



Commissioner Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Present: Commissioners Cathy Cagle, Micheal Jacobson, Sarah Michehl, Executive Director Jason Herbster, Attorney Scott Puman, Recording Secretary, Anne Sandor, Committee Member John Pletz

Absent: Commissioners Jason Heisler, Karen Johnson, Linda Matthias, Committee Member Debbie Gallagher

Matters from the Public: None.

Commissioner Anderson explained that the duties of the Decennial Committee is to study government's unit statutes, ordinances, park district codes, and intergovernmental agreements. The Committee will conduct three public meetings and prepare a report for the County with recommendations of increased accountability and efficiency. The IAPD has provided a template for the Park District's report. He stated that the District could prepare a report without using this template.

John Pletz noted he has been in contact with all of the townships. He stated that the Algonquin Township may have space for the District to utilize and that the other townships and the YMCA may also have something to offer the Park District.

Mr. Pletz suggested the District use the IAPD format and add an executive summary with bullet points. He asked if the district had intergovernmental agreements. Herbster noted the District has IGA's with the Crystal Lake School Districts and the City of Crystal Lake. Mr. Pletz's additional suggestions included working with the State Legislators to keep costs down on background checks, and with the newspaper on publication costs. Mr. Pletz said he did have a list of suggestions for the board to consider but did not bring it to the meeting. Commissioner Anderson requested that John Pletz forward his suggestions to staff.

Commissioner Cagle suggested the use of townships and other agencies for emergency shelters.

Commissioner Anderson asked if the Park District should be consolidating with other agencies, and if it would be more efficient to consolidate with the Village or Township. Commissioner Cagle suggested contacting the Village of Lakewood and the townships in regard to programming space. Commissioner Anderson questioned how this would provide more efficiency. Commissioner Cagle answered that the use of other agency's space could provide more activities and programs for the community without building a center.

Executive Director Herbster suggested there may be space to utilize at the township garages for Park Maintenance use. Attorney Puma noted there is additional open space at the Algonquin Township. The Park Board was interested in general agreements and shared space.

Commissioner Anderson questioned consolidating with the Villages and Cities and dissolving the Park District. Executive Director Jason Herbster noted that it is common where the Village and City have recreation departments.

Commissioner Anderson noted that is possible to streamline the administration for all agencies. Executive Director Herbster added that there are potentially more budget cuts to a Recreation Department and Natural Resources if they are part of a City or Village.

Commissioner Michehl stated that it is important to address the consolidation, but we all do realize the importance of a Park District. Executive Director Herbster noted that Park District system in Illinois is unique. Commssioner Jacobson noted a possibility of consolidating the Park Police with the City Police. Executive Director Herbster noted that if the Park Police Department was disbanded, the City would consider the Park District as another customer. The Committee discussed consolidating with the conservation district.

Commissioner Michehl requested addressing the consolidation and the Board express there thoughts at the next meeting.

A draft report using the IAPD template will be prepared and reviewed at the next Decennial Committee meeting scheduled on February 1, 2024, at 5:30pm

Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
President Secretary