

**KINGSBURY PARK DISTRICT  
 BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
 Monday, June 10, 2024  
 Kingsbury Park District Office  
 630 East City Rt. 40  
 GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS**

The regular Board Meeting of the Kingsbury Park District was called to order by President Barb Smith at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

<i>Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Arrival Time if Present after Roll Call</i>
Barb Smith	X		
William Schneck	X		
Joellen Vohlken	X		
Lynn Ulmer	X		
Greg Sanders		X	Entered at 6:01pm Exited at 6:54pm

Others Present

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>
Jerry Sauerwein	Director of KPD
Carrie Dunn	Recording Secretary
Carol River	Greenville Citizen
Tom Theiss	Greenville Citizen
Mark Sargis	Greenville Pickleball Club
Lynn Carlson	Greenville Pickleball Club
Frank Joy	Greenville Pickleball Club
Nancy Joy	Greenville Pickleball Club
Jeff Leidel	WGEL



## Citizen Input:

Greenville citizen, Tom Theiss, addressed the board with regards to the current building situation. He read that the lease is coming due and would increase about \$20,000 per year. He questioned why the District did not build office space in the maintenance shed. He also commented on the land the District owns on Route 40 and that it made sense to do something with it whether it be sell it or use it. Does not make sense to sit there and the District pay taxes on it.

Greenville citizen Carol River also spoke and stated ditto to what Theiss said.

Board President Smith spoke to the citizens on the maintenance shed and the limited amount of ground for the shed to be built on. There was not enough room for file cabinets, conference room, offices, etc.

Board member Ulmer has not seen the maintenance shed and would like to go through the Patriot's Park Building to see how big it is. She questioned whether all of the files could be compiled online to save space.

Commissioner Vohlken asked about the taxes on the Route 40 land. Sauerwein stated that the District pays taxes on the ground but since it is farmed the revenue from the lease is more than the taxes.

Mr. Theiss stated the concern remains the additional cost, whether or not space is being used wisely, and whether or not the District is interacting with Greenville University gymnastics program. Working with GU would free up space that currently houses the tumbling. It was brought up about using the Bradford Room to hold meetings. Theiss asked how much income the District receives from the Patriot's Park meeting room. Director Sauerwein did not want speculate but it is several thousand dollars a year.

Ulmer felt someone could compile the files to save space and someone needs to go through them because not even doctor's offices keep their files that long any more. Sauerwein advised the records kept are from the start of the park district and the District is required to keep some records.

Board member Sanders stated the board is very interested in having adequate space for the Director and his staff. He felt since there were differences of opinion on the adequacy and cost that minimum requirements be established and needs be specified such as public access, office size for staff, etc. Sanders stated the board determined that the cost on the current space was going sky high and we are not interested in re-leasing the current space. President Smith advised that the lease situation needed to be discussed in closed session.

Ulmer felt the board did not need three tables for holding the meetings and the current extra space was not needed.

Board member Vohlken questioned if Ulmer was saying to do away with programs like tumbling. GU has tumbling but it is more expensive and the District's tumbling is more affordable for the public. She reminded the board that the purpose was to serve the whole community and those programs were created to give the public opportunities. Vohlken would hate to see them go away. The meeting room is rented a lot.

Board member Schneck feels the board needs to do it's best to continue to provide the programming that the community is accustomed to receiving. The District needs a facility that takes care of the District's needs and has room for future growth. The community needs a space for indoor recreation.

A motion was made by	Joellen Vohlken
And seconded by	William Schneck

to: ***Approve the Minutes of the Rescheduled Board Meeting dated May 14, 2024.***

Vote:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X				Motion	
Greg Sanders	X				Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	5	-	-	-	X	-

A motion was made by	Joellen Vohlken
And seconded by	William Schneck

to: ***Approve the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting dated May 14, 2024.***

Vote:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X				Motion	
Greg Sanders	X				Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	5	-	-	-	X	-

A motion was made by	William Schneck
And seconded by	Joellen Vohlken

to: ***Approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting dated June 3, 2024.***

Vote:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X				Motion	
Greg Sanders	X				Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	5	-	-	-	X	-

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A motion was made by	
And seconded by	

to: *Approve the Minutes of the Closed Session dated June 3, 2024.*

Vote:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		
Barb Smith						
William Schneck						
Joellen Vohlken						
Lynn Ulmer					Motion	
Greg Sanders					Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>						

\*\*Sanders had some changes he wanted on the minutes so it was tabled to be discussed in closed session.

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A motion was made by	William Schneck
And seconded by	Joellen Vohlken

to: *Approve the Warrant #628, and unpaid bills dated June 10, 2024.*

Vote:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Abstain</i>		
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X				Motion	
Greg Sanders	X				Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	5	-	-	-	X	-

Additional checks cut after the warrant -- \$240 to ACS-Andreas Consulting for COE Joint 404 for Jaycee Park Drainage; \$500 to Amy Doll for the Lifeguard Instruction; \$100 to Caleb Piper for Assistant Lifeguard Instruction.

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Directors Report:

Director Sauerwein spoke on:

**Dog park Equipment**

Curry put together some quotes and information about the equipment for the dog park. Board members need to review the information and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **Pickleball**

Christ Brothers are tentatively scheduled to start excavating the courts the week of June 17<sup>th</sup> pending any changes in the weather forecast. The District may be in a position to work on the dog park in July. Engineers will have to come out after AWC is done to set the elevation and location of lights. Sauerwein will also have them map out the exact location of the dog park and the sidewalks. Sauerwein reported that All Weather Courts received a call from a female that identified herself as Bond County Tax Payer. The caller was demanding information about Mark Sargis's involvement in the Districts pickleball courts. AWC informed the caller that if they wanted information about the courts she needed to call the Park District. The caller hung up. The caller called back and the call was dropped. The third time the caller called it was a different person's voice.

## **Maintenance Shed**

Millenium Construction has been on site to install the front door keypad lock. The sub-contractor for small garage doors has partially installed the weather stripping. The mezzanine rail is being modified. The remaining balance on the project is \$28,844.80.

## **Jaycee Drainage Creek**

We have received the Corps of Engineers permit and it has been forwarded it to the City of Greenville. It will need to be dry for the project to proceed.

## **Recreation**

Ball season has started and schedules are available on our website. The board received an email that came in on June 10<sup>th</sup> regarding an issue between Pocahontas and Mulberry Grove Pony boys. Curry and Sauerwein are working with the coordinators to get the issue resolved.

## **Cash Receipts**

The Park District's previous auditor suggested that a sign be placed in the office to call a member of the Board if they do not receive a receipt for cash. Instead of a Board number on the sign the Board elected to have the public call the Park District Attorney's office. Until new legal counsel is hired, the Board will need to decide who the contact will be for the public to call if they do not receive a receipt for cash payments.

## **Financial Statements**

April financial statement was provided in the packets and Dunn is still working on the May statement.

## **Audit**

Sauerwein has received a draft copy of the 2023 Audit and is currently reviewing the document. There was some miscommunication with the Auditor on preparing the Treasures Report. Sauerwein will put together the information that is not being done by the Auditor.

## **New Legal Counsel**

Sauerwein has started contacting law firms that would be interested in representing the District.

## **Public Access Counselor Complaint from Sargis**

Sargis copied all the Board members on the email he sent concerning his complaint to the Public Access Counselor complaint. Sauerwein has not received the response from the Public Access Counselor for the complaint that Sargis filed. Sauerwein noted that the letter that Sargis filed with his PAC complaint was not signed. He noted that the only official communication Sargis received was the signed copy of the letter. This meant that the letter Sargis filed was a draft copy that he received from a Board Member.

