

**Burr Ridge Park District
Regular Meeting
June 12, 2023**

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Burr Ridge Park District was called to order at the Burr Ridge Community Center at 6:31 pm by President Quigley.

Present: Caplis, Lawrence, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley
Absent: None
Also present: Jim Pacanowski, Director
Jamie Janusz, Superintendent of Finance
Members of the Public

Approve June 12, 2023 Agenda

Item VIIB New Business, Discuss McCullough Park Aquatic Weed Issue, was moved to after Item IIB Approve May 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, and Item VIB, Unfinished Business, Discuss Tennis Court Cracks at Woods and Stevens Parks was moved to after VIIB, and Item VIA Unfinished Business, Discuss Pickle Ball Court Line at Stevens and Woods Parks was moved to after Item VIB in order to accommodate members of the public in attendance.

Approve May 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Caplis moved, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote to Approve the May 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Caplis, Lawrence, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: Malloy

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss McCullough Park Aquatic Weed Issue

McCullough Park weed issue was discussed last year in Open Forum after a commitment to a service contract was made and the season of herbicide application was successful. A decision was made by the Board at that time to continue monitoring the situation. The Board has been provided a current update and has looked at the pond prior to this evening's meeting.

Quigley added that the Board discussed a best course of action last summer. Caplis added that since the algae has returned he is in favor of treating the pond on an annual basis and asked for verification that the development near the west end of the bridge is property of Fieldstone.

Pacanowski responded that the Fieldstone HOA's are on either side of the waterway – west and east.

Caplis stated that the algae issue is on both sides of the pond. The park district owned side and the Fieldstone owned side. In addition, discussion was held last year regarding potentially sharing the cost of treating the pond.

Pacanowski stated that discussion was already held with the biochemist company regarding herbicide application which can be made as early as next week. Cost last year was approximately \$6,000, however, that cost may be reduced slightly as the algae is being treated earlier than it was last year and may require less treatment. Oxygen levels will need to be tested prior to application as low oxygen levels will delay herbicide application. Herbicide applications, as the weeds are killed, reduce oxygen in the water. If oxygen levels are already too low, the herbicide application will reduce the level too much to sustain fish life and will result in a fish kill.

Malloy stated that the pond looks slightly better today but that is most likely due to cold weather and would agree to treat the pond and put it on a maintenance schedule.

Paulius agreed.

Pacanowski will move forward with contracting with the herbicide contract and bring it back to the Board only if there are issues with contracting.

President Quigley then opened the meeting to the public for questions.

Jim Baird, 1104 Kenmare stated that he was previously a member of the Board of the Fieldstone HOA at the time the contract was made between Walsh Higgins and the Park District and at that time Walsh Higgins stated that the pond would be owned and maintained by the Burr Ridge Park District. In addition it was stated the park district would be installing a bridge and McCullough Park. On the Burr Ridge Park District website, the plot shows that the park district owns ½ of the pond on the east side and an unidentified owner owns the west side. Mr. Baird stated it is his impression that Fieldstone is and never was the owner of the pond.

Caplis stated that Fieldstone is the owner of the west side. The Burr Ridge Park District is the owner of the East Side.

Pacanowski provided a boundary map showing the boundaries of the pond that is owned by the Burr Ridge Park District. That portion is what is titled and deeded as part of the development and donation to the park district. The bridge and McCullough Park was installed and owned by the Burr Ridge Park District. In addition, Pacanowski stated that this issue was raised last year, was researched again, and it is not true that the Burr Ridge Park District owns all of the waterways. The boundary map, title, and deeds are official documents.

Mr. Baird stated that the survey was not available when homeowners purchased their homes.

Lawrence stated that algae was also not an issue when most homes were built and purchased. So, there is something that has changed and this is now the new normal for the pond at McCullough.

Gil Stenhome, 407 Kenmare Dr., stated that last summer when there was a fish kill he was tasked with researching possible reasons why. One possible reason was that there were too many chemicals put into the pond which killed the fish and then the algae was not being eaten by the fish. Can this be discussed tonight?

Pacanowski responded that the fish kill occurred before the park district put in any herbicide application. That process was going on upstream by different properties outside of the park district and was not performed by the park district. It can be one of the factors of the fish kill.

Mr. Stenholm asked if the park district wanted to find out who put the chemicals in. Pacanowski stated that at the time there was communication with both Fieldstone HOA's and that information was not forthcoming. It is possible that there were companies under the HOA's hire that applied the chemical but that would be speculation. Mr. Stenholm stated that the park district is kicking the bucket.

