

Wheeling
Park
District

Book 3

NEWS CLIP

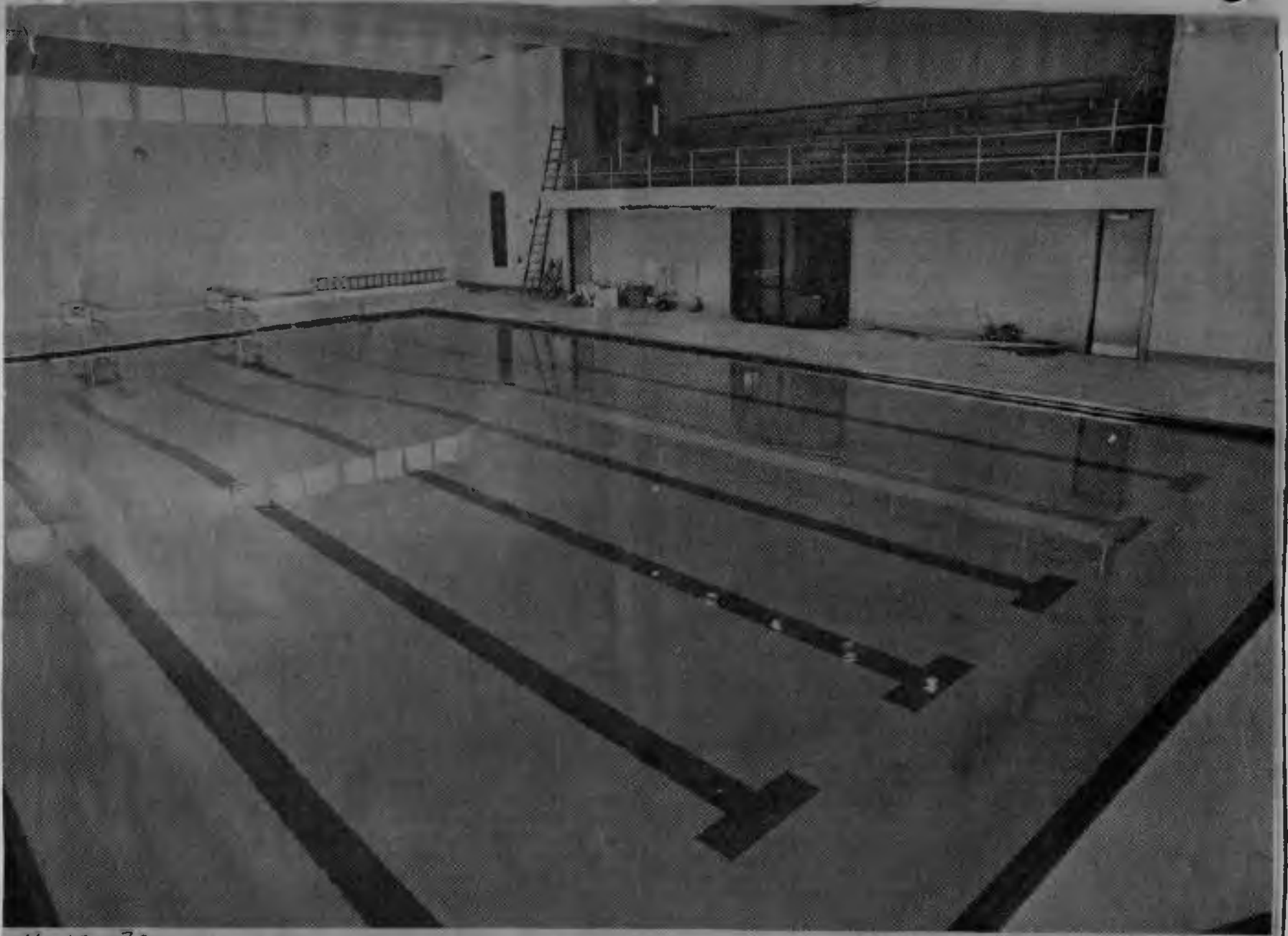
1970-1973



DEDICATION CEREMONIES at the new Wheeling Park District indoor swimming pool at 2 p.m. Sunday will feature a water show, speeches by school

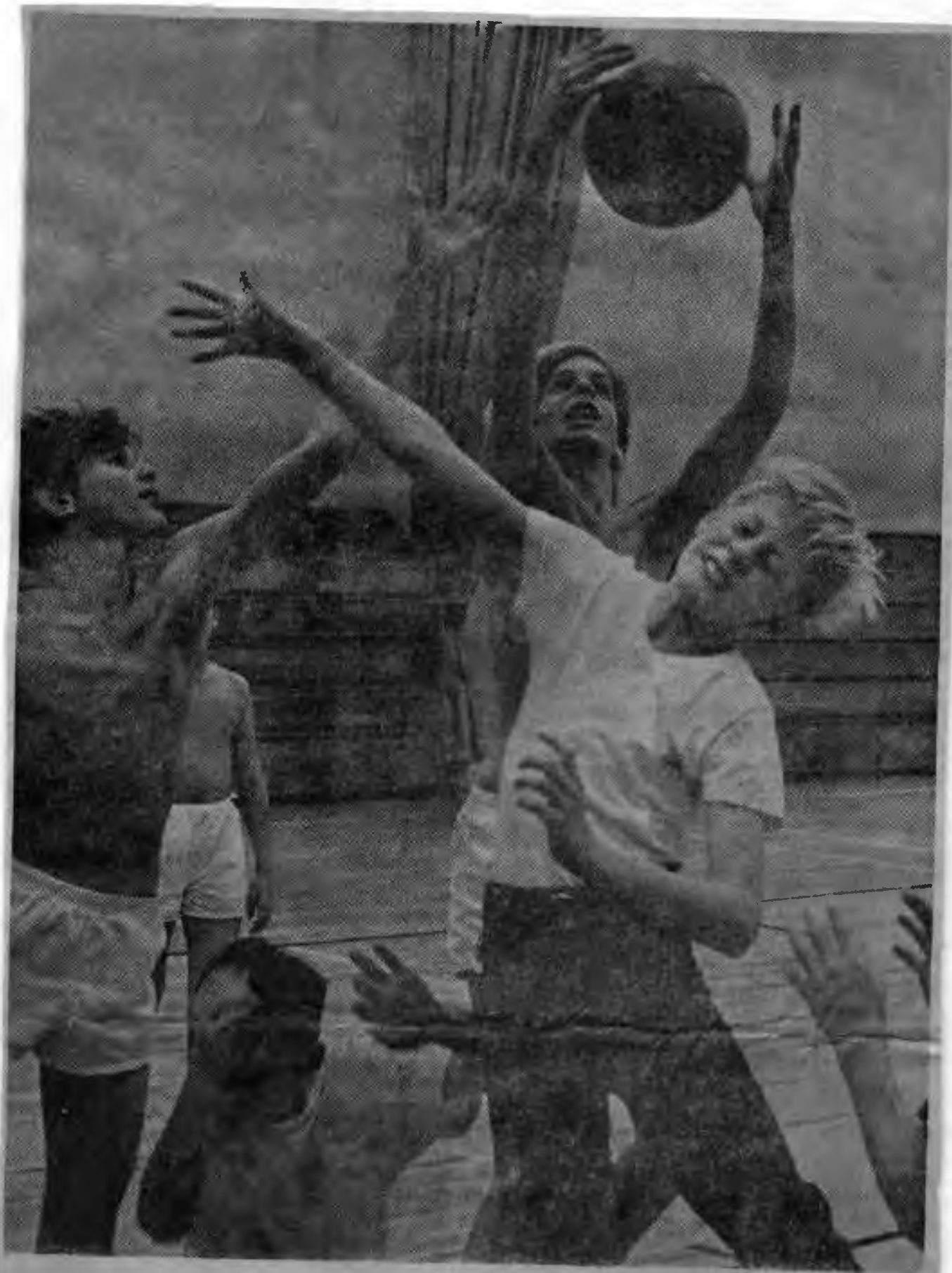
and park district officials, and a chance for area residents to inspect the various facilities such as

sauna, dressing rooms, exercise area, and meeting rooms provided in the new facility.



11-10-70

FINISHING TOUCHES on the new Wheeling Park District indoor swimming pool are all that remain to get the pool ready for dedication ceremonies Sunday. The new pool, located next to Wheeling High School, will be used for various park programs as well as for high school swimming activities.



ARMS COLLIDED as seventh and eighth grade boys began their 152-hour marathon basketball game Saturday at Oliver Wendell Holmes Junior High School in Wheel-

ing. The boys plan to play basketball through Friday to raise money for charity. The Wheeling Park District is sponsoring the marathon.

12/29/70



FAMILY NIGHT at the new Neptune's Swimming Pool at Wheeling High School Tuesday gave Mr. and Mrs. Bob Harrison a chance to show their 22-

month-old son Ricky that swimming is fun. Family swim night is held from 6:30 to 10 p.m. every

Tuesday at the Wheeling Park District Pool which opened Nov. 15.

12-3-70

Flood Control Changes Are Approved

December 9, 1970

The Wheeling Village Board approved three major changes in the village flood control program Monday.

The board agreed to delay indefinitely a proposed sewer extension on Nancy Lane for flood control in the Meadowbrook West area.

Trustees also directed George Passolt, acting village manager, Larry Oppenheimer,

director of public works, and Harza Engineering Co. to develop a plan for widening the Wheeling Drainage Ditch-Buffalo Creek with local funds. They asked that the plan include how much money would be needed and how the money would be spent. Harza is the consulting engineer on the village flood control program.

IN A THIRD vote the board directed Village Atty. Paul Hamer to meet with Wheeling Park District and Wheeling Drainage District officials to work out an arrangement for construction of a pumping station in Heritage Park as recommended by the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) and Harza.

In connection with the pumping station, the board also directed Passolt to get the dimensions of the property and requirements for the pumping station in a report from Harza.

Trustee Roger Stricker, who proposed each of the board actions, explained "We've got a lot of money in our flood program and we want to get the best out of it."

Stricker is chairman of the village sewer,

water, and public health committee.

HE HAD RECOMMENDED that the board delete the Nancy Lane project from a construction firm's contract because the village lacks the necessary easement to do the work. Also, Stricker said that because the creek has not been widened by the state as originally planned, the Nancy Lane project would be of doubtful benefit in solving flooding in the Meadowbrook west area at this time.

Eliminating the Nancy Lane sewer connection from the flood control program at this time will enable the village to answer a request from the Santucci Construction Co.

The construction company which has finished much of its work on the Husky Park basin had asked the village to

make a decision on whether or not the project would be done at this time because the contractor was ready to begin the work.

Although Stricker suggested the board endorse the idea of a pumping station in Heritage Park and direct Harza to begin engineering work on the station, other trustees were reluctant to take such a firm stand without first talking to park district and drainage district officials about the use of their land for the station.

THE PUMPING station proposal was made to the village by the MSD. The MSD would pay the cost of the \$35,000 station provided the village supplied the land and had the engineering work on the station done.

The station would be designed to lower

the level of water standing in the Heritage Park detention basin. Currently water stands approximately a foot deeper than it should in the basin. The excess water lessens the ability of the basin to hold flood water which result from a heavy rain and also makes the basin area unusable for park district activities.

The pumping station would carry the excess water from the basin to the creek and thus make the basin capable of doing the work it was designed to do.

Stricker told the other trustees that the proposal for the village to widen the creek itself would be beneficial even if the \$80,000 budgeted by the Illinois Division of Waterways for work on the creek next year is not appropriated by the state legislature.



1-11-71
ICE SKATERS at the Heritage Park ice rink braved the cold last week for a chance to skate under the lights. Skating hours are from 4 to 6 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays skating hours are from 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. A

daytime ice rink is also located at Booth Tarkenton School.

Park Board Joins New Suburban Conference

The Wheeling Park District Board Thursday voted to "take an active interest in" a new organization of area park districts.

The group, known as the Northwest Suburban Park District Conference, has planned a second meeting for Jan. 18.

The local park district board appointed Commissioner Eugene Sackett as delegate to the new organization, but all commissioners were urged to attend as many meetings of the organization as possible.

1-12-71

Park Commissioners Ponder Being Paid

Wheeling's Park District commissioners discussed the possibility of salaries for themselves at a Committee meeting Thursday night.

Commissioner Eugene Sackett said he thought the park board should pressure the state legislature to provide for pay for elected commissioners "inasmuch as they increased the legislator's salaries by 95 per cent."

Commissioner Lorraine Lark and Supt. Ferd Arndt disagreed with Sackett.

Mrs. Lark said she felt the "tone and feeling of the board would change" if commissioners were paid. She said she thought commissioners should serve "because they want to, not because they're paid."

Arndt said he thought "a different type of person" would run for the job if commissioners were paid.

"We all live in the community we serve and we all complain about the taxes. If there were any more drains on our budget, we, the taxpayers, couldn't afford it," Mrs. Lark said.

Sackett said he thought paid commissioners "would become more professional to give our administrators direction."

Mrs. Lark said "It's coming for both park boards and school boards, but I can't see us pushing for it. We'd be bringing politics into the job."



Local residents can skate at night at Heritage Park in Wheeling and Emmerich Park in Buffalo Grove.

Money For Parks Coat Rack Donated

The Ladies Aid Circle of the Community Presbyterian Church in Wheeling has donated \$60 for a coat rack to the Wheeling Park District.

The rack will be used in the district's meeting center in the old Community Church building in chamber of commerce park.

11/27/71

New Swimming Schedule Announced

A new schedule for swimming activities at the Wheeling Park District Neptune's Pool has been announced by aquatic director Ray Kittendorf.

The pool is located next to Wheeling

High School.

The schedule includes more hours of open swimming and fewer restrictions on age group swimming.

Kittendorf also said that registration is open for handicap swim lessons, adult swim lessons and Saturday morning grade school learn-to-swim classes.

Pool rentals are now being taken for the pool for Saturday Evenings. Rentals cost \$35 an hour.

On Jan. 30 the pool will be open from 9 to 10:30 p.m. for individuals who own

their own scuba equipment and who have certification to use their equipment.

The new swimming schedule now in effect is:

Monday

6:30 to 8 p.m. Handicap swim
8 to 9 p.m. Adult swim lessons
9 to 10 p.m. Guard training class

Tuesday

6:30 to 10 p.m. Open swim

Wednesday

6:30 to 8 p.m. Swim team
8 to 10 p.m. Open swim

Thursday

6:30 to 10 p.m. Open swim

Friday

6:30 to 8 p.m. Swim team
8 to 10 p.m. Open swim

Saturday

9 a.m. to Noon. Grade school lessons
2 to 5 p.m. Open swim
7 to 10 p.m. Open swim

Sunday

1 to 5 p.m. Open swim
7 to 9 p.m. Open swim

Pool fees are \$20 for resident families and \$40 for non-resident families per season.

Individual season fees are \$10 for adults 19 and up who live in the park district and \$15 for non-resident adults.

Resident children, 18 and younger, pay a \$7.50 season pass fee and non-resident children pay \$10.

Daily fees are \$1 for a resident adult, 50 cents for resident children, \$2 for a non-resident adult, and \$1 for non-resident children.

Only One Official Park Board Candidate

Only one candidate has filed for the two vacant seats on the Wheeling Park District Board open in the April 6 election.

Robert Ross, an incumbent commissioner who lives at 321 S. Wheeling Ave. has filed for the board. Filing for the election began Dec. 28 and ends Feb. 1.

Three other prospective candidates have picked up petitions for the seats but have not filed as yet, according to Park Supt. Ferd Arndt.

Those possible candidates are Gus Nizzi, 157 Mockingbird Ln., John Woods, 149 Mockingbird Ln., and Melvin Petersen, 238 W. Wayne.

District 21, Park Boards Set Meeting

A joint meeting of the Wheeling Park District Board and the School District 21 Board is planned for early February.

Park board members proposed the meeting Thursday night for discussion of community recreation needs, facilities, resources and the renewal of a school park agreement which expires this spring.

Also to be discussed is a proposal for security policing of school, high school and park facilities on a shared cost basis.

A proposal from the Illinois County Detective Agency, Inc., which is now employed by the park district as a security police force, was discussed Thursday by the park board.

Kenneth R. Fletcher, chief of the agency, suggested a program of shared costs including checks for vandalism, possible unlocked doors or windows and violation of school or park rules.

Fletcher's proposal called for a total charge of \$7.25 an hour. The patrol would include Wheeling High School, all Dist. 21 schools in Wheeling and park district facilities.

Proposed hourly costs would be \$2 for the high school, \$3 for Dist. 21 (or \$4 if Buffalo Grove schools were included), and \$2.50 for the park district.

Plans for the joint meeting came up when park board members discussed problems which had occurred when both the school district and the park district scheduled skiing classes this winter.

11/13/71



CONCENTRATING ON their crayons, a group of art class in the Heritage Park Fieldhouse. The class is taught by Leonard Presley, art coordinator for school Dist. 21. It is one of a variety of local programs offered by the park district.

Discuss Heritage Park Plans

3-22-71

Plans for development of an area of Heritage Park were discussed Thursday at a meeting of the Wheeling Park District Board.

Board members approved purchase and installation of \$2,500 worth of trees and shrubs to be used in developing the area of Heritage Park west of the toboggan hill.

The area is currently open land, but will be developed with benches and possibly a shelter when the trees and shrubs have been installed, district officials said.

IN OTHER action the board asked district employes to investigate the cost of improving the ice skating shelter building for use as a summer shelter.

The board talked about installing a fireplace and installing cinder block half walls to make the shelter into an open air pavilion like those in the forest preserves for summer use.

Board members also voted to write a letter to the Wheeling Village Board requesting a street light be installed on the west side of Wolf Road near the park district building.

The board will meet April 1 with village director of public works, Larry Oppenheimer, and with a representative of Harza Engineering Co. (the village consulting engineer on the flood program) to discuss development plans for Husky Park.

Discussion of the layout of the park, located behind Jack London Junior High School, will be a part of the regular park board meeting that night.

Ross Wants More Park Dist. Programs, Involvement

by Anne Slavicek

More recreational programs and increased participation in existing program is what Robert Ross would like to see for the Wheeling Park District.

Ross, an incumbent district commissioner and current president of the park board, is one of three candidates seeking election to two seats on the board on April 6.

He explains he is running for reelection after serving four years as an appointed board member because there is "unfinished business" he wants to help the district accomplish.

"We're trying to expand our recreational program and set up new programs," he explains.

Getting people to take advantage of the programs the park district does offer is also of prime importance, Ross said.

He said increased publicity, education and personal contact is the only way the district can encourage participation in its programs.

ROSS SAYS the district should work to get a supplementary fieldhouse or building on the west side of the village so people in that area can become more involved in park district programs.

Even though the district has offered programs on the west side "Our programs should be spread out more than they have been," he said.

Ross says he thinks the district is "75 to 80 per cent accomplishing its goal of providing recreation."

To make up the slack he says, "I feel that we have to get more into recreation rather than just being property owners."

The district is responsible for providing recreation for all age groups, he feels. "You have some oldsters or golden-agers that want serenity and greenery, and we have to provide for that. We also have to provide for a certain type of recreation to suit children up to 18. And the biggest one that we've neglected in the past is the 25 to 45 age group," Ross said.

TO PROVIDE recreation, Ross says the district should concentrate on developing the park lands it now has. "...if you don't have facilities that are set up, you don't have the recreation," he explained.

The district should however, keep an eye out for open land "if something does come up and if we have the funds," Ross said.

On specific programs, Ross says he op-

poses the use of snowmobiles and minibikes on park district property.

"Snowmobiles should be banned "until there's really a demand for their use." and minibikes should be banned on park property "until the state accepts them as a vehicle," he said.

Ross says he is satisfied with the park district agreeing to let the village put flood retention basins on park land.

He said he cannot judge the actual basins because the work is not complete, but said the idea to allow the basins was good. "The park district and the village have to live together and if the park can help the village I feel it should.

"BUT BY THE same token if the village can help the park district I feel it should," he said.

"We haven't had as good communications with the village as I think there should have been," Ross admitted, but he said joint meetings between the two governing boards could solve that problem.

Ross said he thinks the board often becomes too involved in the specifics of running the district. "We as park board members are policy makers; we're not to supervise each individual program for the superintendent. I don't think that's what the commissioners were elected for. I think we were elected to supervise the superintendent and his subordinates. Sometimes we get too involved and we botch it up," Ross said.

The candidate said that he thinks the district's borrowing \$20,000 to remodel and move the community church to Chamber of Commerce park was a good idea. "It was the only way it could have been done at the time we were pretty close to our absolute bonding power," he explained.

