

**GENEVA PARK DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
LONG RANGE CAPITAL PROJECTS MEETING MINUTES
November 1, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

President VanderVeen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

HEARING OF GUESTS

Two Geneva Park District Residents attended the meeting to express their interest in an indoor pool for the community. They were interested in the results from the Community Survey and the possibility of such a future project. Director Lambillotte discussed with the guests the results of the Community Survey and that although it did rank high upon parks and recreation facilities that are most important to the community it was still questionable as to whether such a facility would be supported via a referendum vote due to less than 40% of the respondents choosing as a priority and an almost equal % opposed. Because of the cost to build such a facility as well as the annual cost to maintain the facility the District would be required to go to referendum to obtain the funds to build as well as annually maintain.

ROLL CALL

At 6:25pm President VanderVeen called for the roll. Treasurer Peggy Condon, Commissioner John Frankenthal, Commissioner Pat Lenski, Vice President Todd Karas and President Susan VanderVeen answered present.

Staff members present were Director Sheavoun Lambillotte, Supt. of Parks & Properties Larry Gabriel, Supt. of Finance & Personnel Christy Powell, Supt. of Recreation Jay Kelly, and Manager of Peck Farm Park Interpretative Center Trish Burns.

Press present: none.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Lambillotte stated that as a District there have been many new changes, such as, a new director, two new board members, results from a community survey, reaccreditation of Distinguished Agency, the economy, etc. In addition, Director Lambillotte announced that the District just received word that it had received \$729,000 from an ITEP grant to fund the reconstruction of Island Park Bridge. With all of this, staff would like to get clear direction from the board in terms of future goals and the prioritizing of capital projects for the next five years.

Director Lambillotte covered the results from the Community Survey and stated that while the results and satisfaction with the District were extremely high there was no resounding push to do one particular project beyond acquiring open space and expansion of bike trails with other capital projects under 50%.

Director Lambillotte then covered the Long Term and Short Term Plan and asked if there were any additional projects the board would like to add to the list of future projects. Commissioner Peggy Condon felt there was a need to provide transportation to and from our facilities. She saw it difficult to get from one facility to the next and thought that because there was no public transportation or bike trails that there was a need to offer transportation back and forth to District facilities (i.e., participants may have a class at Sunset and then need to quickly get across town to SPRC for another class). Director Lambillotte added this project to the list of potential projects.

Discussion was held as whether an indoor pool was a viable project since it could only be completed via passage of a referendum to both construct and maintain the facility. Vice President Karas suggested putting this issue to vote to get a definitive answer. Director Lambillotte also suggested conducting a

needs assessment to gauge the support of an indoor pool and the likely success of a referendum. Discussion was also held regarding partnering with the school district to fund such a project.

Director Lambillotte provided a list of projects generated from the Community Survey, Long Term & Short Term Plan and additional ideas generated by staff and board members. She then divided the projects into two lists, those projects under \$500,000 and those over \$500,000 and asked both staff and board members to place stickers by those projects they felt most important to the community. The projects and the top highest ranking are as follows:

Capital Projects Under \$500,000:

Natural Playground at Peck Farm Park (9)
Natural Shade at Parks* (7)
Walking/ Biking Trails* (6)
Community Garden (5)
Prairie Development at Peck North (5)
Environmental Issues (4)
Expand Wheeler Green House (4)
Transportation to & from Programs (2)
Drinking Fountains at Parks* (1)
New Historic Front Porch at Peck (3)
Dog Park* (3)
Manufactured Shade at Parks* (0)
Repair Basement Walls at Peck House (1)
Upgrade Existing Sports Fields (0)
Update Parks (0)

Capital Projects Over \$500,000:

Renovate/Update SRFC-include Energy & ADA Upgrades (9)
Acquire Open Space*(7)
3rd Phase of Sunset Pool Expansion* (6)
New Mini Golf Hut to Include Game & Party Room (6)
Walking/Biking Trails* (6)
Indoor Pool* (5)
Update Parks (5)
Water Spray Ground West of Randall Road (3)
Barn Conversion to Nature Center at PFP (3)
Additional Soccer Fields (0)
Additional Football Fields (0)
Additional Baseball Fields (0)
Additional Tennis Courts (0)
Gymnastics Center (0)
Indoor Sports Complex (0)
Golf Course (0)

* Projects ranked highest in Community Survey

Director Lambillotte went over those projects that ranked well and those that did not. Vice President Karas noted that he did not understand why there were not more votes for drinking fountains. Discussion was held as to the cost/benefit of drinking fountains as well as vandalism considerations. Vice President Karas said he would still support drinking fountains even though they were very expensive as he felt it was a basic need to have water fountains available. Also, discussion included the lack of votes for environmental issues. The Board thought this category needed further dividing as they would be more willing to rank higher those environmental projects that were less expensive and had quick payoff (i.e., electronic board meetings, replacement of light bulbs with more energy efficient light bulbs, etc) versus those projects that were much more costly and had a much longer payback (i.e., solar panels, wind turbines, etc.)

Vice President Karas requested staff to identify an allocation of funds both short term and long term to show how many projects we could take on and to identify a time line for each of the identified projects.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Lenski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Commissioner Frankenthal seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Secretary

Submitted By: Sheavoun Lambillotte / Christy Powell