Pacanowski responded that this is not the case..

Mr. Stenholm stated that if someone cut trees down on park district property the park district would find out who cut them down. The fish kill at the pond should have made the park district look for other possible contractors that could have applied the chemicals.

Pacanowski responded that the research was not taken to that degree, however, the County ran tests and in addition, weather could have played a role in the fish kill as well.

Lawrence added that there would not be a way to track a possible homeowner if they were the culprit.

Janet Grisemer, 404 Kenmare Dr. stated that the upper ponds have a bubbler which keeps the pond from growing algae. Are there any plans to put a bubbler in this pond.

Malloy stated that her home is on a pond in Burr Ridge Club with a 24/7 aerator and there is still algae even after a rain.

Caplis added that aerators typically do not work for algae prevention.

Pacanowski stated that a key contributor of aerator in treating a pond that has algae is to add oxygen to the water to prevent a fish kill when herbicide is applied. It is difficult to get aeration in water that is only 3-4 feet deep. If there is interest in aeration, dredging is needed which is costly. In this situation, the problem is not oxygen, it is algae. The herbicide application has been shown to work. The goal is not to aerate, it is to kill the algae. Aeration would cost tens of thousands of dollars as opposed to approximately \$6,000 for the herbicide application. If the Board wishes to pursue other options, it would be recommended to hire a

water scientist prior to purchasing aerators and dredging. This pond is not actually a pond but a drainage ditch.

A resident stated that the pond near County Line Road is marshy. Is there any way to have that area tailored.

Pacanowski stated that if that is something that is being looked at it would have to be discussed with the County prior.

The Fieldstone resident asked if it could be placed on the Agenda.

Pacanowski stated that if the Board is interested, after the application of the herbicide, Pacanowski can look at the shoreline and formulate a plan and reach out to authorities at County and the Village and bring it up in a couple months if applicable.

Del Condon, 502 Kenmare Drive, asked if aquatic plants that oxygenate water can be looked into.

Jeff Murphy, 105 Kenmare stated that it is not just Fieldstone Club properties that contribute to the pond algae problem, but dozens of waterways upriver also contribute to the algae issue.

Mehrabd Abbassian, 6968 Fieldstone Dr., stated that stagnant water is an issue of the pond. The water has much less algae when it moves. It is very stagnant.

Caplis responded that there is currently a drought and the water flow is not there.

Pacanowski added that rain was down 4" from a normal May this year.

Barb Stenhome, 407 Kenmare stated that the drought is contributing to the stagnant water issue, however the water has not been flowing for the last 2 to 3 years. Is it possible silt is playing a role.

Pacanowski responded that water is moving into the spillway.

Ms. Stenhome stated there is movement, but not much.

Mr. Stenhome asked if a pond is even needed. If it is actually a drainage, can it be turned into a stream or something different.

Caplis stated that it is a ditch that is slightly deeper in the middle.

Pacanowski stated that the park district was not involved in the original design of the water retention at the location or in the stormwater planning area. The park district received the parcel of property which was made to comply with code at the time. In addition, for any changes to be made to the pond, it would need to go through many agencies as it would impact regional stormwater retention.

Clara Munoz, 6962 Fieldstone Drive stated that there used to be a fountain in the middle of the pond.

Caplis stated that the aerator broke but it was not functional and not replaced.

Pacanowski added that the aerator was off more than it was on because it was always broken due to the depth of the pond. In addition, the aerator will not cure the current algae issue of the pond.

A Fieldstone resident asked if the Corp of Engineers needs to approve what the park district does to the pond.

Pacanowski stated that it would not in regards to herbicide application, but for aeration it would. The County would need to approve it as well and the process would be a multi-year approval process.

A Fieldstone resident asked if the pond could be filled instead of dredging.

Pacanowski stated that filling in the pond was brought up as a remedy for County Line Estates and was not met with enthusiasm. In addition, McCullough Pond would be a major project and there are many people expressing that they like the aesthetics of the pond.

A Fieldstone resident asked if it is possible for the park district to make a plan and work towards a more permanent solution?

Pacanowski responded that the Board has a plan in place to chemically treat the pond immediately to return it to an algae free condition and place it on a maintenance plan.

George Hoekstra 1002 Kenmare Dr. stated that there is erosion damage on the weir between the 2 ponds that is cause for concern.

Pacanowski stated that this is not the property of the park district or the Village of Burr Ridge. This is the property of the HOA.

Mr. Hoekstra responded that the homeowner was told it is the property of the park district.

Pacanowski responded that this is not true.

