not an option. He said there is good argument for both sites and would like to have village staff look into any other issues the village-owned sites might pose before any final determination is made. Village Manager Sprecher replied that staff will do that.

Trustee Hettich stated there is currently a lot of activity going on downtown and that people have to expect that no matter where it goes, you have to expect downtown to change around it. Scott Fotre stated that the committee would prefer to continue to move forward rather than wait to see what changes take place in the future.

Commissioner Kari Altpeter thanked the committee for their work on this project. Commissioner Neil Buchelt agreed and added that he would like to see the project continue to move forward as well and that he didn't want to see it stall for any period of time. He asked if there was a way to determine how many people would actually visit the site. Mr. Lovick stated if this is a living memorial, he believes that will make a big difference in the site's popularity. President Cook stated it has been his vision to also include police and fire in a memorial at this site. Mr. Fotre stated he believes the aspect of having this be a living memorial is paramount and that all sites considered had merit.

Director Garvy asked if the Village is willing in concept to donate a portion of one or two of the parcels east of the pond for this project. Trustee Hettich said that there is not much interest in redeveloping those parcels and that he believes they've been identified as potential for future parking. Trustee Boyle replied that he didn't believe the village was in a position to establish a timeframe because the Village has not finalized a vision for the downtown area. Director Garvy asked if there was a timeframe for those decisions, to which Trustee Boyle replied he hoped it would be within two years. Trustee Hettich stated the Village Board will be discussing downtown development so this will be a part of that discussion. Mayor Broda stated that in the meantime staff would look into whether this area is feasible for a memorial.

Commissioner Altpeter said she didn't believe it was fair to expect the trustees to come to any final determination at this time since this is the first they've been presented with this information. Village Manager Sprecher stated he senses the urgency in this matter and will make it a priority. Trustee Boyle asked if the proposed design would fit on the park district site, to which President Cook said it would.

President Cook asked if there were any other questions or comments. He thanked the committee for the work they have done and said he hopes they keep it going.

### **III. ADJOURN OPEN MEETING**

MOTION: Commissioner Hough moved to adjourn the special meeting at 8:45 p.m. Commissioner Altpeter seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed by voice vote.

Trustee Boyle moved to adjourn the village meeting. Trustee Mandel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed by voice vote at 8:45.