ROSS CITES the district's tackle football program as one which has been successful. "There were people involved in it. In other words we were serving our

primary object for being around, to provide recreation," he said.

The commissioner said that as part of its expanding recreation program the park district should take over the School Dist. 21 recreational program which grew out of the Title III program.

He said he was not sure whether the district should take over the Wheeling Athletic Association Little League program. "I feel they would be very adverse to the park district taking over. I think they think they can run it better than we can. Possibly, we think we can run it better than they can. It's in limbo," Ross said.

Ross, who lives at 312 S. Wheeling Ave. with his wife Helen and their four children, is president of Anderson-Ross Floors Inc. He has lived in Wheeling for 11 years.

He says his experience as a corporation owner is one thing that makes him beneficial to the park board. "The park in essence should be run as a corporation because you're getting money and you have to make that money do the most possible for the least amount of dollars," he said.

HE EXPLAINED in his work as a contractor he deals with various public agencies such as schools, colleges and universities.

"I know how they operate and that experience is helpful here," he said.

The 38-year-old candidate was a member of a recent High School Dist. 214 committee which recommended a new high school site in addition to his park district activities.

He is also a Mason and a member of the Northbrook Sports Club and enjoys hunting and conservation hobbies.

"I think the district is on the right track. We've accomplished an awful lot in the last four years," he said, citing examples of the new Neptune's pool, the community church restoration and preservation, acquisition of Chamber of Commerce and Northside Parks, purchase of the community pool, the flood control program, the tackle football program, hiring park police, and lights at the high school tennis court.

"But it takes time," Ross said. And time to work toward the district's goals as a park commissioner is what Ross is asking local voters for on April 6.

Nizzi: Programs

For All Residents



Gus
Nizzi

4-1-77 by ANNE SLAVICEK

"I want to look for every possible way to offer activities to the people of Wheeling," Wheeling Park District candidate Gus Nizzi explains.

Nizzi, a 3½-year resident of Wheeling, is principal of Eugene Field Elementary School and a member of the village youth commission. He is one of three candidates seeking a place on the board. Two seats are open.

Nizzi has also worked as a supervisor of various recreation programs sponsored by the park district.

Nizzi is the only one of the three candidates who raises questions about the district's tackle football program.

"I HAVE VERY strong questions whether tackle football at the age of 6th or 7th grade is healthy," Nizzi said.

"It provides a lot of recreation, but I would investigate it from two standpoints. Primarily, is it a safe thing for the kids at this age; secondly, the money that we use for this — is it best used for that or is there a better priority for which to use it?" he said.

When asked about the park district's biggest problem, Nizzi says, "There seem to be factions that instead of working together are each one pulling off in a separate direction. That, to me, is a problem."

To solve the problem of a divided community, Nizzi says the facts should be made clear to the public. He says board decisions and their reasons, such as lack of funds, should be explained.

"In my field there are so many things we have done because of tradition and they've been accepted because of tradition. Nobody's ever questioned them and so we keep doing them.

"Well that's not a basis for doing them that way. Now I think that it applies to most bodies that serve the community. What I plan to do is to question — to question anybody that's to be questioned and if people get touchy about questions then I know that there's a reason for that," he said.

NIZZI SAID HE thinks the district's programs have been fairly well located to serve the various areas of the community. He said that it is necessary for the district to expand its active park facilities. "I think that's necessary because most of the places in the village have young people there," he said.

The candidate explains that recreation for all ages is needed but that the district must concentrate on the young because Wheeling is a young community.

Nizzi said he thinks the district should have fishing ponds.

He said he favored development of existing park lands as a priority over purchasing additional land.

"The parks that you have now, if you don't keep them up and develop them even better, you just waste them," he said.

Nizzi said he would like to see park commissioners speak before various local groups such as PTA's or study groups to "bring it to the people."

He said the district should have more face to face communication with the public so it can accurately assess what the community wants. "The ones who go to district meetings and complain to commissioners in my experience have been the ones with gripes. That's unfortunate because then you get emotions and that sort of thing," he said.

ON THE MINIBIKE issue, Nizzi said, "I think there should be some place in the village where kids can take minibikes. I don't know if it's up to the park district alone — it should be a community team effort with the police and the school district," he said.

On snowmobiles, he said they should be allowed on park property "if it's set up so it can be controlled in a designated area and if it's safe."

Nizzi said he would favor use of park lands for retention basins only "if there's nothing else that can be used."

"I think park property should be used for the recreation of the community. I think it's a very poor use to have a retention basin take up a park," he said.

Nizzi said his experiences with park district activities is that supervision is adequate.

He explained that his experience as a park district supervisor in past years taught him "you can't just open up the facilities and let the kids go in and out."

Nizzi praised the district for restoring the Community Church building in Chamber of Commerce park. "If there is some way to preserve facilities to teach our kids where we came from and what we did, that in itself is a beautiful lesson."

NIZZI SAID HE disagreed with a rule that park buildings cannot be used over night. (Two exceptions in specific cases have been made in the past.)

"Why have the rule when we pay interest on the money we borrow all year round, night and day?" he asked.

"People should feel this is 'our' park district. Let's use it to every possible extent," he said.

Nizzi stressed that the district must provide facilities for its residents rather than programs. "If you provide the facilities people can come up with the programs themselves. People are very interested and hobby-minded," he said.

Nizzi lives at 157 Mockingbird Ln. in Wheeling with his wife Sandra and their four children.

He said he would be a benefit to the park board because "I have a knowledge about the young people in the community and about how they have used the facilities in the past that would give me a better idea of possible uses in the future."

Monday, April 5, 1971

2 Sections, 28 pages

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THE HUSKY PARK flood control program has brought complaints from Wheeling residents who live near the new retention pond in the park. The

village has promised to investigate the removal of a hill made of dirt from the pond. It serves Wheel-

ing residents and homes in the Cambridge area of Buffalo Grove. Story on Page 3.

Ponder Removal Of Husky Park Hill

The village of Wheeling will consider removing a 13-foot high hill from Husky Park as a result of a meeting Thursday night with the Wheeling Park District Board and residents of the Husky Park area.

George Passolt, acting village manager, told eight residents and the park board that he would investigate the cost of hauling the dirt away rather than leaving it in the park site.

The dirt is being excavated from the Husky Park retention basin being built as a part of the village's flood control program.

Residents of the area told Passolt and the park board that the hill was causing privacy problems, blocked sunlight from homes on the east side of the hill and would not provide a good recreational area.

Originally the hill had been accepted by the park board as necessary because the cost of ~~moving~~ the dirt was considered prohibitive.

PASSOLT SAID Friday that one possible source of funds to pay for hauling the dirt might be interest the village has raised by investing the money from the flood referendum fund and could possibly come from other village funds.

He also said that the funds to move the dirt might not have to come from the come from other village funds.

But he emphasized that the decision by the village board will depend heavily on the cost of moving the dirt.

Thursday's meeting also resulted in a promise from village and park officials that a fence will be built along a temporary ditch in the park to keep children out of the four feet of water.

The plan for Husky Park calls for a dry basin which could be used as a baseball diamond and would only fill with water when it rains.

The western end of the park will be the basin and the eastern end originally was to be the site for the hill.

A pumphouse on the north side of the park will keep the basin dry, aided by buried drains in the bottom of the basin.

RESIDENTS WHOSE homes back up to the park from Anthony Road and Fletcher Drive told the village and park officials that the hill "is an invasion of privacy."

"The sun will set at 3 p.m. for the people who live east of the hill" one resident commented.

Another man told the board he was

having problems with children throwing mud from the hill into his swimming pool.

The residents told the board that they appreciated the fact that their homes didn't flood when it thawed a month ago because of the new basin. But they said that the hill was causing unnecessary

problems. "Why create a problem when you're trying to solve one?" one resident asked.

The park district board unanimously passed a motion to ask the village board "to consider reducing the hill at the east end of Husky park to an acceptable minimum height."

4/20/71 Election Is Canvassed

Wheeling's Park District Board canvassed the votes for the recent park district election on April 8.

The final official tally for the election showed that Robert Ross had 310 votes, Gus Nizzi had 308 votes and Melvin Peterson had 248 votes.

Ross and Nizzi were declared the official winners of the election.

Park District Forced To Issue TAW's

The delay in collecting property taxes from local residents by Cook County this year means that the Wheeling Park District must issue tax anticipation warrants (TAWs) for the summer, park commissioners learned Thursday.

Bill Blank, park district treasurer, told the board that by the beginning of May the district must issue warrants to pay for running the district until tax payments begin to arrive from the county in August or September.

The TAW's are loans made by banks to governmental agencies in anticipation of the receipt of tax revenue by the agency.

Ordinarily, the taxes begin to arrive in April, but because the bills are being sent out late this year and taxpayers don't have to pay them until later, the money won't arrive until late summer.

BLANK TOLD THE park commissioners Thursday that the district has a total of only \$1,543.56 in its corporate fund, the money used to pay general salaries and maintenance costs.

There are considerably larger amounts of money in the district's recreation fund which will assure payment of summer help and recreational personnel and will provide funds for programs.

However the TAW's — Probably more than \$40,000 and less than \$100,000 worth of them — are still going to be necessary.

Faced with the financial crisis, park board members Thursday talked of ways to save money temporarily. The board directed its president to write to the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce about granting a delay of a few months in the

\$3,000 payment the district owes for the purchase of Chamber of Commerce Park.

Blank told the board that even if it had to pay additional interest to the chamber for a few months it would be cheaper than paying interest on \$3,000 worth of TAW's to pay the debt.

THE BOARD ALSO approved sending of a bill to High School Dist. 214 for 55 per cent of the cost of running the new indoor Neptune's pool built by the park district adjacent to Wheeling High School.

The bill to the school district, for a total of \$15,637.50 was to be delivered to Dist. 214 officials Friday.

Blank gave the board a breakdown on the bill to the school district showing that a total of \$14,170.55 has been spent on employe salaries to date and \$14,261.28 had been spent on equipment, supplies and utilities.

The agreement that the school district (which uses the pool on weekdays) would pay 55 per cent of the operation cost was made before the pool was built.

But even if the bill is paid immediately it won't affect the park district's financial situation markedly, Blank said.

IN OTHER DISCUSSIONS of finances the board approved major cuts in the costs of swimming fees, despite objections by commissioner Lorraine Lark who cited the district's financial position.

The board approved a yearly family pass rate of \$25 for residents as compared to a \$35 charge last year.

Summer passes were set at \$20 for resident families. Similar cuts were also

made in the cost of individual passes, and daily admission fees. Fees were adjusted so that all non-resident fees are exactly double the cost of resident fees.

Commissioners Gus Nizzi, Robert Ross, Alf Wilson and Eugene Sackett overruled Mrs. Lark's objections to the price cuts, pointing out that the district had to do something to improve attendance at the new indoor pool.

DISTRICT AQUATICS Director Ray Kittendorf told the park board that daily admission fees collected at the pool don't even pay the cost of the lifeguard's salaries, let alone pool maintenance.

The board directed Kittendorf to prepare a public relations program to promote the pool after Nizzi proposed that speakers from the park district make

presentations at school assemblies or PTA meetings.

Sackett and Ross told Mrs. Lark that perhaps the district would even receive more revenue by the reduced pool rates because more passes would be sold.

In other items relating to the district's finances Dist. Supt. Ferd Arndt told the board that if corporate personal property taxes are ruled unconstitutional and the exemption for homesteaders over 65 goes into effect the district could lose an additional \$12,000 in tax revenues.

The board deferred decisions on purchase of a large lawn mower for \$6,700 and on insurance programs and uniform service for district employes until a meeting May 6 on the proposed budget for the new fiscal year beginning in May.

Park District Schedules Many Summer Activities

5-18-71

A summer full of activities for local residents will be offered by the Wheeling Park District.

Swimming, tennis, baseball, a summer day camp and a general recreation program make up the majority of the activities being offered this year by the district. Pamphlets listing classes offered this summer have been mailed to residents of the district.

The summer day camp, being held for the first time this year, will be for boys and girls ages six to nine. The camp, which is open to 40 children for each two-week session, will be held at Chamber of Commerce Park on North Wolf Road adjacent to the Community (outdoor) Swimming Pool.

Swimming, drama, music, cookouts, hiking, field trips, and arts and crafts will be featured as part of the camp activities.

The fee for the camp including bus transportation is \$35 per child. A child enrolling in all three of the two week sessions will pay \$90. The camp will be held daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 21 to July 30.

FOR OLDER CHILDREN or those interested in a half-day program, the district will again offer its arts-and-crafts general recreation program.

Beginning June 21 and ending July 30 the program will be held at four playground centers — Carl Sandburg School, Heritage Park, Mark Twain School, and Eugene Field School. Held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon the program is open to boys and girls from 6 to 12 years of age. A fee of \$2 is charged for the program which also includes field trips to major baseball games, a farm, a nature center, and a zoo, and special events such as a kite contest, swimming meet, hobo hike, bike hike, lantern parade, picnic and arts and crafts show.

For the younger set, pre-school playtime will be held at Heritage Park 9 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday for boys and girls four and five years of age.

A \$20 fee is charged for each of two sessions. Each session is three weeks long.

For adults and for children with a specific interest the district is offering a variety of other programs.

PAINTING FOR adults will be held Wednesday night from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Heritage Park. For a \$15 fee the class offers a chance to work in oils, water color, acrylics, or pastels. Leonard Presley, art coordinator for School District 21, will teach the class which meets beginning on June 23.

Tennis classes for both children and adults will be offered at the Wheeling High School tennis courts.

Three week sessions open to children age nine and up will be held beginning June 21 and July 12.

Classes meet weekday mornings for children. An adult three week class will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 to noon.

Fees for the three week classes are \$6.

For adults, evening tennis classes with six week sessions will also be held. Information on those classes is not included in the district's summer pamphlet.

The classes will meet either on Monday-Wednesday or on Tuesday-Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for a \$15 fee.

COURTS AT WHEELING High School will be lighted from 8 to 10 p.m. every night for residents who wish to play tennis.

A cheerleading class for girls age 10 and older will be held at the Heritage Park gym from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday nights. The six session class which begins July 12 costs \$1.

A program of summer athletics for boys in seventh grade and up will also be held for six weeks this summer. Including basketball, volleyball, softball, badminton, track and field, and weight training, the class will meet at Wheeling High School. A \$6 fee is charged for the program which is open Monday through Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. beginning June 21.

Softball is another activity offered by the district.

A recreational "Lifement League" will organize on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Heri-

itage Park. Open to men older than high school age, a fee of \$25 per team is charged.

A program of slow-pitch softball with a 12-inch ball is open to high school boys and older.

A maximum of six teams may sign up for the program which plays on Thursday nights at Heritage Park.

A FEE OF \$1 per player is charged for the program.

An industrial softball league plays 16 inch softball Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. at Heritage Park.

For girls, a softball team will compete throughout northern Illinois. Open to girls of high school age and older, the team is open to park district residents only. Tryouts will be held in May.

Village To Make Changes In Flood Basins

5-24-71

Wheeling Village Board members agreed to make a variety of changes in the village's flood control basins Thursday after touring the various sites with members of the Wheeling Park Board.

Despite the village's conciliatory attitudes, however, the park board put off discussions of a request from the village to allow a pumping station in Heritage Park.

Discussion of the 12-foot-by-16-foot pumping station was not on the park board's agenda and had already been referred to a committee for study at the park board meeting in June.

The park board did sign an agreement to allow Commonwealth Edison Co. a utility easement to bring power to the pumping station in Husky Park. But the agreement was approved only after village officials promised to put the wiring underground instead of on overhead poles. This will cost the village an additional \$500.

TRUSTEE ROGER STRICKER, who heads the village's sewer and water and public health committees, told the park board members following the tour of the basins that he would make a series of proposals at tonight's village board meeting to correct problems with the basins.

Stricker said he would ask that Harza Engineering Co., the village's consulting engineer on the flood control program, send project manager John Crane out to propose changes in the massive Heritage Park West detention basin.

Stricker said he thought some form of terracing and a ridge around the edge of

the detention basin could be done to improve the property. Park board members had shown the trustees a flat plain of clay like dirt that extends from the basin to the higher ground around the basin. They had noted that not even weeds will grow on the "desert flat," let alone grass as originally planned.

Stricker said the village will have to have any changes in the original plan agreed to by Harza and by the Metropolitan Sanitary District in order to keep the contractor responsible for the basin and to keep MSD funds in the project.

STRICKER ALSO PROMISED the park board that the village would approve the additional \$500 for underground wiring in Husky Park.

He said the village also would have a contractor raise ridges along the side of a small ditch north of the two retention basins near the Heritage Park Fieldhouse on Wolf Road. Stricker said this would result in more efficient use of a flap gate placed in the area of the small ditch and the Wheeling drainage ditch. The ridges will also protect residential property to the north of the small basin system.

In a fourth point, Stricker said he would ask that the contractors again check the pitch on the retention basin immediately north of the Heritage Park Fieldhouse. Park board members pointed out to the village that the drain in the basin is higher than some areas of surrounding ground.

"We're going to ride herd now to finish

it up. We've been trying to work with the contractors and maybe we've been too nice," Stricker said.

"There are bound to be defects in every contracting job. We appreciate you pointing them out to us. If you have a specific problem, don't hesitate to write or contact us," Stricker told the park board.

The trustee also said the village would contact Cook County about possibly regrading a deep ditch which runs along Wolf Road on the park side of the street.

PARK BOARD MEMBERS said they feared if a car went off of the road it would roll over if it hit the 8-to-10-foot deep ditch.

The ditch also needs to be dredged, Stricker said. He said since the ditch is on a county easement, the village would seek to have the county correct the problem if possible rather than spending village funds for the work.

Stricker also talked of possibly putting gravel or cement in the ditch north of the two retention basins by the fieldhouse.

Although the officials also discussed the high hill adjacent to the Husky Park project, they decided to await completing of the project before making any changes.

During the tour of the three retention basins and the detention basin, the park and village officials were joined by residents who live near each of the projects.

Stricker told one group of residents

that part of the village's problem is that the flow of water coming from upstream has increased approximately 25 per cent since the village's flood control program was designed several years ago.

"Upstream they just continue to build without worrying about flooding. They won't start doing anything about it until they start to flood themselves," Stricker told the residents.

5124121



OFFICIALS OF THE Village of Wheeling and the Wheeling Park District toured four flood control basins Thursday before agreeing on changes in the

flood program. George Passolt, left, acting Village manager; Alf Wilson, park president; Ferd Arndt, park superintendent, and village trustee Edward

Berger and Ronald Bruhn stood in front of the Husky Park Basin, which will be a dry basin when work is completed on the project.

Commissioners Invited To Tour

Pumping Station Proposed

Wheeling Park District commissioners invited the village board to tour the village flood retention sites with them May 20 at 7 p.m.

Village officials have proposed, along with the Metropolitan Sanitary District, that a pumping station be built in Heritage park to eliminate excess water standing in the Heritage Park west detention basin.

The village asked the park district for

easements to construct the pumping station on park property.

Before reaching a decision on whether to allow the pumping station, park commissioners said they wanted to study the progress of the flood control program on other lands the district has donated to the village for flood control.

IN A LETTER to the village board, park board Pres. Alf Wilson invited the village officials to "walk the project with

us." The review will include the basin north of the park building, the Heritage Park west detention basin, and the proposed pumping station site.

"We feel that some of the projects are far from being completed . . . by viewing the work to date you will get a first hand view of what has transpired," Wilson wrote.

In another village-park controversy, the park district has refused permission for the Commonwealth Edison Co. to place two utility poles in Husky park to provide electricity for the pumping station at the Husky Park retention basin.

Park Commissioner Lorraine Lark said the park board wants the utility lines placed underground rather than having two poles in the middle of the park's playground area.

Village director of Public Works Larry Oppenheimer said that installing the lines underground would cost an estimated additional \$500. Park officials have deferred signing the easement agreement for electricity to the Husky park pumping station until their next meeting.

Pool Passes To Go On Sale June 1

Swimming activities of all kinds will be offered at the Wheeling Park District's two pools this summer.

Pool passes go on sale June 1 at the Wheeling Park District fieldhouse, 222 S. Wolf Road. Both pools, the community pool at Chamber of Commerce park on North Wolf Road and Neptune's pool (indoor) at Wheeling High School will open for recreational swimming beginning June 12.

Pool hours will be from 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. every day.

Passes good at both pools for the summer season are \$20 per family, \$9 for an individual adult, and \$5 for an individual child.

Yearly passes good at both pools (only Neptune's pool in the winter) are \$25 for a family, \$12.50 for an individual adult and \$7.50 for an individual child.

Daily fees are 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for children.

All fees for non-residents of the park district are double the fees for residents.