Caplis asked that homeowners approach their HOA as it will only help if there is coordination of efforts for the HOA to treat the pond that is owned by Fieldstone along with efforts by the park district.

Pacanowski added that after the park district treats the pond area owned by the park district there will be a difference between the two sides of the treated side by the park district and the untreated side of the Fieldstone property of the pond.

Mr. Baird asked if the HOA were to contribute to the cost of the herbicide treatment effort could the treatment go all the way to the weir.

Pacanowski asked that the HOA reach out to him to coordinate efforts as pricing to the HOA would be at a savings as the majority of the cost would be to the park district.

A Fieldstone resident stated that communication between the Burr Ridge Park District and the residents on both sides of the waterway is essential. A Commission for pond communication should be created to look at the water from all angles.

Malloy responded that homeowners should approach their HOA's at their next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss Tennis Court Cracks at Woods and Stevens Parks

Pacanowski stated that the crack repair at Woods Pool will be completed and painted. Stevens Park will be addressed soon. The Armor Crack fill will be going out to bid as an alternate at Harvester Park. Woods Park is a good candidate for this type of fill; however, Stevens Park is not a candidate for this type of fill.

Paulius asked how long the Armor Crack fill should last.
Pacanowski responded approximately 5-7 years.
Caplis stated that the literature states 15 years.
Pacanowski responded that roofs claim 40 year lifetime.

Paulius asked how much the cost would be to maintain the crack at Woods Pool using normal crack fill methods.
Pacanowski responded \$1200 to \$1500.

Discuss Pickle Ball Court Line at Stevens and Woods Parks

Pacanowski informed the Board that 24 letters were sent to Woods Pool surrounding families and 38 to Stevens Park families. There were 2 pro responses from Woods Pool, and 5 total responses from Stevens Park - 2 Pro responses for 2 courts, 2 Against and 1 for one court only.

Quigley asked the Board to decide on striping for Woods pool first.
Lawrence stated he would like 2 pickle ball courts striped at Woods Pool.
Caplis stated he would like 2 pickle ball courts striped at Woods Pool.
Malloy stated she would like 2 pickle ball courts striped at Woods Pool.

Pacanowski will have 2 pickle ball courts striped at Woods Pool.

Quigley then asked for discussion regarding striping 2 pickle ball courts at Stevens Park.

Paulius stated concern due to the email from a resident's concern that the children would not be allowed to play tennis at Stevens Park if pickle ball courts were to be striped.

Joe Petrich, 8700 Wedgewood stated that pickle ball players are not known to muscle anyone especially children out of the courts.

Caplis added that it is not just those concerns, but also a concern to keep the park in line with the character of the neighborhood which is currently a family type park.

Pacanowski added that there is also resident concern regarding parking.

Caplis would be okay with striping and seeing how it goes.

Mr. Petrich stated that the park district received a few emails, however there are several people who actually took the time to come to this meeting in favor of striping 2 courts.
Children will not be kicked off courts.

Malloy is in favor of striping 2 pickle ball courts at Stevens Park.

Caplis asked if there are plans in the Capital Improvement Plan for improvement at Stevens Park.

Pacanowski stated that it is not cost prohibitive to stripe courts.

Caplis asked if we will eventually go in and put in new tennis courts at Stevens Park. Pacanowski responded that there is not a quick answer as to when Stevens Park would be resurfaced, it will be a capital project priorities discussion vis a vis limited funding.

Lawrence is in favor of striping Woods but not Stevens and then see how the community is affected at Woods Pool in order to make a decision at Stevens Park.

Paulius has concerns about striping at Stevens Park.

Quigley asked if Stevens Park can be striped and see what happens.

Mr. Petrich stated he is a 30 year resident and would like to have 2 courts striped. If it becomes a problem it can be painted over.

Pacanowski stated that painting over the striping is not a good remedy.

Caplis stated that a sign can be placed not allowing pickle ball if it becomes a problem.

Lawrence stated that he would be in favor of striping 2 courts and then regulating if necessary.

Mr. Petrich stated that there is a pickle ball court at Walker Park which is in a neighborhood community area.

Caplis stated that Walker Park is on Wolf Road which is a much different environment than the quiet area of Stevens Park.

Pacanowski reflected that at the meetings last year pickle ball attendees stated that if there aren't 4 courts built, the park district shouldn't waste the park district money or time on anything less than 4 courts minimum. In addition, Harvester Park tennis courts are being resurfaced and it is quite possible they will not be striped for pickle ball as they will be brand new tennis courts.

