

MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2025 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and roll was called.

Committee members present:

Carol Spain, President
Stefanie Boron, Vice President
Michael Covey, Treasurer
Bart Schneider, Commissioner
Jordan Spector, Commissioner

Staff present:

Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director and Secretary
Kyle Kuhs, Director of Parks and Planning

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke: Three members of the public attended the meeting or spoke: Marcia Fraerman, Tom Fraerman, and Jan Karzen. Future potential board member Nicole Reifman also attended.

Shelton Racket Court Presentation: Director Kuhs led a presentation (included in the Committee Packet) on the proposed updates to Shelton Park, focusing on the potential options for the updates to the Shelton Park racket courts. In addition to the changes to the racket courts, the District will update the gazebo and shelter, make improvements to pathway and park drainage, construct a new greenhouse, and begin a joint tree nursery with the Village of Glencoe.

The racket courts at Shelton are at the end of their useful life and need renovations. The budget is set and we will be keeping the new courts within the same footprint. Past racket court renovations have already received extensive community input and staff analysis. The District is currently meeting national standards for the amount of pickleball and tennis courts per resident. The main concern with pickleball is the noise generated. Any pickleball courts added would require noise mitigation. We know from past community input and staff research of other parks and recreation agencies that hybrid tennis/pickleball courts are not favorable. Based on this information, staff proposed four possible options to the board: A-1 tennis, 2 pickleball, B- 4 pickleball, C- 6 pickleball, D-2 tennis courts.

Matters of the Public- Shelton Racket Courts: Two members of the public spoke to the board during public comment. Jan Karzen, believes that hybrid should be an option and could be a good option for both players. She notes, though, that pickleball is a noisy sport. She thinks it should be two tennis courts with hybrid pickleball courts. This park is used mostly by local people. If people do not prefer hybrid, they should go somewhere else. There are many places being built for pickleball indoors.

Tom Fraerman, is opposed to the dedicated pickleball courts at Shelton Park. He believes the noise from pickleball is not compatible with residential housing, and the impacts of traffic and parking are not compatible with Shelton Park youth usage, adding too much congestion and traffic. There are also many new indoor pickleball courts nearby. Tennis has also become popular and is more compatible with a residential neighborhood. We should avoid creating a divisive issue in our town.

Shelton Park Racket Court Discussion: Board discussion ensued on the options presented as well as the community input provided at the meeting. Commissioner Schneider noted that a significant portion of current players live nearby, but many are also non-residents and questioned the long-term need for additional courts, wanting more usage information. He also pointed out the potential noise concerns of pickleball. Commissioner Boron noted the differences between temporary, indoor and outdoor permanent courts, suggesting a review of new pickleball courts in Deerfield for comparison. Commissioner Covey opposed hybrid courts and emphasized the need for noise mitigation regardless of the choice but he was leaning toward Option A or D. Commissioner Spector was comfortable with Options A and D as well, acknowledging that living near a park comes with some noise. President Spain favored Option A as we have had several meetings about pickleball already and we should balance interest in both sports. Overall, the board came to a consensus that Option A may be the best fit but they would have a chance to discuss further at the next meeting.

Discussion on Construction Management Services and Maintenance Building and Athletic Field: Executive Director Sheppard provided a summary of the RFQ interviews that occurred Friday, February 28, for the construction management services for the new maintenance facility and Takiff athletic fields. Director Kuhs explained further that due to the size and scope of the project, a management firm was needed to help oversee the project which will assist with oversight, budget management, quality control, contractor coordination, and problem-solving. The RFQ was released to four highly qualified firms, and 3 were brought in for interviews. Of the firms interviewed, staff agreed that Wight and Co. was the best fit for the management of the project. Wight and Co is also the architect/engineer for the project, which will allow for streamlined communications and project efficiency. They are reputable and currently working on projects of a similar size that came highly reviewed.

Commissioner Covey noted that he trusts staff decisions but wants to make sure we have coordination and checks and balances since it is the same firm. Executive Director Sheppard indicated that even though we have a Construction Management firm who will handle the day-to-day, that does not take away the Staff oversight on this project. Commissioner Boron asked if we could do anything as an incentive for completing on time. Staff replied that we do not foresee any timeline delays on this project except the just possible permitting delays from MWRD. An incentive would not help with permitting delays. Staff does not currently have any concerns about the timeline.

Discussion on the GJHP Stipend Request: The Board and staff discussed Glencoe Junior High Projects' Stipend request for \$7,000. The Board noted that we have supported them for many years, they are in solid financial standing, and they do have programs that

compete against our theater programs. Staff mentioned that the stipend funds would go towards their out-of-school-time programs, not the theater programs. Overall, the Board agreed to match what we gave last year, \$5,000, as a fair amount to support their programming, given their financial position appears favorable.

Other Business: President Spain asked about the request from a non-park district resident requesting resident rates because they are a Village tax-payer. Staff briefed the Board on an issue that arose when verifying the Street Address Index for the upcoming 2025 consolidated election. When verifying the addresses for the election, staff noted the Village of Glencoe had some Glencoe residents on their list of addresses that are paying property taxes to the Village of Glencoe, but are not paying their park district taxes to the Glencoe Park District but instead the Winnetka park district due to their address' zoning. We have been giving some of the identified homeowners resident rates for services in the past. They were notified last week that they would no longer be eligible to receive resident rates moving forward since they do not pay any taxes to support the Glencoe Park District (unless they could show us a tax bill to say otherwise). Some of the homeowners were upset and asked that this policy be revisited or they be grandfathered in as residents.

Discussion ensued and the Board agreed to continue the discussion at the March Board meeting.

Director Sheppard then provided an update on HB 3685. Last Friday, we hosted a meeting with Representative Katz Maul and nearby park district directors potentially impacted by the legislation. It was a productive meeting and we will continue to monitor and engage Representatives and IAPD as necessary.

Adjourn: Commissioner Boron moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. Commissioner Spector seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary