



One Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, IL 60069  
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Approved December 16, 2013 with the following corrections: Item 6.1 regarding Balzer Park tennis courts, last paragraph "...a basketball court will be added near the tennis courts" should be changed to "...a basketball court may be added within the tennis courts at the northeast corner". In item 8.0 the name of Kathy Lin is misspelled, this should be corrected.

## **MINUTES OF THE PARK BOARD MEETING Monday October 21, 2013**

Present: Ken Borgerding, Park Board Chairman  
Lee Campbell  
Kelly Dupont  
Jamie Godshalk  
Dan Hartman (arrived at 7:35pm)  
Karen Feldman, Trustee Liaison  
  
Brad Woodbury, Assistant to Director of Public Works  
Brad Burke, Village Manager

Absent: Ted Heiser

Location: Lincolnshire Village Hall, One Olde Half Day Rd, Lincolnshire Illinois 60069

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Borgerding called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

### **2.0 ROLL CALL**

Assistant to the Director of Public Works Woodbury called roll and determined a quorum was present.

### **3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the August 19, 2013 Meeting of the Park Board (Village of Lincolnshire)**

The Park Board reviewed the minutes of the August 19, 2013 meeting. A motion was made by Park Board Member Godshalk, seconded by Park Board Member Dupont to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

### **4.0 RESIDENT COMMENTS AND REQUESTS**

4.1 None

### **5.0 RECREATION**

5.1 None

### **6.0 PARKS**

#### **6.1 Continued Discussion of Conceptual Designs for the Balzer Park Playground Replacement (Village of Lincolnshire)**

Assistant to the Director of Public Works Woodbury summarized the discussion at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Park Board Meeting. Two vendors, Parkcreation Inc. and Team

REIL, were selected for consideration at that time. The options were posted at the Village's website and residents were asked to vote for their preferred design. There were a total of 289 votes cast and the preferred design was Option 1 with 61% of the total votes.

One resident contacted the Village saying we could have been a little more innovative with the design concepts, and that Option 2 was similar to new play equipment installed at Sprague School. Another resident contacted the Village saying that the current equipment looks like it is not in need of replacement. The Park Board is asked if they want to move forward with one of the two designs.

Trustee Feldman asked if people may have voted for Option 1 because of the similarity of Option 2 to the Sprague play equipment. Park Board member Dupont said that her children noticed that the equipment was similar to the Sprague School design.

Mr. Godshalk noted the resident response to the request to vote for equipment was very good and the votes indicated that they liked Option 1. If the design was questioned by only one person that is a very small portion of the voters.

Trustee Feldman commented that Option 1 is not that much different from what is already in place. Ms. Dupont commented that the Parkreation concept NRG design may be better.

Village Manager Burke said that the 2014 budget includes funds for all of Balzer Park including sports courts, and the consideration of play equipment is a part of that larger capital investment. One option is to take Option 1 and make some tweaks to it and come back to ask the residents for comments again. He agrees that Option 1 is very similar to what is in place now. Mr. Burke said that his boys, ages 6 and 11, enjoy the risk element which has been taken out of equipment in most settings. He suggested the Park Board may want to take Option 1 and add some features which children enjoy.

Chairman Borgerding said the design like Sprague School's equipment should be eliminated from consideration. The consensus is to ask Parkreation to provide some more alternatives. Photos of Highland Park playground improvements were also requested. Fifth through eighth grade ages should be included too. Young children enjoy the little playhouse feature.

A Resident explained that the current designs do not really cater to older children. Additionally, she stated tennis courts are well used and should not be decreased. She also stated that the colors for the blue jellyfish design are not very appealing.

At Balzer Park ~~a basketball hoop may be added near the tennis court area~~ **a basketball court may be added within the tennis courts at the northeast corner.** Staff will provide a drawing at the next meeting showing proposed park improvements being considered in the area of the play equipment site. Park Board members Campbell and Dupont suggested that everyone take a look at the new Sprague School playground.

## 6.2 Consideration and Discussion of the Village Open Space Management Plan

At the August meeting Staff was asked to come up with measurable indicators for Open Space Management. A review of the management plan showed that of the multiple agreements which required certain levels of care, only two are still in effect; the 2001 OSLAD grant, which expires in 2021, and the 2005 Florsheim restoration grant. A review revealed that the most reoccurring activities required for maintaining these areas included trail maintenance, hazard tree removal, prescribed burns and removal of invasive species. Mr. Woodbury stated that these activities should be the main areas of focus in regards to the Open Space Management Plan.

The proposed budget for 2014 is \$50,000 for maintaining natural areas. Mr. Godshalk pointed out there have been three OSLAD grants, only one remains in effect. He thanked Brad Woodbury for looking into the history of the natural areas. He reported that he had walked North Park and Florsheim with Lydia Scott who had worked on obtaining and implementing the grant funding while working for the Village as Environmental Services Supervisor.

Mr. Godshalk asked for Lydia's recommendation. She suggested that half of the proposed \$25,000 could be used for David Hodge of Turning Leaf, who currently does restoration work for the Village, to perform buckthorn control. This is critical because re-sprouts which have occurred since we stopped doing this work are at an age to produce seeds which will cause a multiplying effect. She also suggested half be spent for contracting with TGF, Tom Flader, to perform prescribed burns at approximately \$3,000 each. These are most effective in the spring and fall and are recommended for Florsheim and North Park.

If the budget is limited Mr. Godshalk said the other areas such as Rivershire and the Old Mill addition may have to be neglected. He added that there is very high quality plant material is found at both North Park and Florsheim. Another report which was provided to Park Members by Mr. Godshalk is from Susanne Masi of the Chicago Botanic Garden who represents Plants of Concern. The report shows the quantities of plants both the desirable and rare species as well as invasive plants increasing over time in these areas. She recommends a greater effort burning at regular intervals across the site. These areas are the "crown jewels" of Lincolnshire.

The level of care needed to protect these valuable natural resources was discussed. Mr. Godshalk said over a million dollars was spent in restoration and now we are letting it go back to the unrestored condition. A conversation regarding the removal of buckthorn ensued. Mr Woodbury stated that the plants are cut and the stump should be herbicided. However over time the seeds have been deposited and the plants have put out chemicals that make the soil unsuitable to other plants. The seeds are also spread by birds who eat the seeds and deposit them in another location. Mr. Hartman compared them to the dandelions in your front yard.

Park Board member DuPont suggested that residents may not know the invasive plants. It would be helpful to inform them by way of the website, some people unknowingly have garlic mustard in their gardens. Also include the timing of when the plants should be treated so that people can be more aware of the importance

of the issues. The Lincolnshire Garden Club may be able to assist in training or grants. Ms. Dupont plans to bring this issue up at the November Garden Club meeting.

Assistant to Director of Public Works Woodbury said that the Village is contacting the Lake County Forest Preserve District to see if there may be ways we can partner or share resources since they have similar natural area maintenance concerns. Volunteer or Community Service workers may be used in the lower priority areas such as Rivershire Park.

Mr. Campbell asked that the response received from the Forest Preserve District be shared with the Park Board. Ms. Dupont thanked Mr. Godshalk for taking the time and effort to prepare the information. Chairman Borgerding commented that the task seems overwhelming but when it is broken down into parts it seems more manageable.

## **7.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

7.1 None

## **8.0 NEW BUSINESS**

The annual bluebird report from the Rivershire Natural Area prepared by Marj Lundy was presented. This year there were three nest sighted and twelve bluebirds were hatched and fledged. In addition there were two nests of tree swallows with a total of 11 birds fledged. ~~Cathy~~ **Kathy** Lin, a resident and coordinator of the Rivershire Nature Center for the schools, is going to help Marj with this project next year.

## **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Park Board member Dupont, seconded by Park Board member Godshalk to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was accepted by unanimous voice vote. Chairman Borgerding declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

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