Caplis added that because of the neighbor's close proximity at Harvester Park there will not be pickle ball courts striped after the resurfacing.

Lawrence asked how long will it take for the resurfacing at Harvester Park.

Pacanowski responded 2 to 3 weeks once construction begins.

It was unanimously decided to stripe 2 pickle ball courts at Stevens Park and regulate pickle ball if necessary.

OPEN FORUM

No Open Forum

CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further was added to the written report.

REPORTS

Director of Parks & Recreation

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski reported that Beth Marchetti of Du Page County stated that since Du Page does not have much of a Route 66 presence, it is possible that there is grant money available for the Burr Ridge Park District. There is high appreciation for the Route 66 attraction at Harvester Park with the DuPage County Board.

Superintendent of Finance

Nothing further added to the written report.

Recreation Division

Nothing further added to the written report.

Lawrence asked if a tennis coach was looked into for adult tennis programming. Pacanowski responded that there will be attempts further down the road but for the current programming brochure it was too late to get anything in place as programming was already in place.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Going to Public Bid for Harvester Park Tennis Court Resurfacing

Caplis moved to Approve Going to Public Bid for Harvester Park Tennis Court Resurfacing, seconded by Malloy and approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Caplis, Lawrence, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

Active Adult Program Update

Pacanowski informed the Board that a contract was reached with Karried Away with Carrie in order to get the residents of Burr Ridge Park District the best possible deal for senior programs that are not 3rd party trips. Residents will receive a 10% rebate and the park district will also get 5% of fees paid back.

Caplis asked how the rebate will be handled.

Pacanowski explained that a roster will be received from Carrie Navins. The park district will identify those qualifying for rebates and issue a refund. The park district will then have a quarterly check cut from Karried Away with Carrie back to the park district.

Malloy asked if residents can get credit on account as opposed to a refund check.

Pacanowski responded yes. In addition, Willowbrook Parks and Recreation intends to hire a senior programming person.

Quigley asked if Willowbrook is expecting any programming from the Burr Ridge Park District.

Pacanowski responded that Willowbrook is not in a coop with Karried Away with Carrie and the 10% rebate from the Burr Ridge Park District does not apply to Willowbrook residents.

Caplis asked if most trips will be leaving from the Burr Ridge Park District

Pacanowski responded that trips will leave from the Burr Ridge Community Center when the building is rented from Karried Away with Carrie for that purpose.

Caplis asked that the termination of the agreement between the Burr Ridge Park District and Karried Away with Carrie be changed from "at will" to a 14 day notice for both sides. If left "at will" it could be used against the park district due to the ambiguity of the language.

Pacanowski stated that flexibility for termination of the contract is beneficial for both sides.

Approve Ordinance 23-01 Budget & Appropriations FY 23-24

The public hearing for FY 23-24 Budgets and Appropriations was called to order. There being no audience the following motion was made:

Caplis moved to Approve Ordinance 23-01 Budget & Appropriations FY 23-24, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Caplis, Lawrence, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Malloy asked for verification of the Autumn Blaze bill for \$3600.

Pacanowski responded that this is for weed applications in all parks.

Caplis asked for verification of roller rental.

Pacanowski responded that this is for the dirt to grass seam on the ballfield.

Malloy asked for verification of the lights bill at Woods Pool.

Pacanowski responded that 2 lights in the wall under water went out and needed to be replaced.

Caplis asked for verification of the front door bill.

Pacanowski responded that the front doors get pulled very hard by adults after hours and puts pressure on the lock mechanism when pulled. A closed sign was put up to help alleviate unnecessary pulling of the doors.

Caplis asked for verification of the Hitchcock design for \$6,000 for the tennis court.

Pacanowski responded that this is the design which is going in the bid packet.

Paulius asked for verification of the bill for SpecialTee Shirts.

Pacanowski responded that this is for Lifeguard shirts.

Caplis asked for verification of drum stick fabrication.

Pacanowski responded that they are made of metal.

Paulius asked for verification if the pea gravel bill if for the baseball field.
Pacanowski responded that it is.

Quigley asked for verification of the annual maintenance contract for Atomic.
Pacanowski responded this is for the yearly maintenance.
Malloy asked for verification of the Harvester court light repair.
Pacanowski responded this was for a bad switch that was replaced.

Paulius moved, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote to Approve the June bills.

Ayes: Caplis, Lawrence, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

Caplis moved, seconded by Paulius and unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Stednitz
Recording Secretary

[h/jamie/board/minutes/brpd minutes June 12 2023](#)