Swimming instruction for adults and children will be held at Neptune's pool at Wheeling High School this summer.

Beginning June 14 classes for grade school children will be held Monday through Friday for four sessions of two weeks each.

There will be three periods each day, 9

to 10 a.m., 10 to 11 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon.

To enroll in the swimming lessons, a youngster should be able to stand in 3½ feet of water with the water line below his chin.

A \$5 fee is charged for the lessons. Classes will be set up for beginners, advanced beginners, intermediate swimmers, swimmers, and advanced swimmers. Junior and Senior Life saving will be offered at the end of the summer July 26 to Aug. 6.

An adult learn-to-swim program will be offered during the summer on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. June 21 to August 9. A \$15 fee is charged for six lessons.

A swim team will also be sponsored by the park district. The team which will compete against other local teams and in Chicagoland meets will practice five days a week. A medical form filled out by a doctor is necessary to join the team. A \$5 fee is also charged.

Sauna baths are open at Neptune's pool on Tuesday and Friday from 7 to 10 p.m. for a fee of 75 cents. The saunas are for the use of men and women age 18 and older.

Registration for all swimming programs may be made at the Heritage Park Fieldhouse. No registrations will be taken by phone.

Proposed Figures Trimmed

Park Dist. Heads Agree On Budget

6-7-71

Wheeling Park District Commissioners spent four hours Thursday trimming the proposed district budget before agreeing on final budget figures for the new fiscal year.

The park board will adopt the appropriation ordinance and direct the attorney to draw up the tax levy at its June 17 meeting.

Dist. Supt. Ferd Arndt said copies of the new appropriation ordinance will be on display at the park district offices following that meeting.

The new budget is based on an estimated assessed valuation of \$72 million for the district in this fiscal year.

Park board members decided to use the \$72 million figure after learning that the current assessed valuation figures issued by the county for the district are \$66,577,848.

PARK BOARD members said the \$72 million figure was realistic because the district assessed valuation, had risen by \$6 million in the last year and could be expected to increase by at least the same amount this year. Part of the reason for that optimism is that this is a quadrennial year in which property in the district will be reassessed for taxation purposes.

Board members trimmed the budget to a total of approximately \$123,000 with \$70,000 allocated for corporate expenses of running the district and \$53,000 for recreation activities.

The proposed budget discussed by the board members included only the corporate fund and recreational funds.

Funds for bond and interest payments, insurance, the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the Social Security Fund and the Audit Fund will be added to the \$123,000 figure to make the total appropriation ordinance figure.

Last year's budget figures for corporate and recreation funds totaled 136,000, Arndt said. He said that the total was higher last year because the budget had to reflect the \$20,000 the district borrowed to renovate the Community Church Building.

THIS YEAR'S FIGURES were based

on the assessed valuation of \$70 million. After cutting to that level the board approved salary increases for district employes before finalizing the budget figures.

One of the more evident problems in the Thursday meeting was increases in costs of operating the indoor Neptune's Swimming Pool over the costs anticipated by the district before the pool was completed.

Funds for Neptune's pool increased consistently over the district estimated budgeted last year for the pool operation.

Budget figures included raising the item for life guards from \$5,000 to \$8,000, for water from \$2,500 to \$3,500 for gas from \$2,500 to \$4,000, for electricity from \$2,000 to \$5,000 and for labor from \$6,000 to \$10,000.

Changes in the budget this year as compared to last year's budget included a raise in the superintendent's salary from \$12,500 to \$13,750.

Board members also raised the treasurer's salary from \$1,500 to \$1,800 and the district secretary's pay from \$6,200 to \$6,820.

OTHER ITEMS which differed in this year's budget from last year's included budgeting only a nominal sum for election expenses since no election is planned by the district in the coming year.

After arguing at length about the necessity of setting aside money for future development, purchase and planning of park sites, the board finally agreed to budget \$7,500 for purchase of park sites and \$5,000 for development of park sites. Money for professional planning of sites was cut from the budget.

Increasing labor costs because of the additional lands now owned by the district raised funds for labor from \$16,000 to \$19,000 in the corporate section of the budget.

Another increase included budgeting \$7,000 for purchase of equipment. Approximately \$5,000 of that sum has already been spent on a mowing tractor for the district. Last year only \$2,500 was budgeted for equipment.

A \$5,000 figure included in the budget for repairs to buildings and equipment was \$3,000 more than last year. The district plans to use the money to build an enclosed entrance to the Heritage Park fieldhouse to stop cold drafts in the hall and office areas in the winter.

THE DISTRICT also had to raise funds budgeted for a recreational director from \$6,000 to \$9,000 since a full time director will be hired this fall.

An additional \$1,000 for a receptionist was included in the recreation budget.

Funds for recreational supplies were increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500 and funds for trophies and awards were increased, from \$500 to \$1,000.

In funds for the district's two swimming pools increases in salaries of the outdoor pool manager (from \$1,500 to \$1,600) and district aquatics director (from \$9,000 to \$9,540) were included.

A total of \$6,000 was budgeted for maintenance, repairs and labor of the community (outdoor) pool. The district will mark and repair the pool parking lot and place concrete on a sandy area next to the pool so it can be used as a sun deck.

Board members urged the superintendent to cut back on overtime work by the district's maintenance crews.

6/8/71



A setting sun reflects in the waters of the Heritage Park flood basin in Wheeling as a freight train travels north along the Soo Line R.R. tracks.

13-Cent '70 Tax Rate Drop For Park District

Wheeling Park District board members looked proudly at a 13-cent drop in the district's tax rate this year.

Roger Bjorvik, district attorney told the board at a meeting Thursday that the 1970 tax levy rate of just under 32 cents per \$100 assessed valuation gave the district one of the largest drops in tax rates of any taxing body in Wheeling Township.

Dist. Supt. Fred Arndt explained that the decrease was the result of retirement of various bonds which the district had issued in earlier years.

Board members also received copies Thursday of the proposed 1971-72 appropriation ordinance for the district which will be considered for approval at the district meeting on July 15 at 9 p.m.

AT 8 P.M. THAT evening a public hearing on the ordinance for local residents will be held.

Copies of the proposed appropriation ordinance are currently available for the public to inspect at the park district offices at 222 S. Wolf Rd.

This year's ordinance shows an overall increase of \$22,037.50 over the 1970 ordinance. The ordinance is based on an an-

ticipated assessed valuation for the district of \$72 million.

The total figure being appropriated is \$358,826.25.

The board has earmarked \$95,615 for the general corporate fund which includes administration salaries and the general expenses of running the district.

That figure is down \$4,265 from last year's appropriation, chiefly because portions of some salaries were transferred to the ordinance's recreation program fund.

THE RECREATION program fund for the coming year has increased \$23,225 to a total of \$131,075.

The bond and interest fund for the district decreased from last year by \$2,562.50 for a total figure of \$116,246.25.

The district's insurance fund increased by \$500 to \$5,000.

Money to be spent for the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund and Social Security Fund ~~more than doubled~~ from last year. This year's appropriation in that fund is \$7,890, an increase of \$4,140 over last year's appropriation.

The district's audit fund was also increased by \$1,000, for a total of \$3,000 in that fund.



"LOVE" ABOUNDS IN the Wheeling Park District general recreation program for local children. Kim Rasmussen, 12, painted a pendant in an arts and crafts session recently at Carl Sandburg School.

Board Learns High Flood Control Cost

6-30-71

\$85,000 Or More

Wheeling Village Board members Monday learned the grim truth that perfecting the village's system of flood control basins could cost another \$85,000 or more.

Board members received a report from Harza Engineering Co. answering various questions about the flood basins.

The trustees did not act on any of the firm's recommendations. However, but referred the lengthy report to Trustee Roger Stricker's sewer, water, and public health committee for study.

The major cost estimate in the Harza report was for hauling away the dirt from ~~Heritage Park~~. That would cost \$63,000.

CUTTING DOWN the height of the mound from its current elevation to four feet above the ground would cost \$48,000, the Harza report estimated.

Residents who live on Anthony Drive have complained about the dirt mound because it obstructs light and view from their yards and because people standing on top of the hill can look into their homes.

Removal of the hill is not essential to having the flood basin system work, but it is something that village and park officials would like to be able to accomplish.

In the large Heritage Park West detention basin, Harza has recommended again that the village approve a plan to allow the Metropolitan Sanitary District to construct a \$30,000 pumping station next to the creek to lower the water level in the basin.

Currently Village Atty. Paul Hamer is negotiating with Wheeling Park District officials for permission to construct the pumping station on park property. Park officials have been reluctant to grant the permission until problems with other portions of the flood basins on park property are corrected by the village.

ALTHOUGH THE village would not have to pay construction costs on the pumping station itself, the village may have to pay for land to house the station and would have to pay for engineering designs for the station.

In addition to the pumping station Harza recommended that the village spend \$20,000 on tilling and seeding the basin in western Heritage Park once the pumping station is installed.

The engineering firm noted that construction of the station would probably not be possible until the spring of 1972, but said that it would be the best long term solution to the problem of the barren clay flats around the basin.

Harza told the village board that adding topsoil to the clay area and raising the dyke level in the basin would not be a good alternative solution because it "would back water up in the sewer system to about the level of the inlets in the Dunhurst subdivision."

THAT WOULD mean that the basin would not be able to do the job for which it was built — draining excess storm water from the Dunhurst area.

While Harza's recommendations for work in Heritage and Dunhurst parks were the most costly and drastic changes, a longer list of corrective measures was given to the board on the twin flood control basins in Heritage Park east of the creek.

Those two basins designed to drain the Meadowbrook East areas, were to have been dry basins used for park recreation activities.

In the Harza report Engineer John Crane told the village that there were several corrections which should be made by the contractor before he receives final payment for the work.

CRANE NOTED that although the contract for those basins was the first one awarded "the work is far behind schedule, apparently because the site was flooded last year and the contractor claimed that he was unable to proceed."

He called for the contractor to regrade the ditch to provide even drainage.

In addition he said the contractor should be required to regrade the north basin to eliminate low spots, to reseed areas on the sideslopes where seed was washed away by rain, to remove construction debris from the site, and to replace the chain link fence which was removed for construction.

Additional work which Crane recommended for the east basins will have to be part of a new contract.

CRANE ALSO recommended that the village ask the state highway department to place a guard rail near the culvert outlet "to prevent cars from pulling off the road at the point over the culvert where the embankment slope is quite steep."

The report from Crane had been ordered by village officials last month after a joint inspection of the flood basins by village and Wheeling Park District officials had revealed the various problems.

Tekton Donation Of Park Site Is Sought ^{6/11/71}

The Wheeling Park District superintendent has written to the developers of the new Tekton Corp. quadrominium development on McHenry Road asking a donation to develop a park site.

Supt. Ferd Arndt asked the corporation to give the district a cash donation in exchange for the district relinquishing its claim to a public-land use site on the property.

School Dist. 21 recently received a promise of a \$17,000 donation from the developer in exchange for its relinquishing power over the site.

Arndt explained a minimum of \$5,000 is needed to develop a park. He said the money would be used for a park on the remaining section of the public use site

which is just adjacent to the Tekton property.

The Tekton development will consist of 400 quadrominium units on McHenry Road in northern Wheeling.

Crowds Keeping Pools 'Filled'

Despite the record-breaking heat, water was plentiful in Wheeling this week, filling both the park swimming pools and the village water towers.

Thousands scrambled for swimming room at the outdoor Community Pool in Chamber of Commerce Park, and the indoor Neptune's Pool was drawing 150 people during the day and 100 at night.

Ferd Arndt, park superintendent, said that the crowds kept the pools "filled to capacity" and that youngsters were allowed in the outdoor pool for only an hour at a time because of the severe heat.

Paradoxically, village water towers held more water this week than they had in cooler weather two weeks ago. In the meantime, the village had instituted sprinkling restrictions and Larry Oppenheimer, director of public works, said police enforcement of the restrictions appeared to be responsible for the increased water supply.

The biggest heat problem for the public works department came when the air conditioner broke down in the department's office.

The sprinkling restrictions allow residents at even-numbered addresses to sprinkle only on even-numbered dates and those with odd-numbered addresses to sprinkle only on odd-numbered dates.

6/30/71

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Park Com. Gene Sackett said the district would use the temporary agreement while renegotiating a contract with the Illinois Counties Patrol Service.

Sackett said he hoped a new agreement could be reached within a month.

Park District Eyes Parking Expansion

Expanding the parking lot adjacent to the Wheeling Park district office and fieldhouse was discussed Thursday by the park district board of commissioners.

Board members directed Supt. Ferd Arndt to investigate the cost of bringing in gravel for a larger parking lot area to the south of the existing parking lot.

The board proposed using the gravel area as a lot for a year before black-topping the area.

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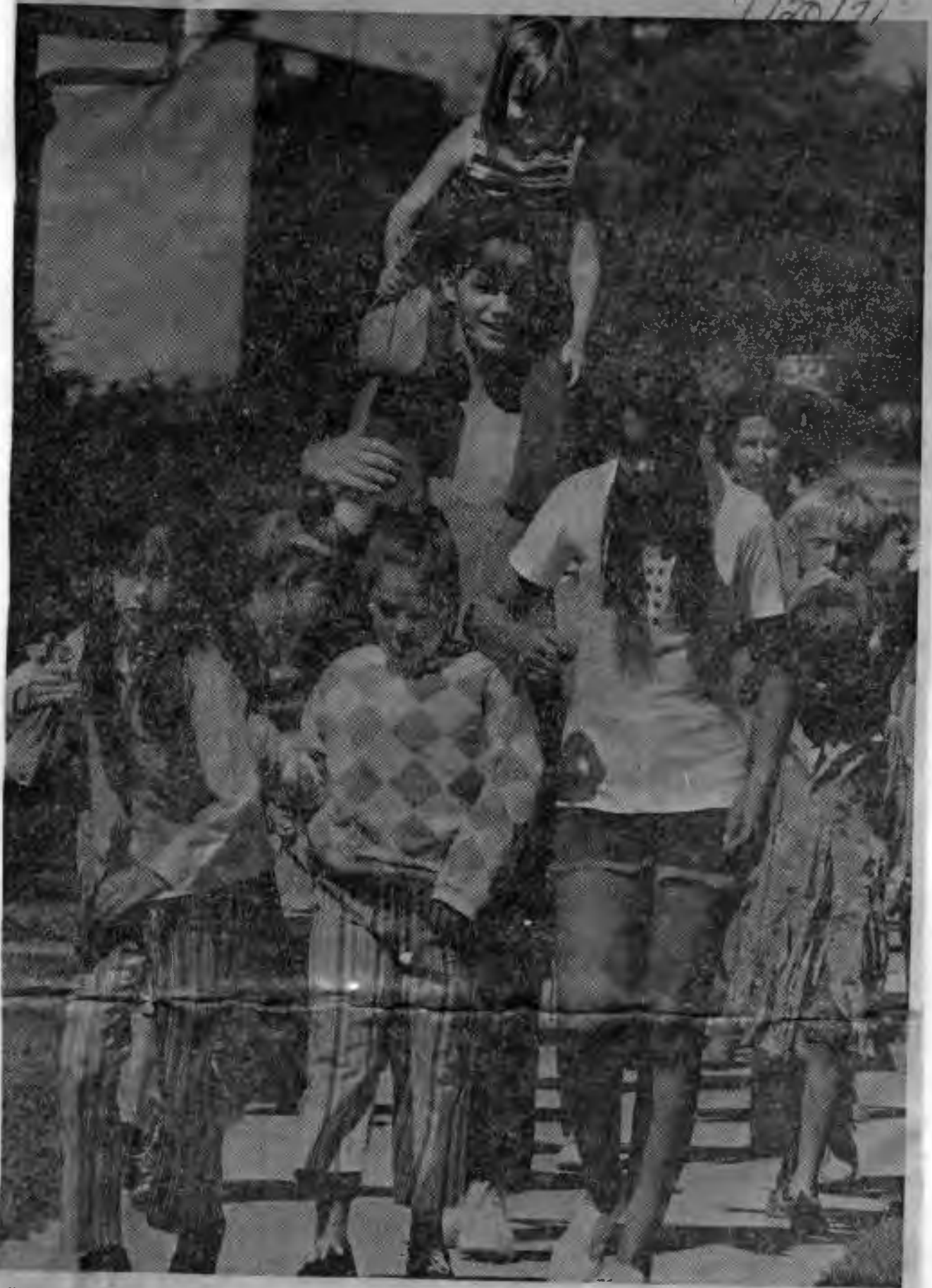
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7/20/71



A "HOBO HIKE" took youngsters from Heritage Park in Wheeling to a nearby forest preserve for a picnic, games and a scavenger hunt last week. The children were participants in the Wheeling Park District's playground program.

Jigsaw Puzzle Boundaries Baffling

Park Commissioners

7-26-71

The jigsaw puzzle boundaries of Wheeling and Buffalo Grove led Wheeling park commissioners into a baffling discussion Thursday night.

The commissioners were trying to figure out which homeowners are residents of the park district and entitled to lower swimming pool fees and other privileges.

But that, it turned out, was no simple task.

Even though Buffalo Grove has its own park district, some residents of the Cambridge area of the village of Buffalo Grove are also residents of the Wheeling Park District.

"Some of them pay taxes to us," said

Wheeling Park Supt. Ferd Arndt, "but they go up to Buffalo Grove to vote (in park elections)."

Other Buffalo Grove residents come to the Wheeling Park District office to ask for resident privileges, only to find that park employes are uncertain about whether they qualify.

"We look at our map (of the park district)," said Mrs. Pat Hancock, "and it shows that they're not in the district, but then they come back later with their tax bills and they pay taxes to us."

SOMEONE SUGGESTED that Mrs. Hancock had hit upon the solution: Homeowners should be required to prove they live in the district by showing their

real estate tax bills. If they pay taxes to the district, they qualify for lower rates.

Commissioner Lorraine Lark quickly scuttled that proposal.

"Why I haven't been able to get a copy of my own tax bill," Mrs. Lark said. "It goes to the mortgage company, and I've sent them three letters trying to get a copy. So far, nothing."

While commissioners were mulling over that problem, Park Atty. Roger Bjorvik pointed out another. Some people, he said, own homes that, because of district's crazy boundaries, lie partly in the Wheeling Park District and partly in the Buffalo Grove Park District.

Arndt agreed. "Why, some people cook

supper in our district and when they go to bed at night, they're in another."

Arndt said that while the park district's boundaries, zig and zag around the map, at least they are nice straight surveyor's lines.

UNFORTUNATELY, the western boundaries were drawn before much of the land was developed, and when the developers came they didn't follow those straight lines. Instead they built curving streets and cul-de-sacs that cut across the boundaries, leaving one homeowner with 16 feet of his lot in the Wheeling Park District, the rest in Buffalo Grove.

No one could solve that problem but Mrs. Lark finally hit upon a solution

Mrs. Lark finally hit upon a solution to the original problem — a solution almost as complicated as the problem.

Instead of using their own map, she suggested that park employes buy a special map of the disputed area. The map shows lots and real estate numbers.

"They can take those numbers and check with the township assessor," Mrs. Lark said. "He can check his records and see if they pay taxes to us or Buffalo Grove. Then we can keep a list of the addresses and check it when people come in."

Her fellow commissioners quickly agreed and went on to other, less complicated business.

Coleman Takes Duties ^{7/26/71} As Recreation Director

There's a new face at the Wheeling Park District office now.

It's Bruce Coleman, new recreation coordinator for the park district.

Originally from Elmhurst, Coleman received a B.S. degree in recreation from the University of Illinois in 1970.

The young director has come to the district from St. Procopius College in Lisle, where he was a track coach last year.

"Then I decided I'd better start using my degree, so I came here," he said, with a smile.

On the job only a week, Coleman said he decided to take up recreation as a career after entering the University of Illinois on a track scholarship.

"I was only on the track team for two years. I was really bad," he recalled.

THE FOUR-YEAR recreation program is offered by the physical education department at Illinois.

The course of study included such topics as theory of recreation, outdoor recreation, camping, day camps, landscaping and recreational administration.

"When I went there, there were 160 enrolled, mostly girls. It's a fairly new pro-

gram area. About 50 colleges in the country offer these classes. Most of them have been developed in the last 20 years," Coleman said.

As a student, he worked during the summer for first the Elmhurst Park District and later the Villa Park Park District. Coleman said he doesn't foresee "a whole lot of changes" in the Wheeling Park District's recreation program.

The first set of programs he will be in charge of setting up and running will be those offered this fall. Coleman said he will be getting together soon with the park board and other staff members to work out a set of new programs.

PROGRAMS FOR the youth of the community are one of his particular concerns.

"There isn't much for them. We should offer them something. They need something to do. The problem is that you can't program for teenagers. They don't like to be organized."

Coleman said he also expects to be teaching several of the park district programs himself, although nothing definite has been determined as yet.

Coleman said he also hopes to work closely with the local schools to determine what programs should be offered by the park district.

As far as the future is concerned, Coleman said he hopes to eventually study for a master's degree in recreation, with the idea of becoming a park district superintendent.

"I enjoy recreation. I enjoy kids — talking to them and teaching them. That's why I got interested in this work," he said.

Corps To Practice At Heritage Park

The First Illinois Drum and Bugle Corps will practice each Tuesday in the Wheeling park district building in Heritage Park.

The park board voted Thursday to allow the corps to use the building every Tuesday for its practices.

The group practices will be allowed until a formal agreement on a corps plan to build an addition to the park building can be reached.

The corps board of directors has agreed to a plan to build an addition on the south side of the building for storage of equipment and an office. The rental charges for use of the building will be charged against the cost of constructing the addition.

The park board is awaiting a formal agreement before voting to accept the addition. The vote Thursday will allow the corps to begin holding Tuesday night practices at the building now, however.

5/24/71

Action Delayed On Heritage Park Basin Work

9/20/71

The Wheeling Park District Board delayed action on final approval for the work done on the Heritage Park West retention basin Thursday.

The park board had been asked by the village to approve the work.

Instead, the park board decided to wait until after a meeting with the village's sewer, water and public health committee scheduled for discussion of the flood control program work.

The park board had been sent a copy of a letter from the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) to Village Pres. Ted C. Scanlon.

In the letter the MSD has asked for a release indicating that the seeding work done on the basin was satisfactory.

Comr. Robert Ross suggested the park board should tell the village the job was not satisfactory — "There's no grass," he said.

Other commissioners favored waiting until after the meeting with the village, however.

"We need facts and specifics, we can't just object," Comr. Gene Sackett pointed out.

The board decided it would take action on the request at its meeting in two weeks provided the meeting with the village committee was completed by that date.

Fieldhouse Flag To Fly All Day

8-25-71

There will be a flag flying in front of the Wheeling Park District fieldhouse around the clock, park district commissioners decided.

Board members authorized Supt. Ferd Arndt to have lights installed at the base of the flagpole so that the flag can be flown at night.

In an earlier discussion board members deferred action on adding a fire-

place and low-enclosing walls to the district's ice skating shelter house, which is used as a pavilion in the summer.

The board delayed the work after Commissioner Lorraine Lark said that the district could spend the \$1,500 cost of the walls and fireplace more productively on trees and bushes to landscape 66 acres of Heritage Park that are undeveloped.

Wheeling High, Park Dist. Agree To Share Facilities

9/20/71

Officials of Wheeling High School and the Wheeling Park District agreed Thursday to strive for an increased sharing of facilities.

WHS principal Thomas Shirley and Assistant Principal Frank Bohac attended the meeting to discuss use of the upstairs room at Neptune's pool.

Park officials had discussed asking the school to remove the desks used for ROTC and driver training courses from the room so it would be more usable for evening programs.

Shirley explained that removing the desks each day would have been impossible. He proposed instead that the park district use rooms in the school for its various evening programs.

FOR A BEGINNING bridge class Shirley suggested the teachers lounge, which is carpeted, has 10 small tables which could be used for bridge.

Park officials agreed to the solution. They explained the meeting with Shirley was necessary because the district's recreation director had found it almost impossible to schedule programs for the various school rooms.

Shirley said school officials have not been concerned about the balance of exchange in the park using rooms at the school in exchange for the school using the upper pool room.

The park district also uses a dancing room in the school on Saturdays and will use the fieldhouse this winter for roller skating.

Shirley emphasized that the school wants to help the park district provide community programs. He said the school would have an open door policy — "You can have as many rooms as you can use," he told the park board members.

HE SUGGESTED the park board might use the school library for discussion groups and that in scheduling next year the park district would be given priority right after the school in scheduling events at the fieldhouse and the theater at the school.

Shirley told the park board that several Saturday nights at the school this year remain open because many of the school activities have been scheduled for Thursday evenings this year instead of Saturday evenings.

The park board and the two WHS officials also discussed installation of a scoreboard in the Neptune's pool facility.

Park officials decided to draw up a proposal for sharing the cost of the scoreboard equally and send it to High School Dist. 214. The scoreboard proposed would cost about \$1,900, park officials said.

Cost Linked To Size Of Pile

Husky Park Hill Will Be Reduced To Poodle Level

10/29/71

The 13-foot-high hill in Wheeling's Husky Park will soon be reduced by nine feet.

The Wheeling Village Board this week approved spending a total of between \$25,000 and \$30,000 to have most of the dirt in the hill hauled from the park site.

Board members voted to waive competitive bidding procedures on the dirt hauling after Acting Village Mgr. George Passolt explained that other firms had given prices of \$2.35 or \$3 per cubic yard to haul the dirt.

Pasquesi Trucking Co. will do the work for the village for \$1 per cubic yard.

At Tuesday's village board meeting Trustee Michael Valenza asked how the dirt will be measured. Valenza was skeptical when Village Director of Public Works Larry Oppenheimer said the volume of the dirt could be determined by measuring the pile.

"ARE YOU GUYS kidding me?" Valenza asked, saying there could be a hole in the middle of the pile.

Oppenheimer fought back, pointing out, "It would be ridiculous to have somebody stand out there and count truckloads. Besides I don't know what kind of truck they're going to use."

He assured Valenza there were no

holes in the middle of the pile. Valenza also questioned whether if it rained before hauling the volume of dirt wouldn't change.

Board members asked Oppenheimer to make sure the back yards of property surrounding the hill were "in good shape" and filled in before all the dirt was hauled away.

The work was to begin as soon as the pile could be measured, they said.

THE VILLAGE HAD originally planned to leave the dirt in the park because of the cost of hauling away the hill.

However, last spring both residents of the area and the Wheeling Park District Board asked to have the hill lowered to a reasonable height or removed.

Park officials pointed out the high hill was useless for recreational purposes.

Residents of the area complained that having the hill adjacent to their backyards cut off the light from their property. They said people standing on top of the hill could look down into their homes. One man said children had thrown clumps of dirt from the hill into his swimming pool.

THE VILLAGE announced its plans to

lower the hill to the four foot height in September.

This week's waiving of the bidding procedure will mean that the actual removal of the hill can get underway.

Use Of Room Above Pool Is Discussed

9/2/71

The use of the large room above Neptune's Pool for Wheeling High School classes was discussed by the Wheeling Park District Board Thursday.

Park board members said they would be reluctant to let the school continue to use the room for its naval junior ROTC classes and driver education classes if desks and other equipment left in the room would hamper its use for park district activities.

Classes in bridge and first aid are scheduled in the room two nights each week.

The board members had also considered putting a pool table in the room.

In discussions last year park officials said they had thought there would be a trading of the use of the rooms for the use of the school's dance room, fieldhouse and little theatre.

Park board members said however, they they have never been able to schedule the fieldhouse or the theatre because of school programs and that the district only uses the dance room on Saturday mornings.

They decided after the discussion to invite WHS administrators Tom Shirley and Frank Bohac to the next park board meeting to discuss use of the room.

"We don't want to call them tomorrow and say just forget about using that room. We want to talk about it," Comm. Gene Sackett said.

Husky Park Hill Remains Intact

10-15-71

The village of Wheeling is hauling some dirt away from the Husky Park flood basin area, but the village hasn't begun to remove a large hill of dirt from the park, Acting Village Manager George Passolt said yesterday.

Wheeling Park District Commissioner Lorraine Lark had said last week that the village had begun hauling the dirt hill away from the park.

Passolt said yesterday that the dirt which was being hauled is the dirt from the current excavation work at the park.

He explained the village is hauling away the recent dirt because it doesn't want to aggravate the situation by adding to the hill.

Board To Probe Flood Control Basin Problems

The height of a hill in Husky Park and the mudflats in Heritage Park are only two of the flood control basin problems to be discussed at a meeting tonight.

Wheeling Village Board members and Wheeling Park District officials will meet at 7 p.m. at the municipal building in an attempt to solve those and other problems with the village's flood control basin system.

The meeting of the village's sewer, water, and public health committee had originally been scheduled for Sept. 13 but had to be postponed when committee chairman Roger Stricker could not attend.

AFTER A MEETING with park district officials and a tour of the local basin system last spring, the village ordered Harza Engineering Co. to do a study on bringing the flood control basin system up to par.

Harza has made recommendations, and at tonight's meeting village officials are scheduled to decide which of the proposed changes and additions to the flood

control program the village can afford.

The proposals could cost the village as much as \$85,000.

Acting Village Mgr. George Passolt has told the park board that the village board plans to reduce the Husky Park hill to four feet above ground level.

Residents of the area around the hill had complained last spring about the hill which towers above their backyards. Park district officials were also unhappy about the hill which is 13 feet tall and cannot be used for park programs.

IN ADDITION TO that problem the officials will discuss seeding and leveling the two small basins north of the Heritage Park fieldhouse.

And there are problems with a ditch north of those two basins. Stricker has suggested it might be lined with concrete to stop erosion.

And ultimately there is the overflow problem with the large Heritage Park west basin to discuss.

Water in the basin stands higher than it should in a normally wet year. The Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) has suggested a pumping station be built to lower the water level by discharging water into the Wheeling drainage ditch faster.

But before the MSD will provide such a station the village needs park district permission to use the adjoining park land for construction of the station.

AS A RESULT of the overflow problem the park district has been unable to grow grass around the large basin, and the mud flats which encircle the basin are an eyesore.

This all leads back to Harza's suggestion that the village should get park district permission for the pumping station as the solution to the grass problems around the basin.

It's First Illinois Drum, Bugle Corps Week

It is First Illinois Drum and Bugle Corps week in Wheeling.

Village Pres. Ted C. Scanlon issued a proclamation last week urging local residents to support the corps. A tag day in local shopping centers to raise funds for the corps' "Volunteers" is planned for Saturday.

The corps had asked the village for a financial contribution, but Village Attorney Paul Hamer has indicated that there is no statutory authority for the village to donate public funds to a private organization like the corps.

In other corps news, Wheeling Park District officials last week questioned the delay in preparing drawings of a park building addition proposed by the corps.

"The longer it lays, the colder I get,"

Park Comm. Robert Ross commented.

ALF WILSON, who is active in the corps as well as being park district president, explained the corps is finalizing donation promises before submitting the plans. The addition which would be used to store corps equipment would be paid for by the corps, but donated to the park district.

Park employees also noted there have been some discipline problems with corps members damaging toys and throwing garbage on the floor when they use the district building each Tuesday evening.

Wilson admitted there have been problems, but said the children involved had been identified and that discipline had improved in recent weeks.

Wickes Gets Tentative ¹⁰⁻²⁵⁻⁷¹ Easement OK

The Wheeling Park District Board gave tentative approval for a 10-foot by 25-foot easement for the Wickes Corp. property north of Heritage Park at a meeting Thursday.

Park board members agreed to tentatively grant the easement which will be used for a 15-foot sewer pipe to drain a small retention basin into the Heritage Park flood control basin.

Park board members held off on formal approval for the easement, however, saying they wanted to investigate development of a park in the area before making a final decision.

They also told Joseph Koenan, an engineer representing the Wickes Corp., that the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) must give final approval for the easement because the MSD holds a 20-year easement for drainage over 20 acres in the area of the basin.

PARK COMMR. Lorraine Lark had originally been skeptical of granting such an easement because she said the district wouldn't be able to build a garage over the easement and it is planning to build one in that area.

However, at the Thursday meeting Mrs. Lark said she had changed her mind after she was reminded about the MSD easement on the property. She said with the MSD easement the chances were unlikely that the district could build on the property anyway.

Koenan had also pointed to a paragraph included in the grant of easement which would have allowed construction for the proper "maintenance, operation or development of Heritage Park" if the village were given 180 days to alter the pipe outlet to meet the needs of the park district.

Mrs. Lark told Koenan to ask the Wickes Corp. to donate a portion of their property to the park district for the expansion of Heritage Park.

KOENAN SAID he could not speak for the corporation, but he would relay the request. He commented that the price for the property Wickes is paying to the G. D. Searle Co. was "relatively high."

Mrs. Lark said the reason the district wanted the land could not be revealed publicly yet.

She talked about a meeting park district and village officials had attended at Metropolitan Sanitary District meeting Thursday, saying that the Wickes proposal had been discussed at that meeting.

Both Mrs. Lark and Acting Village Mgr. George Passolt declined to discuss that meeting until after Tuesday's village board meeting, but Passolt did indicate no final decisions had been made at the MSD meeting.

KOENAN TOLD the park board the basin would serve to store storm water from the entire 30 acres of the property.

Current plans are to build a 150,000 square foot furniture warehouse and showrooms on the western portion of the property.

The eastern portion of the property between the village municipal building and the furniture store will be left vacant at present.

Koenan admitted that the basin could still be built without the easement but he said the water would run overland into Heritage Park and would erode the park.

Koenan said Wickes had agreed to build an eight foot wide grade crossing across a railroad spur running to the furniture store to allow pedestrians and bicyclists to get from Wheeling Road into Heritage park.

To Waive Condemnation Rights

TEKTON Corp. Offers Park District \$5,000 For Land

The Tekton Corp. has agreed to donate \$5,000 to the Wheeling Park District in exchange for the park district waiving condemnation rights on six acres of land.

It was the first time the park district has received such a donation from a developer.

The Park District board Thursday voted to accept the money and waive its right to the half of joint park-school site

number 21 on Tekton's Cedar Run Quadrangle project on North McHenry Road.

Monday night after the village board gives final plat approval to the development, the district will receive \$2,500 of the donation. The remainder will be paid when the development is completed.

A LETTER FROM Tekton Atty. David E. Zajicek promised the park board that

in exchange for its waiver of the public use designation it would receive the remaining \$2,500 within one week after the final occupancy permit is issued for the development.

The 456-unit project is expected to take about two years to develop. Zajicek wrote the park board.

Park board members Thursday asked their attorney if they could discuss the letter in a closed session. "The nature of this proposal doesn't warrant its discussion in executive session," Atty. Roger Bjorvik told the board.

The letter offered the board two alternative means of the payment schedule for the \$5,000 donation.

Commissioner Lorraine Lark, who had met with the Tekton officials, explained she had reinforced a letter written last June by Dist. Supt. Ferd Arndt.

"I told him that a park development of any kind would cost at least \$5,000. I made it known to him that we'd stick by that \$5,000 figure," she told the rest of the commissioners.

MRS. LARK pointed out that although the park district has been promised contributions by potential developers, "We've never gotten a donation from a developer before."

"It could be beneficial both to the residents of the district and the developer who can say he made the contribution," she said.

Mrs. Lark said the Tekton officials apologized for not replying to a district letter earlier. It had been misplaced, she said, and was only brought to their attention at a recent village plan commission meeting.

In urging the board to accept the offer, she said, "Whatever we get is something the district never had before. How many times have we ever gotten this far?"

Tekton Corp. agreed last May to donate a total of \$17,000 to School Dist. 21. That donation was computed on the basis of a \$50 donation for each three bedroom unit built and a \$20 donation for each two bedroom unit.

School District officials had said at the time that they would much rather have the land than the money.

SUPT. KENNETH Gill explained that because of the number of children who will live in the development. "Even if they gave us \$100,000, it still wouldn't pay for itself."

Gill said yesterday the district had not attempted to renegotiate for a higher donation. Other developers including builders of Tahoe Village and Lakeside Villas have contributed as much as \$50 to the school district.

Even with the removal of the public use designation from the Tekton site, approximately 8 acres of public use designated land remains in the area on property directly east of the Tekton land.

In his letter last spring, Park Supt. Arndt suggested the district would use the donation from Tekton to develop a park on the remaining section of public use site in that area.

Officials Ponder Suit Against *Oct 1, 71* Harza Engineers

Wheeling village officials are considering a suit against Harza Engineering Co. and the Wheeling Park District Board is threatening never to attend another village board meeting after a joint meeting on flooding problems last week.

Park district officials Thursday passed a motion saying they "would never attend another meeting like the one last Monday night." Com. Robert Ross charged that village officials have been "fooling around for over 2½ years" on the flooding problem.

At Monday's meeting former trustee Roger Stricker blamed Harza Engineering Co., the village's consulting engineer on the flood control project, for not making sure the job was done properly.

Stricker asked Wheeling Village Atty. Paul Hamer to check what legal recourse the village has against Harza for the failure of the system.

He also criticized the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) for not having widened and deepened the Wheeling drainage ditch.

Stricker said he thinks the MSD has only called for a pumping station on land adjacent to the creek because they have dropped their plans to widen the creek.

"I don't think we'll ever hear from the MSD again on the pumping station," Stricker said. "I think it was just a stalling tactic to hold off on the creek work," he said.

"My big gripe is that even Harza admits it (the flood basin system) doesn't come up to the predescribed designs. I'm very disappointed with their work," Stricker said.

Stricker, who headed the village board's sewer, water and public health committee, agreed at the close of the committee meeting last week that the village would check on the cost of flagstone for the flat clay area which surrounds the Heritage Park basin and which is an eyesore.

He had copies of a Harza report on

solutions to problems with the flood control basins sent to the park board and said another joint meeting should be set in the future.

Park district officials said Thursday they would favor having the large Heritage Park west basin dug out to make a larger lake for fishing and boating rather than having flagstone installed on the clay shelf that surrounds the water now.

The park officials admitted, however, that the question of who would pay for such work is an unanswered one.

Ross was critical of Harza Engineering. "For the world's largest engineering company that builds dams and everything they don't tell us anything and they don't tell the village anything," he pointed out.

Park board members were also critical of Stricker. They mentioned the fact that he wasted the first portion of the meeting talking about the wrong pumping station until acting village manager George Passolt pointed out his error.

Park District

Asks Parley With Village, Harza

10-13-71

The Wheeling Park District Board is working to set up a meeting with the Village of Wheeling officials and with representatives of Harza Engineering Co. at 8 p.m. Nov. 3.

Park officials decided to call the meeting after a heated discussion about the flood control basin system last Thursday.

Park officials had considered a motion saying they would never attend another village committee meeting like the one Oct. 4, but the motion was never voted on.

An article in yesterday's Herald indicated incorrectly that the motion had been passed by the park board.

The board had discussed the fact that they should have received a report to the village on the flooding basins from Harza Engineering Co. before the Oct. 4 meeting.

Comr. Gene Sackett said he was irritated that former trustee Roger Stricker had told him the park district could discuss the health of fish in the flood basin on its own time rather than wasting village trustees' time.

Payment Approved For Work At Husky Park

10-13-71

The Wheeling Village Board approved payment of bills for work on the Husky Park flood control basin, the village street maintenance program and the McHenry Road water and sewer extension.

Board members Monday approved a payment of \$27,759.89 to the Santucci Construction Co. for the Husky Park work based on a report from Larry Oppenheimer, village director of public works.

Oppenheimer told the board that 90 per cent of the work on the basin in Husky Park was completed with only a bit more excavation and installation of underdrains to go.

He said with the payment of this bill 74 per cent of the total contract for \$226,072 will be paid.

BOARD MEMBERS asked Acting Village Mgr. George Passolt to check with property owners around the basin to

make sure fences and bushes have been repaired before another bill to Santucci is paid on the work.

Board members considered getting signatures of all local residents affected before paying the final bill, but Trustee Edward Berger opposed that proposal.

"Some of the people are awfully mad, no matter what you do they won't sign anything," he pointed out.

On the street work in the Hollywood Ridge area of the village the board approved payment of \$17,024.57 to Skokie Valley Asphalt Co. A 5 per cent retainer is being held to guarantee the work.

The report recommending the payment to the board indicated the contractor performed to the specifications required by the village even though local residents had complained about the sealcoating work.

The board also paid \$52,277.63 to the DiPaola Co. for the work on the McHenry Road water and sewer extension.

In addition \$24,129.31 will be paid by the Tekton Corp., developers of Cedar Run, under a contract with the village.

Meyer Donates Concrete For Park Addition

10/28/71

Meyer Material Co., 129 S. Railroad ave., Wheeling, donated concrete to the 1st Ill. (Volunteer) Drum and Bugle Corp for the addition to Heritage Park, Park Commissioners learned Thursday at a board meeting.

The donation of 50 yards of concrete valued at contractors cost of \$17.25 per yard was confirmed by Merlln Wille, spokesman for Meyer Material Co.

"When we feel it is for a good cause, we do donate if there is a ready mix plant in the area," said Wille. "We feel the youth of the area is a good cause, and like to think the people of the area will appreciate it," said Wille.

