

APPROVED

MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2017 SPECIAL PROJECTS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. and roll was called.

Committee Members present:

Andre Lerman, Chair/Commissioner
Lisa Brooks, Treasurer
Steve Gaines, President

Staff present:

Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director/Secretary
Chris Leiner, Director of Parks/Maintenance
Mike Lushniak, Director of Recreation/Facilities
Carol Mensinger, Director of Finance/HR

Commissioners present:

Dudley Onderdonk, Commissioner
Seth Palatnik, Commissioner

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke: Laurie Morse, Peter Mulvaney, Eileen Sirkin

Matters from the Public: Laurie Morris inquired about the replacement status of Jefferson and Vernon Playground. Chair Lerman asked staff to comment on question. Executive Director Sheppard reported that the playground had unexpected damage as a result of the age of the equipment and type of material and it could not be safely fixed. Staff would be removing the main piece of equipment, but leaving the swing set. Staff will be installing a sign at the site directing residents to our website for updates on replacement and the location of three playgrounds within a half-mile radius.

Executive Director Sheppard stated that replacement of the park is slated for the June agenda when the Board begins talks for capital replacement projects for the next fiscal year, unless directed by the Committee to advance discussion of replacement sooner. We currently have no money budgeted for this unexpected replacement.

Discussion on Lakefront Park: Executive Director Sheppard shared that there was about 25 attendees at the Public Meeting on Lakefront Park and excellent input was received. AltaManu did a presentation on their firm, work done on historic parks and a history on Lakefront Park. Sheppard reviewed the notes of ideas that were given at the meeting. The floor was opened to Commissioners to ask any questions from staff or AltaManu and provide input on the park. Overall, the Board wanted a Park for reflection that addresses the drainage issues and is sustainable. Ideas included modest interpretative signage that may be changed seasonally, meandering pathway improvements exploring the use of concrete and other options that are ADA compliant, play area with a similar footprint, improve tennis courts and possibly mark them for pickle ball, add fitness equipment elements on part of the tennis court, more bike racks, make pathway transitions easier for bikes, limited hardscape, swing benches are very popular, fix the drainage area, explore an elevated deck as an overlook to the water,

add native plants that have appeal in the winter, chess tables, and keep a natural feel. Josephine Bellalta and John McManus asked if the Committee would consider exploring having two tennis courts and a non-traditional playground. They would also like to find a way to draw people into the park from all areas. They will also look at tree placement for the future. The Committee was open to exploring these ideas.

Discussion ensued.

Chair Lerman, based on the discussion by the Committee, directed Park District staff and AltaManu to develop conceptual designs for Lakefront Park to include concepts discussed in today's meeting and to provide various options for consideration.

Presentation on Takiff Parking: Executive Director Sheppard discussed different sites that we could add parking lots at Takiff. This includes the area where the former Director of Parks house/parks area was and the area where the skate park was. Our contract with AltaManu includes conceptual designs for both parking areas but does not include two parking lots and sustainability designs for construction and bid documents. If the Board decides to go in that direction, we would have to expand the contract to include those items.

John McManus and Josephine Bellalta, gave a presentation showing the potential parking areas and issues, different construction methods including sustainability methods which is attached.

In response to a question from Commissioner Gaines, Executive Director Sheppard stated there are 35 parking spots in the ELC lot, 45 in the main lot, and 40 in spots behind the gym. Takiff has fewer spots than is recommended for a facility its size.

Executive Director Sheppard also indicated to the Committee that the main lot does have ADA issues that will have to be addressed in the future and there will be a need for a site plan.

John McManus and Josephine Bellalta also addressed a question on the cost difference between traditional parking lots and lots with sustainability. Ms. Bellalta explained that she could not give those figures at this time, but an estimated budget will be provided with conceptual designs.

Commissioner Brooks commented on the challenges in entering and leaving the lot at certain times of the day. She asked if we could address traffic flow.

Commissioner Gaines inquired about other things AltaManu can consider in the parks department to gain a few more spots.

Discussion ensued.

Chair Lerman, based on the discussion by the Committee, directed Park District staff and AltaManu to develop conceptual designs for two Takiff parking sites to include concepts discussed in today's meeting and to provide traditional parking lot and various sustainable options for consideration.

Matters from the Public: Laurie Morris thanked staff for keeping the activity door open for access from the ELC lot and also recommended that the Village parking spots along old Green Bay Road be used by staff.

Trustee Mulvaney thanked the Board and staff for having the discussion on sustainability and commented on the fact that sustainability does not have to be binary; it does not have to be one or another.

Other Business: The next Special Projects and Facilities Committee meeting is April 6 at 6:00pm. President Gaines indicated that he will not be able to attend and requested an excused absence. Chairman Lerman request that the time be changed to 6:30pm. Committee members were in favor of this. Chair Lerman, based on the discussion by the Committee, directed Park District staff to change time to 6:30pm.

Adjourn: Commissioner Brooks moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Commissioner Gaines seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary