

MINUTES
Public Hearing
Sports Complex: Ball Diamond Project
Tuesday July 23, 2019
5:30 to 6:00 P.M.
Maintenance Building
435 S. Airport Road in Sycamore, IL

President Kroeger called the Sycamore Park District (SPD) Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. Will the secretary please call the roll. Commissioners Kroeger, Schulz, and Doty were present. Commissioners Graves and Strack was absent.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Kroeger, Schulz, and Doty.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present, but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present, and will not be participating in the meeting: **Commissioner Strack and Commissioner Graves.**

Staff members present were Executive/Secretary Director Dan Gibble, Supt. of Finance Hienbuecher, Supt. Of Parks Jeff Donahoe, Supt. of Recreation Theresa Tevsh, Recording Secretary, Jeanette Freeman, and OSLAD Grant Writer Terri Gibble.

The Sycamore Park District's Engineering Firm was represented by Andrew Kustusich with Engineering Resource Associates.

Written Comment forms submitted by:
Dale Remala; 141 Center Cross Street; Sycamore

And are made a part of the record of these minutes by attachment to them in their approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Guests at the Meeting:

Andrew Kustusich with ERA (Engineering Resource Associates)
Karen Eder; 1240 Hillside Road; Sycamore
Colette Theruer; 2172 Waterbury Ln; Sycamore
Ed Kuhn; 505 E. High Street; Sycamore
Dale Remla; 141 Center Cross Street; Sycamore
Denny Lane; 330 George St.; Sycamore
Scott Zack and Mark Busch from the Media
Mark Bushnell, City of Sycamore

**Summary Review of the Key Aspects of the Ball Diamond Project Plan: John Mayer,
Engineer for Engineering Resource Associates (ERA)**

President Kroeger opened the meeting introducing Director Gibble along with Andrew Kustusich from ERA. Gibble put the project in context of the overall ACTION 2020 plan. He indicated that this plan has been in evolution for about 4 years, reviewed on at least three occasions with key user groups like Sycamore Girls Softball (SGS) and Sycamore Youth Baseball (SYB). During the adoption process of ACTION 2020, the district held over 70 meetings and public hearings that included the plans for the ball diamond expansion. These latest hearings on July 9 and 23, 2019 are to finalize the plan, so as to be prepared for submitting a grant application to IDNR, assure that the park neighbors and citizens of the community can have two final opportunities to comment on the site plan, and have changes made to meet their wishes, where possible. Gibble than introduced Andrew Kustusich from ERA who went through the latest plan based upon input from the July 9, 2019 Public Hearing.

After highlighting the details, Gibble told the attendees that staff, board and engineers would welcome questions and comments, and that they could address them from their seat or they could come up closer to the drawings and ask anyone they wished to about their ideas, concerns, suggestions, or issues.

Specific questions included:

- Would the fields be lit.
- Why the sixth field would be not included at this time.
- More shading with trees of the fields.
- Backstop height and netting.
- Saving the golf driving range.
- Appreciation for taking the Hillside Neighbors concerns into consideration.

Drew, Gibble and the Board provided responses to these concerns:

- The fields would not be lit.
- Sixth field needs some tweaking and has some funding issues that need to be worked out, and may include interscholastic use which is not allowed with OSLAD, so that needs to be cleared up. Therefore it will not be included in the OSLAD Grant.
- Trees will be provided in the parking area and along the property line as shown.
- Backstop height will be expanded some, but no netting.
- ERA will work to find ways to save, if possible, the driving range.

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After all questions were addressed, President Kroeger asked if there were final questions. Hearing none, Gibble said the Board, Staff and Engineers would take one on one questions and comments for 10 minutes, and people could leave written notes/comments.

Adjourn

Motion

The Board adjourned the Special Meeting Hearing Session at 6:12pm on a motion made by Commissioner Schulz. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Gibble
Secretary
Sycamore Park District

Comment Form
SYCAMORE PARK DISTRICT
Sports Complex: Ball Diamond Project

Public Hearing
Tuesday July 23, 2019
5:30 to 6:00pm
SPD Maintenance Shop; 435 Airport Road

Should you wish to make your comments in writing, please use this form to make those comments.

Print Name: Dale Remala

Print Address: 141 Center Cross St.

Your Comments:

I have heard nothing of a Golf practice area in the new area.