The boys of the 1st Illinois (Volunteer) Drum and Bugle Corp, contracted with the Park District to build an addition to the Heritage Park office. The addition approximately 40 feet by 60 feet will be for their use, and consists entirely of donations of both material by merchants in the area and labor by parents and other volunteers. It is to be located on the South side of the

in the fenced in area now owned as the coral.

Wickes Ignites Panel's OK

A massive furniture store specializing in a "cash and carry" trade was favored by the Wheeling Plan Commission at a public hearing Thursday.

The 150,000 square foot Wickes Co. store would have an estimated \$10 to \$12 million in sales per year. That would mean approximately \$100,000 in sales tax revenue to the village, according to Michael Valenza, village trustee and plan commissioner.

Valenza said the tax revenue and the company's promise to pave part of Wheeling road are two major benefits of the proposal.

The store would be located on an 11-acre site east of the Soo Line Railroad Tracks and west of the Wheeling Municipal Building on the south side of Dundee Road.

PLANS FOR THE store include paving and improving Wheeling Road as a dead end street to Heritage Park south of the site.

The entrance to the store parking lot would be off of Wheeling Road rather than Dundee Road.

The 19 acres between the village municipal building and the furniture store site will remain undeveloped at present and will retain the industrial zoning currently on the land, Valenza said. Only the 11 acres for the Wickes store will be rezoned for business use.

While plan commissioners voted that the preliminary plan for the development was correct they did not give official approval. Valenza had told the commission that Village Atty. Paul Hamer had said planning approval should not be given until the zoning on the property is changed by village board action.

Valenza said he and other village board members toured a similar store in St. Louis recently along with various village employes such as the fire chief, acting manager and the director of building and zoning.

"WE WERE leery of it too until we actually saw it. It's a selling concept you have to see to believe," Valenza told several skeptical plan commissioners.

Wickes flew the Wheeling officials to see the store in a Lear Jet from Palwaukee Airport, Valenza said.

New Store To Have 'Bright Spot'

Wheeling may soon be one of the "brightest" suburbs around.

Part of a recent proposal for the new Wickes furniture store in the village is for a 150-foot-tall lamppost to be built in front of the store on Dundee Road.

Wheeling Trustee Michael Valenza and other village officials saw a similar post in St. Louis at a Wickes store.

At Thursday's plan commission meeting Valenza was enthusiastic about the huge post.

He said the 15-story-tall fixture had become a landmark in the St. Louis area and that installing one at the Wheeling store would be a boon to the community.

VALENZA SAID the post lighted the building and parking lot to almost day-

light levels at 10 p.m. Yet the lights are designed with special nonglare bulbs and reflectors so that the light doesn't shine on surrounding property, he said.

Valenza was most intrigued by a special "bucket" car which ran up the side of the pole along a track for a man to adjust and aim the light fixtures.

The pole is only used for light and not as a sign, Valenza said. He estimated that it will cost \$20,000.

The Federal Aviation Administration has given permission for such a pole to be built at the site in Wheeling, Valenza said.

The village board will still have to grant a height variation before such a tall pole can be built, Valenza said.

He said the store has a warehouse in front and customers walk through the stored furniture to an area where 300 different room settings are on display.

"The furniture is there if you want to take it with you and there are loading docks in the front of the building," Valenza said.

HE SAID EACH piece of furniture has three different prices — one price if you take it with you, a second if you have it delivered, and a third if you buy it as part of a room setting designed by a store interior decorator.

Valenza said the zoning board had previously opposed the rezoning on the property for the store because the adjacent 19 acres was also to have been given business zoning as a part of the zoning petition. Since the zoning hearing the company has withdrawn the rezoning request for the adjoining 19 acres, Valenza said.

Plan Commission Chm. Herb Lortz asked about a sidewalk along Wheeling Road for children walking to the park, but Valenza said the children could use a blacktopped area along the parking lot instead.

A railroad spur will be extended from the Soo Line R.R. tracks to the property so furniture can be delivered by rail.

Lortz asked the Wickes officials to provide a walkway across the track spur so children could cross to the park.

OTHER PLAN commissioners were concerned about the landscaping to prevent what Commr. Wilfred Sommer called "a sea of asphalt" in the parking lot.

The Wickes officials agreed to provide a detailed landscaping plan for the property to the village before the next plan commission hearing.

Sommer also questioned whether the store would look "Barn-like" similar to the Wickes Lumber Co. operations in the western suburbs. Valenza said the building would be low with a face-brick front. He said it was "so beautiful it makes Randhurst look to shame."

Engr. Joseph Koenan told the board a 1-acre detention pond four feet deep would be built on the 19-acre parcel between Wickes and the municipal building for storm water storage.

10-12

OK Tarkington School Site For New Park

The Buffalo Grove Park District has adopted a report calling for the district to develop the Booth Tarkington School park site, under a joint agreement with the Wheeling Park District and School Dist. 21.

The park site is in the Wheeling Park District, but the law allows the development of recreation facilities outside of Buffalo Grove park boundaries.

The Wheeling Park District is not interested in developing the site, because it already has a park at the adjoining Carl Sandburg School.

The Buffalo Grove Park District wants to develop the site because it appears it will not be able to get as much land as expected through a condemnation suit in the area.

The recommendation was contained in a status report from the land acquisition committee, chaired by Park Pres. William Kiddle.

The report listed the progress of other park district acquisition and development projects.

10-20-71

Wickes Store May Meet Opposition

Engineers for the proposed Wickes furniture store may encounter opposition when they meet Wheeling Park District officials at 8 p.m. tomorrow to discuss a drainage easement through Heritage Park.

Joseph Koenan of Ciorba, Spies and Gustafson, a Wilmette engineering firm, had said at a Wheeling Plan Commission meeting last week he would meet with the park officials to seek an easement for a pipe connecting a 1-acre detention basin for the furniture store land to the Heritage Park West Basin on the park property.

Koenan seemed confident he would receive the easement, and he even jokingly offered to negotiate any requests the village might have of the park board.

However, Park Comm. Loraine Lark indicated yesterday the district may not automatically grant the easement request. She pointed out that the district plans to build a garage for storage on the northwestern end of Heritage Park.

MRS. LARK pointed out that if an easement is granted the district will not be able to build any buildings over the easement.

Koenan had said at the plan commission meeting last week that even if the district didn't grant the easement the basin would empty by natural drainage into the Heritage Park basin running overland.

Mrs. Lark was skeptical of that statement, however, pointing out that natural drainage might in fact flood the village municipal building land rather than draining immediately into the Heritage Park basin.

The Wickes proposal calls for the four-foot deep basin to be built on a 19-acre parcel between the Wickes store land and the village municipal building land.

THE WICKES proposal is for a 150,000 square foot furniture store with provisions for customers to take the furniture they buy home with them.

A rail spur from the Soo Line R.R. tracks will be built onto the property to allow furniture delivery by rail. The spur will run along the property's southern boundary adjacent to Heritage Park.

At Thursday's plan commission meeting Comm. Herb Lortz had asked the Wickes Corp. to consider providing a bridge across the spur for pedestrians and bicyclists to use in getting to Heritage Park.

'We Won't Waive Rights To Park Site'

Park District Objects To Tarkington Park Plans

The Wheeling Park District Board has objected to the Dist. 21 School Board's decision to allow the Buffalo Grove Park District to develop a park at Tarkington School.

The school is located in the Wheeling Park District.

The park board voted Thursday to notify Dist. 21 that the Wheeling Park District has not taken any formal action releasing the Tarkington site or any other site from the contract signed by Dist. 21 and the Wheeling Park District.

"We're not waiving our rights to that park," Comm. Gene Sackett said at the Wheeling Park District meeting.

The park board action followed a discussion in which park board members castigated the Dist. 21 Board for authorizing the Buffalo Grove Park District to develop the school site as a park.

THE PROPERTY lies within the boundaries of the Wheeling Park District

and is one of the school sites covered in the school-park agreement which gives the Wheeling Park District use of the land in exchange for maintaining it.

However, Buffalo Grove park officials want to develop a park at the site for residents of their district who live nearby. They say the Wheeling district has shown no interest in developing the site.

Wheeling park commissioners said Thursday night that they had had an informal meeting with officials of the school district and the Buffalo Grove Park District last week.

Commissioner Sackett said the Wheeling park representatives at the meeting had indicated they were "favorably inclined" to allowing the development of the Tarkington site by the Buffalo Grove Park District.

However, Sackett said, the Wheeling park representatives had said they want-

ed to take the matter back to the district board for further discussion before taking any formal action on releasing the site.

"**BUT WITHIN** 25 hours of that meeting the school board had authorized the Buffalo Grove Park District to develop the property," Sackett said.

Under the school park agreement there must be a 90-day notification if any changes are to be made in the agreement, park commissioners said.

As a result the park board decided to notify the Buffalo Grove park board that the matter of developing the Tarkington School site had been placed in a Wheeling park district committee for discussion at a later date.

The letter will also point out that "we can take no formal action until the 90 day clause is adhered to," park commissioners said.

'Wait And See' Attitude On Mud Flat Issue Taken

11-17-71

The possibility that legal action may be necessary to clean up the mess at the Heritage Park West flood control basin in Wheeling was discussed briefly Monday at the village board meeting.

Board members decided instead, however to take a "wait and see" attitude on the mud flats which surround the basin.

Wheeling Park District officials have described the mud as an eyesore and have been trying to have the basin improved.

They are waiting for a report from Harza Engineering Co. on what could be done to solve the problem without additional cost to the village. The report was requested from the firm by Village Manager George Passolt.

Board members had hoped to discuss the problems with the basin in a closed executive session as potential litigation. However they were advised by Village Atty. Paul Hamer that only litigation which is actually pending can be legally discussed behind closed doors.

TRUSTEE Michael Valenza told the

audience that the village trustees "made no secret" of the fact that they were very disappointed with the village consulting engineer on the flood control program, Harza Engineering Co.

Talking about a meeting last week involving officials from the village, the Wheeling Park District, the Metropolitan Sanitary District and Harza, Valenza said, "We don't feel Harza has delivered."

Valenza said as a consequence of Harza not fulfilling its contract with the village, "the park district is very unhappy, we are very unhappy and the Metropolitan Sanitary District is very unhappy."

Quoting a statement by David Kleiner of Harza, that the company "goofed a little" Valenza said as a result the park district is seeking relief from the Village of Wheeling. The village was given the land by the park district for the flood control basin.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS noted that the Wheeling flood control basin involvement was a "first" for the MSD

and that one reason the MSD was willing to become involved financially is that the land had been donated for the basin.

The village board had received a letter from the park board offering to join in a presentation to the MSD with the village seeking additional funds to enlarge the basin to a 22-acre lake. Village board members decided to wait for the Harza report before approaching the MSD, however.

At a committee meeting of the board as a whole before the regular village board meeting Monday the board briefly discussed the Heritage Park basin problems, noting the \$140,000 to \$160,000 it would cost to enlarge the 8-acre basin to 22 acres.

In addition, Valenza noted the village will have to find a satisfactory solution to the problem which will suit the park district. He commented that Park Com. Lorraine Lark had said the park board might have to end up in "a friendly suit with the village" to solve the problems with the basin.

11/6/71



WHITTLING A FIGURE out of a bar of Ivory Soap is the first step to becoming a woodcarver. Les and Lois Williams work on their soap sculptures in a Wheeling Park District class taught by wood carver Fred Deuerling.

10-27-71

BOARD OK'S EASEMENT FOR WICKES CORP.

By June Stewart

The Wheeling Park District Board of Commissioners granted a tentative easement for the Wickes Corp. development, at a regular meeting Thursday, Oct. 21 at Heritage Park.

Pending Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) approval, the easement would actually be

granted to the Village of Wheeling, under the existing ordinance. The village will own all storm sewers connected with the easement.

Representing the Wickes Corp. and the Village, Engineer, Joseph Koenen, requested the 10 feet wide by 25 feet long easement on Park District property for "installation of pipe 3 to 4 feet underground." According to Wheeling Planning Commission directives, Wickes Corp. must incorporate a detention pond into their plat. The pond would drain into the Heritage Park basin 25 feet away.

Koenen stated, "The Wickes Corp. plans for underground pipes to connect the two basins." And he assured Park Commissioners grates would be placed at both ends of the 15 inch diameter pipe to insure "protection of neighborhood children."

Informing Park Commissioners that Wickes basin would be bowl shaped, "And approximately 5 feet deep with a gentle slope and seeded or sodded with grass."

The pond would drain by gravity flow into the Heritage Park basin, with flared pipe conforming to the present slope of the

Continued on Page 14

Park District's Problem: Patching Up Those Leaks

11/8/71

Wheeling's Park District board discussed problems concerning a leaky roof and a leaky swimming pool at a meeting Thursday.

In a relatively short meeting the board discussed a variety of problems and programs, including a district news letter. An executive session to discuss personnel matters was included at the end of the meeting.

Board members appropriated \$300 for repairs to the roof at the Heritage Park Fieldhouse.

In a discussion of a \$3,739 water bill for the Community Pool on North Wolf Road, board members heard that new leaks apparently caused the high cost.

District employes explained that the village water had to be kept on constantly last summer to keep the pool full.

IF THE incoming water was shut off the pool water level would drop 8 or 10 inches in a day, they said.

THE FACT that the district spent \$3,000 last year repairing leaks at the

pool made the news of the high water bill even more unnerving to the park board.

The board directed acting Supt. Robert Ruley to check if the bill for the water was correct, and if it was, to investigate the pool leaks.

The board also asked Ruley to propose four dates for publishing of a quarterly district newsletter which would tell local residents about past participation in district programs. The newsletter would be put out by park district recreation employes.

In other action Thursday the board agreed to allow construction trucks to drive across park property. Wayne T. Huberty of 348 Sunset had asked the board to allow the trucks to cross park land to get to his home.

THE BOARD also agreed to allow Commissioner Gene Sackett to study the possibility of a small miniature golf course or a driving range on park property.

Board members heard a report from

Ruley that the cost of the course in Highland Park was \$54,000 and that the cost of a miniature golf course in Mount Prospect was between \$20,000 and \$40,000.

In other action Thursday the board directed Ruley to prepare a study of the feasibility and potential costs of constructing a maintenance garage.

Board members also asked Ruley to collect brochures on recreation and park district extension courses so the district can study having its employes take outside courses.

Ruley told the board that attendance has been good at the recent Chicago Bears home football games the district shows on its color television on Sunday afternoons.

Approximately 40 persons attended the first showing and 65 persons attended the second. A third telecast was held yesterday.

THE DISTRICT has received permission from the Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration to extend its reception tower 15 feet higher. The tower is used to bring the games signals in from Rockford.

The park board will hold a special meeting at 9 p.m. Wednesday following an 8 p.m. meeting scheduled with village officials and the Harza Engineering Co. on the food control program.

No regular meeting will be held Nov. 18 because the board will be attending a park convention in St. Louis.

Halloween Funsters



Pre-school children had their own Halloween Party in the Wheeling Park District. Children in the picture include James McDaniel, 381 Nancy; Michael Weder, 235 S. Wheeling; Kim Cunneen, 118 Meadowbrook; Julia Buccola, 1071 Hoffman Lane; Susan Maas, 1387 Woodland Lane; Suzie Odom, 552 E. Merle; Edward Scanlon, Jr., 164 S. Wheeling; Larry Schlessinger, 1156 Valley Stream and Daniel Bengelstein, 400 Meadowbrook.

11/1/71

Ice Hockey Rink To Be Built At Heritage Park

A new fully equipped ice hockey rink will be built on the softball field in Heritage Park. Wheeling Park District board members decided Thursday.

The new rink will be lighted and will be surrounded by dashers, low wooden walls.

A group of local residents interested in having a hockey rink will build the hockey boards for the rink with plywood donated by Park Commissioner Robert Ross.

The district is going to purchase two-by-fours to build supports to hold the boards in place.

Walter Fuller and Walter Busse, who represented the citizens group, told the board they hoped the rink could serve a variety of purposes. They said they had volunteers willing to hold informal classes to instruct younger children in hockey.

IN ADDITION, they asked about private groups reserving the rink during off hours and about whether the rink use would be scheduled to assure younger players time on the ice.

Park District commissioners took no firm stand on scheduling for the rink. They asked recreation director Bruce Coleman to plan the use of the new facility.

Some board members said they feared there would be strings attached to having volunteers build the rink, but they said the district would build it with its own manpower if volunteers would not do the work without special privileges in using the rink.

The board appropriated \$500 to pay for the materials needed to build the dashers, and directed the acting superintendent to get work started on the rink installation.

In a separate action the board voted to assure local residents that the neighborhood and general ice skating rinks would not be slighted for the new hockey facility.

THEY VOTED unanimously that maintenance priority would be given to the rinks at Mark Twain, Eugene Field, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Booth Tarkington schools and to the Heritage Park general skating rink north of the field-house.

Commissioners Gus Nizzi and Lorraine Lark had promoted the necessity of

maintaining neighborhood rinks on a higher priority than the hockey facility.

Mrs. Lark cast the only vote against spending the money to build the new hockey facility.

The board also approved spending up to \$700 to purchase a sprayer machine. The machine will be used to put a smooth surface on ice rinks this winter. In the summer it can be used for spraying lawns with fertilizer, acting Supt. Robert Ruley said.

Ruley also told the board at Thursday's meeting that dirt to fill in low areas at the Mark Twain school park facility would be provided by the village from the dirt being hauled away from Husky Park.

Consider Maintenance Garage for Park Equipment

The Wheeling Park District may build a maintenance garage within the next fiscal year, it was learned at a meeting of park board commissioners Nov. 4, 8 p.m. at Heritage Park.

Commissioners voted to direct the Buildings and Grounds Committee to consider the prospects of a garage to house park equipment for maintenance purposes.

The existing garage is too small to store and maintain equipment, resulting in most of the equipment being stored outside in an area known as the "corral." Although no definite plans were discussed at this meeting, Acting Superintendent Bob Ruley stated, "It would probably be something bigger so we don't have to leave the equipment outside all winter."

And, he added, "Equipment left outside all winter gets rusty, doesn't start, and requires more maintenance." A new garage, large enough to house equipment, "would save on maintenance costs," said Ruley.

Park District equipment stored outside in the corral and parking lot areas includes, two trucks, three tractors, disks, snow plow, lawn mowers, attachments and tools.

At the meeting, Commissioner Ross confirmed his donation of plywood for the ice hockey rink. Discussion for use of the rink followed about using the rink for instructional purposes or open game playing. Commissioners decided it would probably be for both uses.

In board action, a resolution was passed stating the ice rink be developed on the present

lighted softball diamond and football field at Heritage Park as early as possible and \$500 be allocated for its completion.

Commissioner Lark made the motion Superintendent Ruley take the necessary action to get the hockey rink installed.

And she suggested further, if necessary, the Park District could "take the crew off of something else and put them to work on that."

It was brought to the board's attention by Commissioner Sacket that the length of the skating season could be from 20 to 90 days with the average about 40 days.

In another motion, Commissioner Lark requested Heritage Park East skating rink and rinks at Twain, Sandburg, Hawthorne -- be given first priority as far as ice.

Discussion ensued concerning the lighted baseball and football site restoration after use as an ice hockey rink. The board was informed the field would require draining and reseeding of grass by Superintendent Ruley.

In additional action, the board decided to purchase a sprayer, not to exceed \$700, to be used to spray the water on the site when flooding the ice rink.

Superintendent Ruley was directed to contact Department of Public Works Director, Larry Oppenheimer, and set up a time schedule for flooding the rinks.

The Park District's water bill for \$3739 from the village for water for the community pool brought comments. Questions arose concerning the amount and correctness of the bill, Superin-

tendent Ruley explained, "two hydrostatic valves were not working properly," in spite of recent repairs to the system. "The pool could have had an 8 to 10 inch water loss per day during its period of operation," he said.

Other discussion concerning the possibility of building a miniature golf course, resulted in Superintendent Ruley being instructed to investigate the matter further. Commissioner Sacket suggested commissioners "see what possibility there is on building something like this one on Golf rd." And he continued, "see what we could do with our own labor force." The board approved inquiring into the matter further.

Board members, in other action, changed the program of the PreTurkey Trot Cross Country Races to be run Saturday, Nov. 13, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Heritage Park.

Secretary Pat Hancock was instructed to contact Village Manager George Passolt concerning dirt at Twain school. All commissioners were present for the meeting.

Commissioners granted permission to a request by Mr. Huberty, a neighboring resident, to allow trucks to drive and drop off materials at the resident's property. Because of the location of the improvement, trucks must cross Park District property.