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New Business:

Commissioner Sander has asked to have a discussion about the pickleball courts on the agenda. His specific request is;

Discussing the possibility of forming a KPD Board subcommittee to work with the Greenville Pickleball Club (an active, legally registered non-profit organization) on various considerations relative to the new pickleball courts being constructed, which might include:

a) a way to honor the Lynn Carlson Sr family with respect to the pickleball courts (naming the courts, or naming a bench or something, or having the family involved in a ground-breaking event, or naming a tournament for Lynn, etc., there are different options),

b) usage guidelines and so forth for the pickleball courts

c) how the KPD Board and pickleball can work collaboratively on optimizing the use of the courts for the general public.

Sanders spoke on the pickleball group being started by Lynn Carlson Sr years ago. The non-for-profit club could work with the District on bringing tournaments in, scheduling, lessons, etc. Sanders suggested a subcommittee be formed with a few board members and a few members of the pickleball club. KPD would be in charge of the subcommittee and alleviate any public concerns on the KPD being oppositional to any pickleball players in the pickleball club. President Smith stated that it was premature to form a subcommittee until after the courts are finished and in use. Sauerwein also suggested that we get the courts done and then proceed making decisions. Sauerwein discussed the paddle up holder that could be used for knowing who was next up on the courts. Sanders discussed a groundbreaking ceremony and to paying tribute to and honor the Carlson family that brought pickleball to the community.

Schneck asked Sauerwein if he had any policies in mind for the courts. Sauerwein spoke on lessons, tournaments, groundbreaking ceremony, and ribbon cutting. Sauerwein stated that he favored a ribbon cutting what all of the projects are completed

Vohlken asked the pickleball members present how the club operates. Sargis stated the club plays every day from 8:30-10:30 except Sunday. Sargis welcomed the board to join them at any time. Some advanced players play typically two nights a week. The club is nomadic and has several different places where they play. Sargis feels it is not too early to start planning and to have a plan in place when the courts are open. Sauerwein commented that having a system for the general public to use is being proactive. The board has not received anything from the pickleball club asking for anything. Statements previously made gave indication that the pickleball club was asking for a dedicated evening for play. If that is the request from the club the Board would like the club to present their requests to the Board for consideration. This proposal will open up the dialogue and discussion for the club use of the courts and ideas for public use.

Sargis commented on the PAC complaint and stated that he received the unsigned letter from Commissioner Sanders.

Commissioner Ulmer read a letter to Jeff Leidel of WGEL regarding her official retraction of her signature on the Mark Sargis letter. She was under the impression that the letter was to be sent to Sargis privately. The letter was made public and it could potentially cause defamation of

character. She feels she was misled and would not have signed the letter so she is removing her signature. She does not agree with it.

Lynn Carlson spoke on the previous discussion by Sanders on honoring his dad. Carlson stated that the Carlson family does not feel this was something they need or deserve. Carlson does support a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the community.

Community members exited the meeting at 7:15 pm.

A motion was made by	William Schneck
And seconded by	Joellen Vohlken

***to: Enter Closed Session for personnel contract/decisions/dismissal Section 2(C)(1); Probable or Pending Litigation, Section 2(c)(11); Approval and review of closed session minutes 2(c)(21); Lease or purchase of real property for District Use 2(C)(5); of the Illinois Open Meetings Act ILCS 120 at 7:18 pm.***

Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain	Motion	
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X					
Greg Sanders			X		Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	4	-	1	-	X	-

A motion was made by	Joellen Vohlken
And seconded by	Lynn Ulmer

***to: Exit Closed Session for personnel decisions/dismissal Section 2(C)(1); Probable or Pending Litigation, Section 2(c)(11); Approval and review of closed session minutes 2(c)(21); Lease or purchase of real property for District Use 2(C)(5); of the Illinois Open Meetings Act ILCS 120 at 7:51 pm.***

Vote:

Name	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain	Motion	
Barb Smith	X					
William Schneck	X					
Joellen Vohlken	X					
Lynn Ulmer	X					
Greg Sanders			X		Approved	Not Approved
<i>Total</i>	4	-	1	-	X	-

A motion was made by	William Schneck
And seconded by	Joellen Vohlken

to: *Adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting at 7:52 pm.*

All present signified with Aye.