



**LISLE PARK DISTRICT
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, July 17, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Altpeter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Director Garvy Called Roll:

Commissioners Present In-Person:

Altpeter
Nadeau
Pereira
Tapella
Wessel

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present Included:

Director of Parks & Recreation Garvy
Superintendent of Finance Silver
Superintendent of Recreation & Marketing Pratscher
Superintendent of Parks Cerutti

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Altpeter led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATIONS

None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Mr. Vitas Matulyauskas referenced last month's meeting and said the park board does not believe there is a problem at the park and said there is a complete misunderstanding of the pickleball noise. He said the only common solution is quiet balls. He said for three years there have been suggestions to play with quiet balls, but there has been zero compliance. He explained that a quiet ball does not change the game except for pickleball players saying it makes the game less enjoyable. He said the park district should do whatever it takes to make a quiet ball policy and not make light suggestions.

B. Mr. John Gerding stated that the neighbor's objection to the courts' noise has escalated to obstinance, annoyance, and verbally aggressive and bullying behavior to some female players. He said this has consumed enormous amounts of time, energy and resources of the park district and village via relentless calls, emails, and repetitive demands at monthly meetings. He said it has been determined that there are no Lisle rules or laws being broken and specifically referenced the noise ordinance. Yet, he said the park district has gone out of its way to try to appease the neighbor with one concession after another, and he gave multiple examples. He said he lives only a few blocks away from the Abbeywood Park courts and drives by them almost daily and said he is amazed at the decrease in cars and players at the park. He said that was the intent and it has been achieved beyond expectations, yet the neighbors continue to want more. He referenced a

specific time when Mr. Matulyauskas was seen playing on the courts with others using the same "noisy" equipment others use and asked if that was hypocritical. He said the neighbors are intent on turning the courts back to tennis and continue to make repeated demands over and over with the same complaints. He said the park and village board have done everything to appease the concerns of the neighbors. He said it is time to back away and turn your attention to the community as a whole.

C. Mr. Saket Bhatnagar spoke in support of Mr. Matulyauskas, stating that he lives near Abbeywood Park and is affected by the noise from the courts as well. He said he wants to make it clear that he shares Vitas' frustrations. He said he does not take an activist approach, but that he is equally impacted by the noise from the park. Mr. Bhatnagar shared his belief that the needs of the few cannot be ignored simply because there is a larger group standing in opposition. He also stated that the consistency of their complaints is due to feeling a lack of any progress being made to solve the issue. Mr. Bhatnagar said the number of players has gone down, and he thanked the board for that. He said however, it only takes one pop of the sound to awaken after a long night of work. He said he wants everyone to know this is a health issue and it only affects people who live closest to the park. He referenced Valley Forge Park and the park district's posting of a "no pickleball" sign. He asked if we could create an ordinance that says you have to use a quiet pickleball, and that would be a positive step. He said he is not against pickleball and acknowledged he has played, but he loves pickleball like he loves other racquet sports.

D. Ms. Margarita Matulyauskas turned and questioned Mr. John Gerding's opinions as a doctor, at which time President Altpeter stated public comment is to address the board, not the public. Ms. Matulyauskas explained how the noise affects the human body, that it doesn't affect the body right away, that it happens over time. She explained specific health issues she has suffered, saying the main reason is stress from the pickleball noise. She said Vitas can demonstrate what the noise is in reality, at which time Mr. Matulyauskas stepped forward and placed an instrument on the table in front of President Altpeter. President Altpeter objected, and Mr. Matulyauskas removed it and tried setting the device in front of Director Garvy, at which time Director Garvy said Mr. Matulyauskas is out of line with this conduct and he removed the device and returned to his seat in the audience. Mrs. Matulyauskas said playing with a foam ball does not result in players being less active, moving less or learning less but it will have a positive impact on the neighbors. She said the device Vitas had would have shown the noise exceeds 100 decibels. She referenced articles that report the harm noise has on neighbors, and said their house is the closest.

V. APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

Commissioner Wessel moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Pereira seconded the motion.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Wessel, Pereira, Altpeter, Nadeau, Tapella

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Nadeau moved to approve Consent Agenda items A through C including the voucher list in the amount of \$515,234.91. Vice President Tapella seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nadeau, Tapella, Altpeter, Pereira, Wessel

Nays: None

Absent: None
Motion Passed.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

None

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Abbeywood Park Pickleball Courts – discussion and consensus

President Altpeter provided a summary of previous discussions regarding signage recommending but not requiring the use of “quiet” paddles and balls at the Abbeywood Park court, as well as staff efforts to create the signs and supplemental online material. Commissioner Nadeau commented that she was pleased with both the design of the signs and the informational website. Commissioner Wessel briefly discussed his thoughts on why the verbiage cannot be stronger than it currently is and said we cannot make a rule that we do not intend to enforce.

President Altpeter expressed concern that this is yet another thing the park district has researched and the board has discussed, and already they received emails that it will not be acceptable. She also reported an email from someone who was unable to attend the meeting, stating that they have been harassed on the pickleball courts. She said she fears new signage might encourage more bullying at the courts.

Vice President Tapella shared that she had met with three residents local to Abbeywood Park at the courts and that the meeting was both cordial and constructive. She said her opinion has not changed since last month which is to come up with signage that doesn't allude to policy that doesn't exist or contain any threats or negative language. She said they discussed the size of signage, placement and visibility of any signs that would be posted and said putting signage where the pickleball courts and players are as opposed to by the gate, where everyone just walks right by without reading it. Vice President Tapella mentioned that she thought the proposed signage was a good first draft, but she has some ideas to improve the verbiage that she will share with staff at another time. She said the last point that she and the neighbors discussed was permitting residents, at their own expense but with staff approval, to place quiet equipment in the court for public use.

President Altpeter asked the Board to confirm that updated signage would be the final effort by the Park Board to address the situation as this issue has taken considerable resources and staff time. All of the commissioners agreed that further steps would not be considered. Director Garvy briefly outlined what the next steps for creating and finalizing the new signs would be.

The Board briefly discussed and agreed that the sale of “quiet” pickleballs at the Recreation Center was not something that would be done going forward. The Park Board agreed to consider allowing residents to leave a container of “quiet” balls on the court for public use, but any signage that they may wish to put up for the purpose of explaining the use of the equipment must be approved by the Park District.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None

X. STAFF REPORTS

A. Teen Takeover Emergency Response Plan

Director Garvy thanked staff for their quick response to prepare a response plan in case such an event was to occur within the Lisle Park District. Vice President Tapella also expressed how impressed she was in how quickly staff worked to develop a plan.

B. Department Updates

None

XI. SEASPAR REPORTS

None

XII. OFFICER REPORTS

A. President Altpeter, Commissioner

President Altpeter shared that she attended the retirement party for Kathy Morava (SEASPAR) at River Bend Golf Club. She stated that it was nice to see the facility in use again. Also, she attended two of the Summer Entertainment Series concerts and was pleased to see the number of residents that attended. President Altpeter also expressed that she was happy to have been able to visit Camp Summer Quest when Senator Ellman visited.

President Altpeter offered thanks to staff for all the work that they have been doing, especially regarding the numerous special events that occurred in the early weeks of July.

B. Treasurer – Financial Reports ending June 30, 2025.

Superintendent Silver said the reports are submitted and confirmed that all District funds are either FDIC or fully collateralized. Superintendent Silver reported that the Recreation Fund is doing better than it was at the same time last year, and the Enterprise Fund is also doing well despite a loss of income from no longer leasing the restaurant space.

Commissioner Pereira asked about how the food options were going to which Superintendent Silver expressed that the intent is more to provide a service and have options available to patrons of the golf course once they have finished their round than to consider it as a money-making venture. Commissioner Pereira asked if the vendor is satisfied with the arrangement to which Superintendent Silver responded in the affirmative.

Commissioner Wessel asked if portion sizes had been adjusted to meet with demand. Superintendent Pratscher stated that this is still a work in progress, however, the Park District has been able to partner with the West Suburban Community Pantry to donate unused food items. Demand for items will continue to be monitored so that adjustments to offerings can be made as needed.

Lastly, Commissioner Silver reported that the Park District did purchase the Winfield bond for 90 days at 5%.

C. Commissioners' Reports

None

XIII. ADJOURN OPEN MEETING

Commissioner Wessel moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Tapella seconded the motion.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: Wessel, Tapella, Altpeter, Nadeau, Pereira

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.