Officials Discuss Flooding Problem Of 'Yucca Flats'

Engineers, village officials and park commissioners talked for two hours Wednesday night about a flood control basin that has become the "Yucca Flats" of Wheeling.

At the end, Park Comm. Lorraine Lark said, "The discussion, though interesting, was not fruitful." Most of the dozen participants agreed.

Mrs. Lark and other Wheeling Park District officials want to turn the basin, located in the western end of Heritage Park, into "a beauty spot of the Northwest suburbs."

Because the basin does not drain as expected, grass will not grow at its edges and, according to Park Commissioner Gus Nizzi, "It looks like Yucca Flats."

At the meeting the park board tried to get help from the Village of Wheeling, the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD), and representatives of Harza Engineering Company, village consultants. Village and MSD funds were used to build the basin on park property.

THE MEETING ENDED with no firm offers of help. Instead park commissioners appeared frustrated and village officials disgruntled at both Harza and MSD representatives.

Dave Kleiner, the Harza representative admitted, "We goofed a little" in designing the basin but he laid some of the blame on still another agency, the state division of waterways. He said the basin would drain better if the state had widened and deepened the Wheeling drainage ditch. The plans for the basin, he said, anticipated improvements of the creek.

Kleiner offered two plans for improving the basin.

At first village officials liked one plan while park commissioners liked the other. In the end, the village officials were dissatisfied with both proposals.

Mrs. Lark favored enlarging the present eight acre basin into a 22-acre lake that could be used for recreation programs.

Kleiner called the bigger basin the "ultimate solution" but Thomas McCann, a project engineer for the MSD, disagreed and said he doubted that his agency would contribute much money for such a project. It would cost \$140,000 to \$160,000.

McCANN FAVORED Kleiner's other plan, the construction of a pumping station to drain the basin. McCann said the MSD would pay about \$70,000 of the \$100,000 cost of that project.

Wheeling Village Mgr. George Passolt indicated the village would pay the remaining \$30,000 for the pumping station but he said he could not promise that the village would finance the plan to enlarge the lake.

Passolt's interest in the pumping station waned when he learned that neither McCann or Kleiner would guarantee that the plan would end the mud flats. Both engineers said the plan would increase the chances that grass would grow around the basin but they admitted the grass might be killed after an extremely heavy rain filled the entire basin.

Passolt and Roger Stricker, his administrative assistant, said that at an earlier meeting the two engineers had indicated the pumping station would end the mud flats and that was the chief reason they had supported the plan.

VILLAGE TRUSTEE Michael Valenza suggested that "the village and park district didn't get what we contracted for from Harza. Harza goofed and we should go to Harza for relief."

Mrs. Lark said the village and park district appeal to the MSD board of trustees for help in building the bigger basin. Her fellow commissioners later agreed with Mrs. Lark and agreed to send a letter asking the village board to cooperate in seeking MSD aid.

Lauds Free Swim Plan

12-6-71

12/6/71 Wheeling High School Principal Thomas Shirley has praised the Wheeling Park District for its new free swimming program held each Tuesday night.

In a letter to the park board, Shirley said that the program of allowing free use of the pool for anyone from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays will in the long run benefit the park district.

Shirley said he was "pleased and gratified" to learn of the new program. "I have been approached by many local citizens who have commented quite favorably regarding this gesture of good will and cooperativeness."

Shirley has always advocated the district allowing all persons in the Wheeling High School attendance area to use the pool for the same rates. But because the pool is financed by park district taxes, the district board has stood firmly behind a policy of double fees for non-district residents.

OF THE FREE swimming the district board approved in hopes that it would increase pool attendance, Shirley said, "I feel confident that the decision is being well received by the local community."

"Somehow I feel that in the long run, the benefactor will be the Wheeling Park District," Shirley wrote.

"Such action is entirely in keeping with the school-community concept and philosophy that has meant a great deal in our community in the past few years.

"I truly hope that the 'experiment' is successful and our school community can continue to enjoy this new privilege," Shirley wrote.

The High School Dist. 214 board recently approved paying half the cost of a scoreboard for the pool, park officials

learned Thursday. The school district will pay up to \$950 towards the cost of the sign, the school district board decided.

IN OTHER ACTION, the park district board Thursday decided to allow a Girl Scout troop to meet in the Chamber of Commerce Park building for free.

A group of former students of Jack London Junior High School presented a check for \$576.12 to the park district board. The money was raised in a baseball marathon by the students last May. It will be used to help develop Chamber of Commerce Park. The group told the park board that an additional check for \$346.54 would also be presented to the district at a later date.

The park board also approved the purchase of \$288 worth of hose to flood the ice rinks this winter.

The board also decided to ask the village of Wheeling if a park district newsletter might be mailed to local residents along with the quarterly village newsletter.

COMMISSIONER Lorraine Lark asked district Treasurer William Blank to prepare a report on the district's financial condition before the board's Dec. 23 meeting.

The board also agreed to discuss a report on the tackle football program at the first meeting in January.

The district board also plans to invite Eugene Berghoff, executive vice president of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, to attend a January meeting of the local park board.

Park Commissioner Gene Sackett submitted a report on how the district can streamline its meetings.

12/24/71 HERALD

Beginners Or Experts: Ski Lessons Set By Park Dist.

Whether you need to brush up your ski technique or get a complete set of instructions for beginners, the Wheeling Park District is offering both in its ski lessons this winter.

The classes offer "a chance to learn how to ski, to improve on your skiing, or to just sharpen up your talents," according to Bruce Coleman, district Recreation Director.

Held in cooperation with the Fox Trails Ski Area the "Beginner to Parallel" instruction program includes a choice of a one day session or package deals on three day sessions.

Participants are bused to the slopes and split into groups according to each individual's talents.

After the lesson there is free time to practice what you've been taught.

THE FIRST one day session will be held next Thursday. Buses will leave Heritage Park at 11 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m.

The cost is \$9 or \$7.50 if you own your

own equipment.

In January the district will offer three day sessions for different age groups.

Lessons for third through eighth graders will be held Wednesdays Jan. 5, 12 and 19. The buses will leave Heritage Park at 4 p.m. and return at 9 p.m. Cost of the program is \$22 for all three sessions or \$18 if you own your own equipment.

High school students will have lessons on Thursdays Jan. 6, 13 and 20 from 5 to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$22 or \$18 if you own your own equipment.

Adult lessons will be held Saturdays Jan. 8, 15 and 22 from 4 to 10 p.m. The cost for the lessons is \$25.50 or \$21.50 if you own your own equipment.

Cost for all of the trips includes equipment, tow, lesson and bus transportation.

Registration must be made one week prior to the first class date.

Lesson dates are subject to change in case of abnormally warm weather.

Swimming Pool

A Blessing Or

A Headache?

by ANNE SLAVICEK

The indoor swimming pool adjacent to Wheeling High School — is it a success or a headache?

The answer depends on whether you're talking to school officials or to Wheeling Park District officials.

As part of the high school program the pool is used by every student in the school each year he attends, according to WHS Principal Thomas Shirley.

But during evening hours, weekends and summers when the pool is run as Neptune's Pool by the Wheeling park district it has low attendance and is a financial headache for park officials.

In addition to being a valuable part of the high school's physical education curriculum, Shirley points to its contributions in making WHS swimming teams a reality.

Before there was a pool at the school, the school had trouble keeping a swimming team active. In fact, the high school was without a swimming team for three or four years because it was difficult to find students willing to travel to other areas to practice. Not having a pool for the team readily available was a real hardship for the swimmers, Shirley said.

NOW THE SCHOOL has varsity competition in swimming and the team is doing fairly well in competition with other local high schools.

"I think the improvement of the team can be attributed to having the pool nearby," Shirley said.

In addition to the pool facility the school has used the room above the pool for classes. And it has equipped the downstairs area near the saunas with weight lifting equipment for use by students and by area residents.

Having the pool built by the park district was the only way the district could get a pool at Wheeling High School, Shirley noted.

In referendum campaigns in 1962 and in 1965 to finance pools at the Dist. 214 high schools including Wheeling High School were voted down by district residents.

"The direct issue had been voted on and in each instance it was turned down even though other issues on the same ballot were approved. It was a strong indication the Dist. 214 taxpayers didn't want to foot the bill for swimming pools in their high schools," the principal pointed out.

After the defeats in 1962 the Arlington Heights Park District got together with Arlington High School to build a pool across the street from that school.

Then in 1969 a similar effort was undertaken by the Wheeling Park District and Neptune's Pool was built next to Wheeling High School.

AND THIS YEAR a similar referendum was passed by the Buffalo Grove Park District for a pool to be built alongside the new Buffalo Grove High School.

Arlington Heights's Olympic pool is a tremendous success and operates well within its budget.

But Neptune's Pool in Wheeling is another story. Because of poor attendance, higher operating costs than anticipated, and low revenue from the slack attendance, Neptune's Pool is more of a financial headache than a roaring success for the Wheeling Park District.

Attendance was poor at the pool when it opened last winter and despite brief periods of increase such as on free nights or for special programs, the pool is rarely crowded.

On week nights it is common to find the \$600,000 pool being used by less than 20 swimmers.

Because of the poor attendance the district has only taken in \$35,000 in revenue at the pool this year and it had anticipated taking in \$51,000 or \$52,000, Park Supt. Ferd Arndt said yesterday.

Because of that decline in anticipated revenue the district is in financial trouble and will be forced to issue tax anticipation warrants to get through the end of the fiscal year in May, Arndt said.

THERE IS ONLY \$4,000 left in the general fund for the year and the district has already notified its security police that it cannot continue to employ them because of financial problems.

Even so, the district will have to borrow money just to meet the salaries of other employes and keep operating, Arndt said.

In the midst of all the financial problems with the pool the district recently abated a portion of the taxes it had levied to pay off the pool mortgage this year.

Arndt explained that even though the money is sorely needed by the district it would be improper for the district to charge local taxpayers any more than necessary for the pool.

The taxes abated by the district reflect the amount of rent paid for use of the pool by High School Dist. 214 to the park district.

Arndt explained that the district had sold the pool to local voters in its referendum on the basis that a portion of the mortgage cost would be paid by the high school district.

And so, he said the park district has to keep its word.

Even if the district were to levy the tax it would not mean money until next year when the taxes are collected. And the money could not be transferred from a fund to pay for bond retirement to general funds without a special ordinance being enacted.

Yet in the face of all the problems the district is concentrating on upping pool attendance rather than talking of closing the building down or cutting back on hours.

PARK COMMISSIONER Lorraine Lark who was active in the campaign to pass the referendum for the pool said that she thinks the pool is worthwhile despite the financial problems.

"RECREATION IS THE business of the park district. The pool has not been accepted as well as we had anticipated, but having the facility for the use of residents and the schools is worth any effort," she said.

"If I had to do it again, I'd still go out and talk for it," she explained.

Thursday, December 30, 1971



USED DAILY by Wheeling High School Students for physical education classes, Neptune's pool has an almost empty look in evening and weekend hours when the Wheeling Park District opens the pool to the public. Often the pool looks like this picture — taken before it opened 13 months ago.

113172

HERALD



A HOCKEY GAME rang out the old year for youngsters at Heritage Park in Wheeling. Water from recent rains froze in the rink, which doubles as a flood control basin.

Park District Decides To Issue \$200,000 In TAWs

1-10-72

The Wheeling Park District, in financial trouble because of its indoor swimming pool, has decided to launch a scheme that will allow it to make money by borrowing money.

The park board voted Thursday night to issue \$200,000 in tax anticipation warrants — \$50,000 to actually pay its bills and \$150,000 to invest.

The warrants are a form of borrowing from banks in anticipation of tax revenue that will be received next year.

District treasurer William Blank said the district actually needs only approximately \$50,000 to continue to operate through the end of this fiscal year in April.

"We're In Red, But . . ."

Story On Page 3.

But Blank and Park Atty. Roger Bjorvik had advised the board to borrow more money than it will need so that they can invest some of the borrowed money and make a profit.

By borrowing \$200,000 the district will make enough profit to pay the interest on the first \$50,000 and to break even, Blank explained.

The district will pay the Wheeling Trust and Savings Bank 3.75 per cent in-

terest for purchasing the \$200,000 in warrants.

The district will then invest \$150,000 of the money in certificates of deposit at the bank for a higher interest rate of approximately 4.75 per cent, Blank said.

BLANK SAID the exact interest figure for the certificates of deposit had not been decided yet, but he noted that when the district had a similar arrangement with tax anticipation warrants last year it made a one per cent profit on the investment.

The tax anticipation warrants will be issued in denominations of \$50,000 each and all four of them will be sold to the local bank.

The district is borrowing the money earlier this year than it did last year because it has greater financial problems this year.

The district's financial problems stem from the fact that receipts at the new Neptune's indoor pool adjacent to Wheeling High School have been lower than anticipated while costs of maintaining the pool were higher than anticipated.

Board members approved the resolution to issue the bonds Thursday in a 4 to 1 vote. Commissioners Robert Ross, Gene Sackett, Gus Nizzi and Alf Wilson favored the resolution while Commissioner Lorraine Lark cast the only dissenting vote.

New Recreation

Director Hired

By Park District

1-13-72

David Phillips has been hired as the new recreation director for the Wheeling Park District.

Phillips comes to Wheeling from a post as a center director for the Arlington Heights Park District. He will begin his new job on Jan. 24.

The new recreation director will be second-in-command at the Wheeling Park District and will be specifically responsible for the programs and facilities the district offers to local residents.

He said yesterday that he sees a major task in getting the district's indoor swimming pool adjacent to Wheeling High School to be "a break-even proposition."

As far as new programs for the district he said he will study the district's current program with an eye toward continuing and expanding the various opportunities for recreation.

Phillips also commented that he is trying to be leaving the Arlington Heights Park District where he has been director of one of the district's park areas since November, 1970.

Phillips was hired by the Wheeling Park Board Monday night after an executive session on personnel.

Wheeling Supl. Ferd Arndt said that the new recreation director will receive an annual salary of \$10,000.

ARNDT SAID the board interviewed five applicants before selecting Phillips for the post.

Phillips will replace Bruce Coleman as recreation director. Coleman resigned his job with the Wheeling district after only five months. He plans to return to college and go into teaching, Arndt said.

Phillips, 23, is a resident of Arlington Heights. The new recreation director has a bachelor's degree in municipal recreation from the University of Iowa.

When he was new in his Arlington Heights post Phillips went door-to-door in the neighborhood of Frontier Park to introduce himself and to ask residents for new program ideas.

More recently Phillips has been center director for Hasbrook and Heritage Parks in Arlington Heights.

Before coming to the Northwest Urbans Phillips spent a summer doing work at a psychopathic hospital and an elementary school at the University of Iowa.

An Iowa resident for 10 years, he has also worked summers as a lifeguard, a pool manager and other jobs relating to swimming pools.



DAVID PHILLIPS

Pk. Bd. Issues \$200,000 in Tax Warrants

By June Stewart, 1-13-72

The Wheeling Park District issued tax anticipation warrants amounting to \$200,000 at the Thursday, Jan. 6 meeting.

Four warrants in \$50,000 denominations were issued against anticipated taxes for the period May 1, 1972 to April 30, 1973. According to Treasurer William Blank, approximately \$150,000 will be reinvested and the interest should help pay for the cost of the tax anticipation warrants.

The warrants will be purchased from the Wheeling Trust and Savings Bank at 3-3/4 per cent interest per year until they are paid off in full. The levy is for corporate purposes to meet and pay the expenses of the Park District for the remainder of the fiscal year ending April 30, 1971.

At the last board meeting, a balance of approximately \$4,000 remained in the Corporate Fund. Commissioner Lorraine Lark objected to the warrants being issued in the amount of \$200,000 and voted against the proposal. She said it was, "deceiving the people and painting a false picture of the Wheeling Park District."

Treasurer William Blank explained the cost of a \$50,000 warrant would be "out of the taxpayer's pocket." By borrowing \$200,000 and investing \$150,000, he said, the interest gained should cover the major portion of the finance charge. Adding, that is the

way business today operates.

Commissioner Sackett stated if the tax anticipation warrants had not been issued in this denomination, it would amount to "robbing next year's budget to pay the interest." Commissioner Lark stressed the point the park district was "not broke to the tune of \$200,000" and said the board should not act like "millionaires."

Part of the operating Corporate Fund deficit was attributed to high costs at the indoor pool at the high school as well as other expenditures for equipment and maintenance of ice rinks, football fields and various recreation facilities operated by the Park District for the people of Wheeling.

"Lighting and heat for 3 buildings adds up," said Park District officials. Anticipated revenue for use of Neptune's pool was not what had been projected. Even though the High School Dist. 214 pays from 50-55 per cent of the operating costs, and the new taxing agreement with the high school is helping retire the bonds, other costs such as heating and lighting have been high, said Treasurer Blank. The facilities are maintained whether or not citizens take advantage of them.

Again Commissioners commented some nights there were under 20 persons in the pool for "open swim" periods. Commissioner Sackett stated, "It is a drain on the Park District," and added "maintenance men or other

areas probably could have been cut back," in an effort to save money. Attempting to increase turnout at Neptune's pool, commissioners had voted to lower the cost of season passes per individual and per family. A resident family pass for up to 6 persons costs \$20 good from Sept. 7 to June 16. Non-residents passes are \$40 per family for the season. Neptune's pool at Wheeling High school is the closest public indoor pool in the area. Other public pools are located in Arlington Heights, the Des Plaines W.M.C.A., and at the new Buffalo Grove High school still under construction. Sauna baths and a weight room are available on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The Wheeling Park District provides handicapped adult and children's swimming lessons. They have a swim team, water polo and skin diving lessons. The skin diving lessons are \$10 for 6 weeks and a certification card from the National Association of Underwater Instructors is issued upon completion of the course.

With participation by Wheeling residents, the Park District programs have been set up to help defray the cost of operation, Park District officials stated. However, since residents have not been participating actively in Park District programs, the major portion of upkeep and operating expenses must be paid from the corporate fund.

HERALD

11/4/72

Fieldhouse

Addition Is Delayed

Plans for the First Illinois Drum and Bugle Corps to build an addition to the Wheeling Park District fieldhouse have been delayed because of problems in getting donations of bricks or cement blocks.

Robert Hoehn, a leader of the group, told the Wheeling Park Board last week that although the corps has been promised money by a number of local organizations, "Nobody's come through with a dime."

Hoehn explained that the corps didn't want to start the addition (which will be owned by the park district but used to store corps supplies) until it was sure of all the donations.

He said a dinner would be held and that local organizations would be invited. He said the corps also has recently had to pay to have its horns "revamped" as well as paying instructors.

Hoehn said that physical plans for the addition would be finalized so they could be shown to the park board soon.

"We've got the kids, we've got the instruments but we can't get the money," he told the park board.

HOEHN ALSO said that the corps is again planning competition involving nationally known drum and bugle corps July 2 to 8 in Wheeling.

In other action park commissioners approved spending \$120 to buy tickets for a Feb. 13 Chicago Bulls basketball game to be sold to local residents.

Board members also noted that a dinner held for participants in the tackle football program cost the district \$163.

Commissioner Lorraine Lark was critical of spending district money on a dinner. She said the park board had not approved the expenditure and she commented that the district has had a past policy that "We're not in the business of giving banquets."

Board members referred discussion of other costs of the tackle football program to the district's recreation committee.

Dist. Supt. Ferd Arndt also told the board that area park districts are working to develop a combined program of activities for physically handicapped children.

Local Officials Tell Rosy Outlook

Monday, January 31, 1972

Stories of a growing community and increased services were told at Wheeling "Town Meeting" by representatives of five local governmental agencies.

Representatives of Elementary School Dist. 21, the Wheeling Park District, the Wheeling Library District, the Village of Wheeling and High School Dist. 214 gave summaries of district activities, plans and progress since 1965.

Here is a capsule summary of the major points brought up by speakers at the meeting last Wednesday.

Village Of Wheeling

Village Pres. Ted C. Scanlon called for greater citizen participation, saying that all of the village's progress must actually be credited to the citizens as a whole.

He read a lengthy list of statistics as evidence of the changes in village government.

Scanlon told of Wheeling's police force growing from 13 men and 5 pieces of equipment to 33 men and 11 pieces of equipment.

He told of the fire department becoming full-time, the growth of village public works department and the general office staff.

The village president said other innovations have included starting to mail vehicle sticker applications, a boom in building permits, and a recently completed project of revamping the village filing system.

Scanlon also pointed out that the number of business licenses in the village has multiplied by five.

Wheeling Library District

Library Board Pres. Charles DuBois told of plans to work for the next 18 months or two years to build the library's collection of books, magazines, films, and other library materials. DuBois said the district will spend approximately \$40,000 per year on new materials. He said that choosing the books to make the library a useful community resource is "a slow process — we don't want to just fill shelves."

