

Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Special Meeting
December 20, 2011 – 5:15 p.m.
 Fischer Farm Museum
 16W680 Old Grand Avenue
 Bensenville, Il 60106

I. Call the Meeting to Order.

President Wassinger called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

A. Roll Call.

At 5:20 p.m. roll call was taken:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Anderson	X	
Crowe	X	
Earley		X
Johnson	X	
Wassinger	X	

Also present: Steve Cherveney, Executive Director; Mark Rhodes, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Dean Hoskin, Superintendent of Recreation; Jonathan Sebastian, Museum Curator; Roberta Neumayer, Secretary.

Visitors present: Janis Arquette; Patty Johnson.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of the Agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the agenda.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Anderson	X	
Crowe	X	
Earley	absent	
Johnson	X	
Wassinger	X	

III. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Janis Arquette asked Commissioners and staff to distribute Quilt Show fliers.

IV. Action Items

a. Fischer Farm Vision and Planning Direction

President Wassinger addressed the Commissioners on an alternative revenue source – Greenhouse project at Fischer Farm. He expressed that a greenhouse would be unique to build and generate revenue plus net for improvements and programming. He envisions that it would be multi-purpose with an interpretive/learning center. We would not compete with stores but grow/sell native plants to the area – long rooted systems. He estimates the cost would be

\$20-\$80 a square foot. We currently do not own title to the property but lease from the Forest Preserve. He would like us to pursue a simple title ship that would revert back to Forest Preserve if we no longer want the property. He also would like us to make a commitment to the Forest Preserve to help in restoration of the 123 acre woodland. Discussion continued on events/activities at the Farm. Resident Patty Johnson commented that now that we have a historical person people will come but believes we should do more period accurate events. Commissioner Crowe does not want to sell pumpkins or Christmas trees there. Commissioner Johnson has issues with the total value; what it does to historical value of Farm; staffing and questions if you “build it they will come.” President Wassinger asked Board if they think the idea should be explored. Commissioner Crowe said she had no problem looking at it.

b. FY2012-13 Capital Projects Planning Direction

Director Cherveney asked the Board for a list of capital projects for inclusion in the FY12-13 budget. He asked that they submit their lists via email or at the next Board meeting.

Director Cherveney also reported that the District closed on the Hubbard property and we are now the official owners. The Klein property will probably close the first of the year. There was discussion on a meeting with the City of Wood Dale on our intentions with the properties.

Commissioner Anderson asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Commissioner Earley’s father.

V. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Crowe to adjourn the Special Meeting of Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 5:56 p.m. After a voice vote, all ayes, President Wassinger declared the meeting adjourned.

Approved: _____

President – John Wassinger

Secretary – Richard Johnson