

Lemont Park District
Special Meeting
Centennial Community Center
June 22, 2010
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order – President Sexton called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call - Commissioners present: Sexton, Colaizzi, Williams, Davoren and Diorio. Also in attendance were Executive Director, Louise Egofske, recording secretary, Karen Perkey, staff, Dellamano, John McGovern from Recreation Accessibility Consultants, Inc., Matt Piechalak, Suburban Life Newspapers and public.

President Sexton welcomed all who were in attendance to the meeting and introduced the board members, Jack, Mike, Pat, Jim and John. He also introduced the Executive Director, Louise Egofske and staff, Karen Perkey, Carrie Dellamano and Dawn Banks. John McGovern was introduced as a consultant for the ADA accessibility compliance. President Sexton continued his introduction and explanation of the Community Caravan program that the park board has been doing since June 2008, where the board conducts a meeting at a park in town during the summer months. The board conducted the Caravan meeting on June 8, 2009 at Jaycee Park to talk to residents. It was also explained who was in attendance at last year's meeting and that the residents were notified, 10 – 12 homes around the park and that a banner was put up for several days prior to the meeting to advertise it. President Sexton continued explaining the reason for the removal of the playground equipment at Jaycee Park and why the park equipment was not replaced. The equipment was in a detention area and it was not ADA accessible. If the area was amended for accessibility, the Village of Lemont and MWRD would need to approve the changes to the landscape. A resident questioned if the park would be 'grandfathered' as not having to be ADA compliant. John McGovern replied no, all playground equipment must be accessible. The residents continued to question the removal of the equipment. There was a signed petition by the residents presented to the board requesting the equipment be replaced in their neighborhood. Discussions and explanations continued including the location of the park, interpretations of the ADA Code, condition of the removed park equipment, approval needed from Village of Lemont and MWRD, related

costs for the park equipment and what do the residents need to do to get the equipment back. President Sexton replied he cannot answer that question at this time. He offered to work with 3 people who can be community representatives for the board to work with. The residents offered to raise money to replace the playground equipment. It was stated that the park board took the recommendation of the Executive Director at the time with the direction of John McGovern to remove the equipment. The park district will adopt a policy to notify residents within 500 feet of the park in question, by certified mail, if park equipment is to be removed. Four people volunteered to be the community representatives. Names and contact information will be collected by the recording secretary. The minutes from the meeting of 6/8/09 were requested by Terese Mueller-Bocian. The lack of notification was discussed and President Sexton extended an apology. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.