Currently the district is concentrating on developing its reference collection and expanding its selection of children's literature, DuBois said.

The library district trustee also said he expects that further physical expansion

of the library will be necessary in the next few years. The district owns a site adjacent to the current library and could build on it to triple the current space if necessary.

He said he did not know whether the expansion would necessitate another bond issue, but he did point to the fact that unlike other taxing bodies, the library district has never issued tax anticipation warrants and always operates within its current available finances.

DuBois answered a question from the audience by saying that less than half of the district's budget goes for salaries while the average for libraries in the country is 65 per cent for salaries.

DuBois told of an increase in assessed valuation of the district from \$44 million in 1965 to \$76 million in 1971.

The district currently has 23 employees, 11 of them working full-time. Three full-time professional librarians with master's degrees are included in those employees, he said.

He told of the district moving the library from its rented storefront in eastern Wheeling to its new location, and explained the book collection and annual circulation figures have increased markedly.

School Dist. 21

School Board Member Lillian Still told the audience that Dist. 21 is expecting extensive changes in curriculum and in the actual setup of the school system within the next decade.

She said the elementary school district is striving to have its curriculum "provide our students with an ability to adjust to an adult world."

While noting that the district "still teaches the three R's," she pointed to programs in contemporary social problems such as drug abuse, the justice under the law program and environmental study.

She told of programs designed to acquaint the students with the world of jobs open to them when they complete their education.

From outside of the district she said the district is watching carefully the effect of court decisions on school busing to achieve integration and new tax structure to remove the support of local schools from real estate taxes.

Walter Fuller, business manager for the district, told the audience the dis-

trict expects that before all the undeveloped land in the district is built up the district could have 20,000 to 25,000 students and as many as 25 to 30 schools.

Currently the district has 8,000 students and 15 buildings. A part of the explanation for the large growth is the fact that the district boundaries extend into six communities — Northbrook, Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights, he said.

Fuller also told the audience about the district's plan to define the goals and objections of the district with a new program planning and budgeting system.

While explaining that the system is an internal thing within the district schools, he predicted it will have a major impact on the local schools in 3 to 10 years.

School Dist. 214

School Board Pres. Jack Costello said the high school district has grown to 17,000 students since 1965.

Pointing to the just completed Rolling Meadows High School and the work just beginning on Buffalo Grove High School, Costello said the district tax rate would be considerably higher without the district's large tax base.

Each of the district's high schools is designed to house 2,500 students, Costello said, indicating that Wheeling High School was at its most crowded the week before John Hersey High School opened. "You were burgeoning at the seams with more than 3,300 students," Costello said.

The district eventually expects a total of 25,000 students in 10 schools, Costello said.

The president said the district is focusing its efforts on developing an over-all school community. He pointed to the adult education program at Wheeling High School, and the industrial arts program.

The idea, he said is to give every student some headway towards earning a living. He said college students were also included in that plan because of the rising costs of college.

Costello said he felt the district would continue its good programs despite the very real financial problems it faces and far reaching court decisions on integration.

He said the rulings that financing schools by local property taxes is not equitable "has a lot of merit to it."

He also urged Wheeling residents to take an interest in board activities and said they should consider seeking a seat on the board.

Wheeling Park District

Park Board Pres. Alf Wilson told of the purchase and development of Husky and Heritage parks, the district's purchase of community pool, opening of school playgrounds, the beginning of a recreation tax, the outdoor pool referendum and construction and the districts participation in the flooding program and restoration of the Community Church Building.

Wilson said the district tries to provide programs for everyone from preschoolers to senior citizens. In the last year he pointed to the purchase of a color TV to show Bears' and Black Hawks' games, a marathon of ecology projects conducted by local junior high school students and the district's new recreation director, David Phillips, who began his job last week.

In response to audience questions, Wilson said an ice rink at Mark Twain School was not frozen because of warm weather, that campgrounds proposed for Heritage Park were nothing more than a consideration rather than a district decision, and said the board would consider a request that smoking be banned in the Community Church Building.

Park Board Has Its Dreams, Despite Financial Reality

1-24-72

Wheeling Park Board members Thursday pondered dreams of the district owning Pal-Waukee Airport building an indoor ice rink or building a movie theater.

Commissioners on the board — which moved last month to issue tax anticipation warrants to keep the financially strapped district running — justified their discussion with comments that the district has to make long-range plans if it is ever going to get anywhere.

The discussion of the airport began when Commissioner Lorraine Lark questioned District Atty. Roger Bjorvik about the legality of the district using revenue bonds to acquire an airport.

Bjorvik said that revenue bonds would not be legal under state laws governing park districts. But he indicated that the district could hold a referendum to authorize general obligation bonds to buy an airport and levy taxes to run the airport.

Bjorvik told the park board that there are five park districts in the state which own airports.

The attorney indicated that he would

have to investigate whether the district could get federal aid to buy an airport.

MRS. LARK explained after the meeting that she had asked the questions because of comments by Pal-Waukee airport owner George Priestler that he was interested in selling the airport. She noted that the land would make a nice golf course.

Mrs. Lark also asked Bjorvik whether the district could issue revenue bonds to build a movie theatre and was given a negative answer by the attorney.

Commissioner Gene Sackett noted that revenue bonds could be used to finance an indoor ice rink.

Sackett told the commissioners that he understood that the Northbrook Park District netted \$40,000 on its indoor rink last year.

Bjorvik questioned Sackett's information, saying that he thought the bonds issued to pay for the rink would still have to be subtracted from that \$40,000 figure.

The board then asked Dist. Supt. Fred Arndt to check into the Northbrook ice

rink operation and to report back to the park board at a later meeting.

BJORVIK SAID that if the district were to consider an ice rink he would recommend first determining if a suitable site was available, then conducting a feasibility study, and using the study results to sell the district's revenue bonds.

Mrs. Lark reacted with surprise to the suggestion. She told Sackett she thought the idea of the district constructing an indoor ice rink building was not feasible.

"Let's find out," Sackett said, asking for Arndt to get information on the Northbrook facility.

Both commissioners indicated that the possibility of the district installing piping to keep an outdoor rink frozen all winter was a more likely alternative.

Recreation Director Bruce Coleman has told the district that there have been few days this winter that the outdoor rinks were suitable for skating. Coleman told the board that although the new hockey rink is completed, the district has been unable to ice the rink because of the weather.

Kiss Of Life For The Parks?

by ANNE SLAVICEK

The Wheeling Park District is facing a turning point in its young life — one which could mean the difference between its becoming a district successfully serving local residents, and one which does little but add to the tax burden.

The district board is currently seeking a new superintendent to handle the day-to-day job of running the district, acting as final administrator over both the maintenance operations and the recreation programs.

The board is looking for a new superintendent because Ferd Arndt, the district's first full-time superintendent, is retiring after 6 years.

Arndt has done an admirable job, but to an observer of the district it is evident he might have made even more headway if he had gotten cooperation from the district board.

WITH THE HIRING of a new superintendent, the board of commissioners faces a chance to start with a clean slate in establishing a hands-off policy.

The board's job is to choose the best superintendent it can find within the district's financial reach, and then to let the new superintendent do his job — unfettered by a myriad of conflicting board directives.

Park board meetings are amusing to watch. There is always a spirited discussion going on, and it is rare that the board votes unanimously on any issue.

After attending the formal and often perfunctory meetings of the Wheeling Village board, at which a split vote is an occurrence almost as rare as a virgin birth, the park board comes across as a free and open exchange of ideas.

But the park board falls down on its job when its penchant for discussion leads the board away from matters of policy and into matters that should right-

ly be handled by the superintendent.

THE DISTRICT BOARD should set up a yearly budget and leave the interim decisions on what kinds of trees to buy, what types of programs to offer, and what fees to charge up to the professional staff hired to do that job.

The problem of the board's interference with the superintendent doing his job is compounded by the fact that the board often changes its mind from month to month on a given question, leaving local citizens wondering where the district stands at a given moment.

Are snowmobiles and mini-bikes allowed in parks? Sometimes.

Do you have to pay to use a park building? Maybe.

Are program fees double for out of district residents? Yes, in most cases.

Can the high school use the area adjoining Neptune's Pool for a smoking area? Yes, then no, then yes again.

This is only a sampling of the board's vacillation on recent issues.

RECENTLY THE BOARD adopted a summer program recommended by new recreation director David Phillips without the detailed review they have had in past years.

Instead of the board deciding what programs local residents will be attracted to and will participate in, the board for once let its recreation director decide, based on his professional training.

The board's adoption of that unchanged program is a ray of hope in an otherwise bleak picture of park board haggling over small expenditures and minor details.

Hopefully with a new superintendent, the elected board members will follow their own example set by adopting Phillips' Programs as proposed, and turn their heated discussions to major issues of policy more befitting their attention.

4/2

Five persons active in Wheeling activities have been nominated for the Wheeling Jaycees Distinguished Service Award, which will be presented Sunday morning at the Jaycees Mayor's Prayer Breakfast.

Those nominated include Marshall Baling, Police Chief M. O. Horcher, Park Supt. Dave Phillips, Lillian Stiller and Alice Wargo. Nominations for the award were made by various civic organizations in the village.

THE JAYCEES also have received nominations from local school principals for the Outstanding Young Educator Award, which will also be presented Sunday morning. The names of the nominees for this award have not yet been announced.

The awards are part of Jaycee Week, an annual January event. Members of the Jaycee Week committee met last night to choose the winners of each award. The winners are to be notified

4-28-72
by LYNN ASINOF

Service Awards To Be Given

today.

Hugh Wilson, chairman of the committee, said the Jaycees' choice for the distinguished service award was based on the person's community spirit and service. He said the winner is "a doc, not a joiner."

Wilson said the choice for the outstanding young educator award was based on the recommendations from the school principals. He said each nomination was accompanied by a synopsis of the educator's activities and accomplishments.

THE NOMINEES for the distinguished service award come from all areas of village activities. Baling, a long-time Wheeling resident, is known for his knowledge of village history. He has been active with the Chamber of Commerce, the Wheeling Lions, the Wheeling Historical Society and the Masonic Lodge.

Horcher is best known to village residents as the Wheeling Police Chief. He

has also done extensive work with the youth of the community. Phillips is known for his youth work as Wheeling Park District's new superintendent. He is also a member of the Wheeling Youth Commission.

Mrs. Stiller is president of the Dist. 21 School Board, and has long been an active member of that board. She also serves on the Wheeling Public Relations Commission.

Mrs. Wargo is a school crossing guard. She has been active in Wheeling Park District activities and St. Joseph the Worker Church.

The prayer breakfast will be at 8 a.m. Sunday at the Union Hotel. The breakfast is open to the public for a \$2 donation.

Other events scheduled for Jaycee Week include an orientation meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday night at the Hartmann House Restaurant. All men ages 21-35 are invited to attend the orientation meeting.

Park board reverses stand, allows drum, bugle corps use of building

by JILL BETTNER

The Wheeling Park Board last Thursday reversed an earlier decision and voted to allow the First Illinois Volunteers Drum and Bugle Corps to continue to use the Heritage Park building practice sessions.

The board agreed four weeks ago to deny the corps color guard further use of the facility if the organization did not pay over \$300 in past due rent by March 1.

The commissioners reconsidered the matter in answer to a request from Robert Hoehn Sr., president of the Volunteers. Hoehn told the board he had been out of town for several months and was not aware of the debt.

Park Board Pres. Lorraine Lark said bills were repeatedly sent to the treasurer of the organization in the past 10 months, but the notices were never answered.

AFTER LEARNING of the park board's decision to remove the Volunteers if the debt wasn't cleared up immediately, Hoehn charged publicly last week that the commissioners were "anti-juvenile."

Referring to Hoehn's statements in several local newspapers, Mrs. Lark said she considered the comments were demeaning. She added that she felt the park district had done its best to accommodate the Volunteers.

Mrs. Lark said the corps has been allowed to use the Heritage Park building at a much reduced rate for over a year and it wasn't until damages by the group were discovered that the board decided to press for the overdue money.

"We're not an affluent park district," Mrs. Lark said, "We've been very frug-

Cavalier denial criticism unfair: Mrs. Lark

Wheeling Park Board Pres. Lorraine Lark said Thursday she considered recent criticism of the board's decision to deny the Cavalier Drum and Bugle Corps use of park land unfair.

In a statement to the board, Mrs. Lark discussed the charges that have been made by Robert Hoehn Sr., president of the First Illinois Volunteers Drum and Bugle Corps and by the Reminder, a local shopper.

Hoehn charged last week that the park district's decision reflected an anti-youth feeling. The Reminder said the decision damaged the "public image" of the village.

"**THIS COMMISSIONER** feels the comments by Hoehn in the papers were very uncalled for and did not only demean the board of commissioners, but the resi-

al, cut down our staff and drawn the belt just about as tight as it can go. I think the park district has bent over backward to cooperate with you."

According to the financial arrangements, the Volunteers are to settle their account with the park district by Aug. 1. After that date, they will pay rent on a monthly basis.

Hoehn asked for the extension until August because the Volunteers plan to raise the money with a show scheduled for July.

BOARD MEMBERS Gus Nizzi and Bob Ross voted against the motion to approve

of the community and specifically the residents of the park district."

Commenting on the story carried in the newspaper, Mrs. Lark said, "I don't know where this story came from. I can only surmise that it was received second, third or even fourth hand. To my knowledge, this newspaper has not had a reporter at our meetings for a very long time, if ever.

"If a board deserves a rap on the knuckles," she continued, "that reporter has every right and should do so. But I feel the Wheeling Park District has and will continue to strive to preserve and to carry on Wheeling's public image which I hope everyone is as proud of as I am."

MRS. LARK said the reason for turning down the Cavaliers request was the board's concern about the limited

amount of park land currently available.

"This park district has done its utmost to benefit the community through its endeavors in the flood control program, through establishing a rapport with residents of the community and by taking an active part in any way possible to stimulate interest in the Wheeling Park District."

Mrs. Lark also denied another charge that the park district had a profit motive in trying to bring the Cavaliers to the community.

"In conclusion," she said, "this commissioner will only say and say one more time, that if someone feels this board has been remiss in their duty as commissioners, those people should be men enough to come to this board and say it to our faces."

the arrangement, saying they wanted to see a "show of good faith" that the Volunteers would honor the obligation.

Suggesting that the Volunteers begin paying off the debt now in monthly payments, Nizzi said, "Everybody's strapped for money right now — we are too."

Hoehn replied that the group has approached several civic organizations, but they have been unable to solicit financial support.

"I've never had to beg anybody for money to work with kids," Hoehn said, "but we just don't get any cooperation out of anybody here in Wheeling."

According to Hoehn, 18 of the 20-member corps that placed eighth in national competition last year are Wheeling youngsters.

"We've tried everywhere to get money for these kids," he said, "I just don't know why people here don't want to sponsor the group."

Park Board Assails Historical Society

1-24-72

Wheeling Park Board members criticized the Wheeling Historical Society Thursday for falling behind in its promises to help pay off the debt for the Community Church building restoration.

Park board members decided to have Park District Pres. Alf Wilson write a letter to the historical society reminding the organization of promises it made in a resolution in 1970.

Commissioner Gene Sackett, who brought the discrepancy to the attention of the other board members, noted that the district has received only \$100 in two years from the historical society.

Sackett said the 1970 resolution by the society pledged to turn any funds collected for the church in the next ten years over to the park district to help pay off a \$20,000 loan the district took out to renovate the church building.

Part of the \$20,000 was used to pay for moving the church from its original site next to the village fire station on Dundee Road to Chamber of Commerce Park. About \$14,500 was used to renovate the building so it could be used as a community center.

THE PARK BOARD became involved in preserving the church after the historical society made a plea for help in saving the building which is more than 100 years old. A community church, it

served a variety of denominations in its early days before becoming the home of the Community Presbyterian Church of Wheeling.

In addition to not receiving funds from the society, Sackett noted that the society has not kept a promise in the resolution to provide the district with quarterly reports in its fund-raising efforts.

Sackett said publicity of the historical society's donation of \$100 to the Wheeling High School Band recently brought the lack of contributions to the church to his attention.

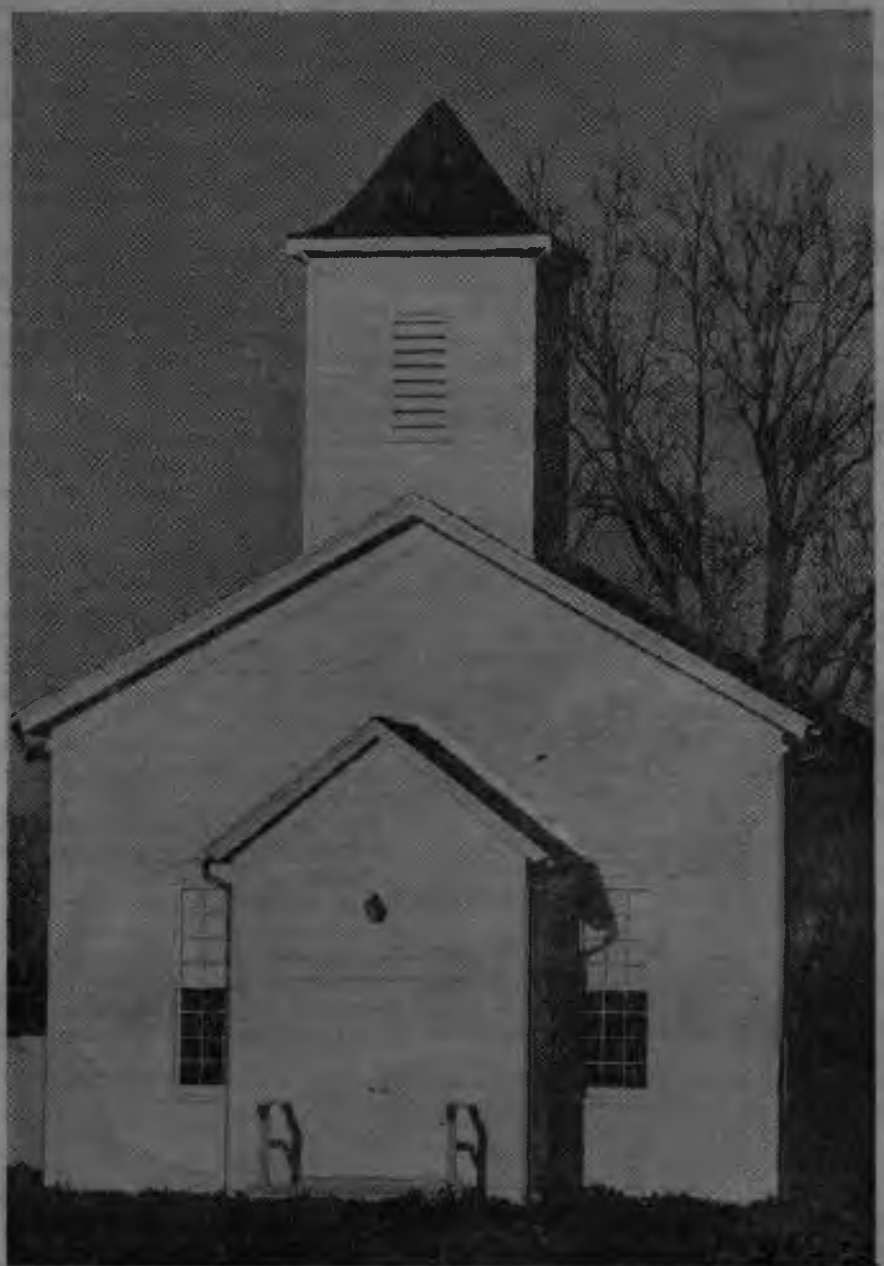
While the commissioner said he did not

want to imply that the band did not deserve the money, he said that the resolution to help pay for the church "is a moral obligation which comes before any donation."

"I'm perturbed because we're sitting here with a big debt," Sackett said.

Other park board members indicated they agreed with Sackett and asked Wilson to write a letter to the historical society.

The Herald on Friday was unable to contact historical society Pres. John Koeppen for comment on the park district charges.



PRETTY, BUT UNPAID FOR — The Wheeling is the subject of a Wheeling Park District letter being sent to Chamber of Commerce Park in the Wheeling Historical Society this

2 1/2-Year Church Moving Argument May Be Ended

A disagreement about the cost of moving and renovating the Community Church 2½ years ago apparently was resolved after lengthy discussion Thursday night.

At a meeting in January Wheeling Park Board Member Gene Sackett said he felt the Wheeling Historical Society had not fulfilled its obligation in paying for the moving and renovation.

Society president John Koeppen, armed with a copy of the Herald story reporting the "criticism," answered each point at the park board meeting Thursday.

Koeppen said there had been several misunderstandings or errors in what the board had said. For example, Sackett said the society had not kept a promise in a resolution made in 1970 to provide the district with quarterly reports of its fund-raising efforts.

KOEPPEN SAID the agreement was that the society would provide a report upon request of the board. Koeppen added that the society was only credited with having contributed \$100, when the actual figure was \$200.

"You want a resume of the financial status of the Wheeling Historical Society — that you won't get," Koeppen said. He added that some portions of their fund-raising efforts are available, however.

The question of funding came up at the January meeting when Sackett pointed out that the society had given \$100 to the Wheeling High School band for its pro-

posed trip to Germany.

Koeppen said, "I think it's the greatest thing in the world. The Historical Society got involved because it's a historical event. If they win, people all over the world will know about Wheeling."

Koeppen said the original resolution concerning the church stated that the society would contribute what it could toward retiring the \$20,000 debt the park board incurred when the board got a loan for renovating the building, which is now located in Chamber of Commerce Park and is available for meetings.

The society agreed to pay what it could over 10 years, with no stipulation as to any amount per year, Koeppen said.

ANOTHER SOCIETY member, Ron Ignatius, said, "The Historical Society last year has had to live on about \$1,500. We about killed ourselves with that move." The society lost most of its income when courts ruled against such organizations receiving township funding.

Board members said there was also some question whether the society's money was to be used to pay off the loan or just the interest.

Sackett started to propose a resolution erasing what he termed the responsibility of the society, but Koeppen said, "I want to keep it as it is. We've got plans coming up."

Koeppen said one society plan is to increase prices at its Brat and Beer Festival this summer. "Any available money we have will still get to the park district."

2/21/72

Derby Feb. 20 At Heritage Park

Calling Snowmobile Racers...

Snowmobile races will be held in Wheeling's Heritage Park for amateur racers from Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Buffalo Grove and Northbrook.

The Wheeling Park District and Wheeling Auto Parts are co-sponsoring the races, which will begin at 10 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 20.

Contestants will compete for cash prizes and trophies.

Preregistration for the races will be held at the park district offices, 222 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling, Saturday, Feb. 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A \$5 entry fee per snowmobile will be charged. The entry fees will be used to make up the cash prizes awarded to winners.

The trophies for the races are being donated by Wheeling Auto Parts.

ALL DRIVERS competing in the races are required to attend a briefing session beginning at 9:30 a.m. the day of the races.

There will be division competition with stock models, modified snowmobiles and a powder puff division for women contestants.

All contestants must have driver's licenses and must sign a statement that if they are injured they will not hold the park district responsible.

Area residents are also invited to watch the races, park district recreation director David Phillips said.

Wheeling's Park District Board met last week and talked about another winter sport — ice skating.

The board discussed the cost of artificially cooled ice rinks and asked Phillips to survey village residents about such a rink.

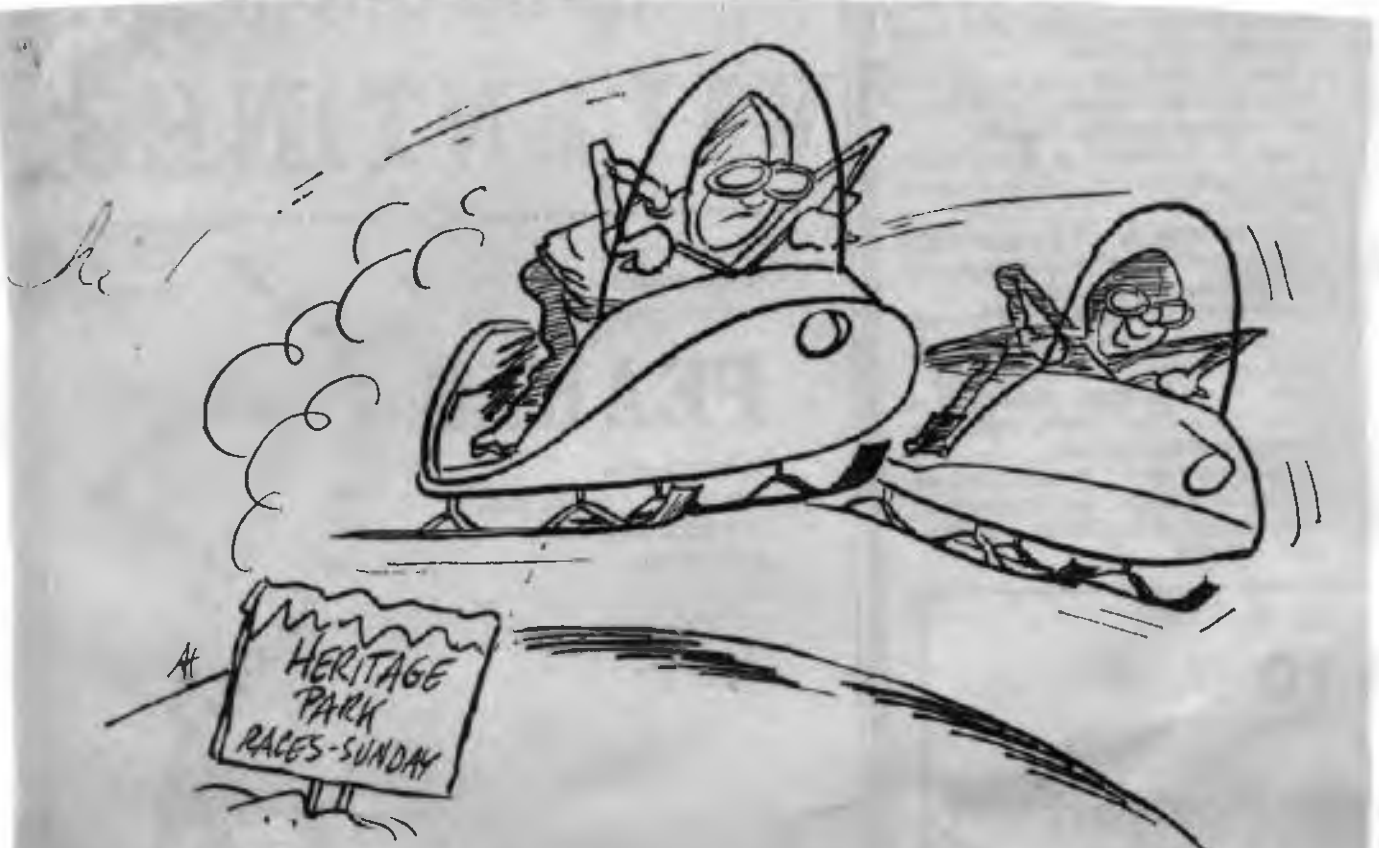
The board also discussed the possibility of raising the yearly cost for a family swimming pass in the district's two pools from \$25 to \$35, but board members decided not to make a decision on the increase until all of the park board members were at a meeting.

IN OTHER ACTION, the board voted to allow the village of Wheeling to install a fence topped with barbed wire around the Husky Park pumping station to help eliminate vandalism.

Commissioner Gene Sackett said that the Michael R. Blanchfield American Le-

gion Post 1968 will donate an American flag to the park district to be displayed in the district's board room.

The district board is scheduled to meet with representatives of the Wheeling Historical Society Feb. 17 about historical society obligations and donations to the park district for the moving costs and restoration of the Community Church building.



SNOWMOBILES WILL skim across the wide expanse of Wheeling's Heritage Park on Feb. 20 as local amateurs race for trophies and cash prizes. Wheeling, Buffalo

Grove, Northbrook and Prospect Heights residents are invited to join the competition, sponsored by the Wheeling Park District and Wheeling Auto Parts.

February 16, 1972



LOCAL SNOWMOBILE enthusiasts will be out in full force for a day of races Sunday in Wheeling's Heritage Park. In case there is no snow by Sunday the races will be postponed for a week. Residents of Wheeling, Buf-

falo Grove, Northbrook, and Prospect Heights are invited to join the competition. Registration will be held the Saturday before the races from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at park district offices, 222 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling.

2/29/72



Park District Offers

Two New Classes

Two new classes are being sponsored by the Wheeling Park District, beginning this week:

Dance lessons for three-year-olds will begin at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Heritage Park, and will continue for three more weeks. Registration fee will be \$3. The class will teach beginning steps and dance movements. Further classes will

be arranged if interest is expressed in the first class. For more information call the park district office, 537-2222.

The second class is advanced decoupage. It will run for six weeks, beginning Thursday. The class will meet from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at Oliver Wendell Holmes Junior High School. The \$15 registration fee may be paid at Heritage Park. Class minimum is eight persons.

CARE TO DANCE? Wheeling 3-year-olds will get the chance beginning Wednesday with a four-week beginner's class at Heritage Park, sponsored by the park district.

Park District Is Planning Slogan Contest

3/14/72

Families living in the Wheeling Park District can win \$35 worth of free activities in a 1972 summer slogan contest now under way.

The contest is to help choose a slogan of five words or less for the district's summer brochure and promotions.

In addition to the \$35 first prize, five honorable mention awards each worth \$10 of park district activities will be presented.

Rules in the contest say that the slogan "should inclusively relate to all park district summer activities such as swimming, playgrounds, tennis, archery, softball, band concerts, cheerleading, trips and many others."

THE CONTEST is limited to Wheeling Park District residents. No full-time Wheeling Park District Slogan Contest, board members or their immediate families are eligible.

There is no limit on the number of entries per family, but no more than one prize will be awarded to one family.

All entries must be mailed to the Wheeling Park District Slogan Contest, 222 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling, Ill., 60090. Entries may not be hand delivered. Duplicates will be determined by the earliest postmark.

The entries in the contest will be judged by a committee from the park district. Judges decisions are final and all entries become the property of the Wheeling Park District.

The entries will be judged on originality, appropriateness to theme, and public relations value.

THE PRIZES can be used toward participation in any park district programs, activities or classes between June 1 and Dec. 31, 1972, including swimming, dance, tennis, arts and crafts, guitar or others.

Entries must be postmarked no later than April 15, 1972. Winners will be announced by April 22.

Entry forms for the contest are available at the district's Heritage Park office, 222 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling.

Area-Wide Bike Route Supported ^{5/31/72}

Representatives of park districts in seven Northwest suburbs have expressed enthusiasm about an area-wide bicycle route and have agreed to work together to set one up.

A regional bike route mapped by the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission and the Council of Governments of Cook County was endorsed at a meeting of the park district officials Friday in Arlington Heights.

Represented at the meeting were Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect, Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Wheeling. Buffalo Grove representatives did not attend.

Roger A. Bjorvik of Palatine, attorney

for the Palatine Park District and vice chairman of the county governmental council, said the route would connect the communities, allowing bicyclists safe and clearly marked paths to such recreational areas as Busse Woods, Deer Grove Forest Preserve and the Des Plaines River.

He indicated the purpose of the bike path is twofold: transportation and recreational.

PART OF THE path would probably utilize Commonwealth Edison Co., Northern Illinois Gas Co., and Cook County Forest Preserve District rights-of-way, and part would consist simply of identifiable bike trail signs along roadways, he

said.

Bjorvik said he was unable to estimate the cost of an area-wide project because it depends upon how much land has to be acquired and the terms of the agreements.

He said there is a "very strong" likelihood that federal or state funds could be obtained, "especially because the communities are cooperating together to prepare a regional plan."

Hearings are now taking place before a subcommittee of the House Public Works Committee in Washington on the Bicycle Transportation Act of 1971. The act, sponsored by New York Congressman Edward Koch in the House, and Sen.

Charles H. Percy, R-Ill., in the Senate, would provide motor fuel tax funds for acquisition and development of land for bicycle paths.

The seven local park district representatives are to discuss the plans for a bike path with their organizations, then report back for another meeting July 13.

Land Swap, Cash Sought For Park Rail Easement

4/13/75

The Wheeling Park District Board wants money or land in exchange for a railroad track easement across the northwest corner of Heritage Park.

Park commissioners told a representative of the Soo Line last week that a possible land swap or a monetary contribution might be one way to get the park board to approve an easement.

The board asked the railroad official to

have a representative of the Wickes Corp. which wants the easement contact the park board.

Wickes had originally planned to ask the district for an easement to serve its new furniture store just north of the park, but decided on a route circumventing park land to save time.

The easement now requested of the park board would be for the property for sale immediately east of the Wickes site. The vacant land which is zoned for industry is just west of the village municipal building. Although a "for sale" sign advertises that the property can be served by rail, the park district easement would be necessary to run a rail siding to the property, the Soo Line representative said.

A. J. Graser, the Soo Line's manager of industrial development, told the park board that a 40-foot-wide strip would be needed for the track easement.

ALTHOUGH Park Commissioner Lorraine Lark noted there is a peat bog in the northwest corner of the park near the proposed easement route, she said she would not favor the district's just giving the land away.

Noting that other easements have already cut into the total acreage of the park, she said "for once we have to think about parks" rather than just the overall good of the community.

"We need land to work with, not a bigger tax base," she said.

Glaser said one train a day would use the Wickes spur adjacent to the park property.

He said the easement would probably cut off 1½ or two acres of the park land.

"There would have to be 'horse-trading' between the developer and the park district," Mrs. Lark said, indicating that the district might like a piece of property in the rear of the industrial site in exchange for the easement corner.

Board To Interview Top Applicants For Supt. Job

The Wheeling Park District board will interview two or three of the top applicants for the job of park superintendent at the Aug. 3 meeting.

The board reviewed the resumes of the applicants at the bimonthly meeting Thursday night.

In other business, the commissioners approved their fourth warrant to pay bills accumulated by the district. They also approved the appropriations ordinance, a statement of money spent since May 1.

Of the \$86,000 dollars appropriated to the general corporate fund, the district has so far spent \$15,332.37. In the recreation fund, they have spent \$7,205.33 of the \$47,589 appropriated. Out of \$19,400 in the outdoor pool fund, \$8,959.74 has been spent, and \$14,335.34 has been spent from the \$64,350 in the indoor pool fund.



Ferdinand Arndt

Parks Chief Ferd Arndt Resigns

4-10-72
by ANNE SLAVICEK

Ferdinand Arndt has resigned as Wheeling Park District superintendent.

Arndt, the first full-time superintendent for the park district, gave reasons of health for submitting his resignation.

The 65-year-old Des Plaines resident asked the park board to relieve him of his duties as superintendent when his contract expires April 30.

Arndt told the Herald Friday that while he is resigning from his job he still plans to participate in civic activities. He currently is president of the Des Plaines Park District board, president of the Wheeling Rotary Club and a member of the board of directors of the Midwest Institute of Park Executives.

Wheeling park board members met in an executive session Thursday to discuss personnel and land acquisition. However, the board did not discuss Arndt's resignation in public and did not vote to accept it.

ARNDT ANNOUNCED his resignation Friday morning. In the letter to park commissioners he explained, "I feel that since my recent heart attack I am governed as to what I can do, and this is very unfair to the Wheeling Park District. I also feel it may be to your best interest to look for a younger man with new ideas," he wrote.

Arndt suffered a severe heart attack last Aug. 31, while working in the yard of his home at 1475 Oakwood Ave., Des Plaines. He came back to work part time last winter and recently has been working full-time for the district. "My doctor informed me to take it easy and inasmuch as the good Lord has given me a second chance, I had better abide with his orders," Arndt wrote to the board.

Arndt began his job with the Wheeling park district in 1966 when the district was six years old.

"I have enjoyed being a part of this progressive organization for the past 5½ years and have enjoyed many of the challenges and working with the fine boards. There are many projects to be done which will help the Wheeling Park District present even more facilities," he told the board.

ARNDT FIRST became involved in park district work in the 1930s in Des Plaines. A former director of parks for the Des Plaines District, he currently is serving a second consecutive year as president of its board of commissioners.

In Wheeling Arndt has been instrumental in acquisition and development of all of the district's parks. The Community Church Building, Chamber of Commerce Park and North Side Park all were acquired during his time as superintendent. The district also passed a recreation tax to increase recreation programs, built the new Neptune's Pool adjacent to Wheeling High School, bought the Community Pool, and built its field house and offices in Heritage Park during his tenure.

His job as superintendent has included supervising total operation of the district and acting as chief administrative officer responsible to the board.

A lifetime member of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, Arndt served on its board of directors for 25 years and served as its president for two years. He currently is Chaplain of the association.

Twin Ice Rinks, Indoor Tennis, Health Club...

Village May Become Home Of Giant Sports Complex

by ANNE SLAVICEK

By next winter Wheeling could be the home of a massive sports complex of twin ice rinks, indoor tennis courts, health club facilities, saunas and swimming pools.

All that is needed is a suitable five or six-acre site which can be leased, and a survey of community interest, the president of Metro Sports Inc. said yesterday.

Oliver Stankovsky verified that his company has been meeting with Village of Wheeling and Wheeling Park District officials trying to find a site for the sports complex.

Village Pres. Ted C. Scanlon, who has been working to get a commercial movie theater or recreation complex in Wheeling for nearly six years, said several sites are being considered for the complex.

Scanlon said the village has asked the Wheeling Park District to consider buying property suitable for such a complex and then leasing the land to Metro Sports Inc.

SCANLON EXPLAINED that Metro Sports has agreed to consult the village and park district when scheduling events on the ice rinks so there will be adequate time for beginning skating and family skating programs.

He said the village wants to make sure the facility would be available to Wheeling families.

Metro Sports already has formalized plans to build a similar ice rink complex in the Randhurst parking lot, but that rink is already booked solid with classes and skating organizations.

Stankovsky said yesterday his firm is committed to building the twin ice rinks in Wheeling if a site can be found.

"Wheeling does need an ice rink facility," he said.

He said the firm would prefer to lease a site for the complex rather than tying up its investor's money in a land purchase.

The twin Ice rinks proposed in Wheeling would probably have less than 1,000 spectator seats as opposed to the Randhurst rink, which will seat 2,000.

STANKOVSKY said the Randhurst Sports Complex will be more of a spectator operation because it is the home rink for the six teams of the Chicago Minor Hawk Hockey foundation.

But like the Randhurst facility, the Wheeling twin rinks would both be Olympic hockey size.

One rink would be used for figure skating and family skating and the other for hockey, he said.

He said with the schedule at the Randhurst complex the only time Wheeling people could get in would be at 2 or 3 a.m. The local rink, however, would be geared more toward community participation.

"Wheeling has grown and there are a lot of children in the community. I'm sure that local families would participate in public skating as well as in hockey teams established at the rinks," Stankovsky said.

He said "house league" teams trained by Canadian coaches and traveling teams coached by professionals might be among the hockey activities. In addition, local youngsters possibly coached by their fathers would form teams, he said.

The concept is to have properly trained and supervised programs, he explained, "not just renting ice to a hockey team."

THE OTHER possible components of

the sports complex — swimming pools, indoor tennis courts, health club facilities and saunas — will be built depending on the amount of financing the firm can get together and upon the results of a survey of community interest, Stankovsky said.

"These facilities are very expensive and unless they are used heavily the return is not good," he explained.

Stankovsky said the firm was letting community leaders pick the site for the complex and would then analyze the location and drawing power.

He said once a site is chosen it would take from four to six months to build the complex. "If we start next month we could be open by Nov. 1, with the whole complex completed by winter."

Stankovsky also noted that the twin ice rinks could be built first with other facilities added later.

"We would need a location where the center wouldn't disturb residential areas," he pointed out.

"The only hangup we will have is land and surveying the area," he said.

5/8/77

Lorraine Lark New President Of Park Board

The Wheeling Park District Board elected new officers and toured local parks at a meeting Thursday.

Lorraine Lark was elected president of the board and Gus Nizzi was elected vice president.

The election of the new officers, who will serve for a year, was a change from park policy in recent years. Policy has been to elect the board vice president as president for the following year.

Gene Sackett, who served as vice president for the past year, was not nominated for the presidency according to the past procedures.

Sackett cast the only "no" votes in the election, voting against both Mrs. Lark and Nizzi.

The election of officers was the first order of business for the new fiscal year. Only Mrs. Lark was nominated for the presidency and only Nizzi was nominated for the vice presidency.

Mrs. Lark thanked Sackett and past president Alf Wilson for serving the past year.

The board also appointed an attorney, a treasurer, and a secretary for the district.

ROGER BJORVIK was reappointed as attorney, although Mrs. Lark, who brought his name up for the appointment, voted against him. All four of the other commissioners voted for Bjorvik's

reappointment.

William Blank was unanimously appointed as treasurer and Supt. Ferd Arndt was unanimously reappointed as board secretary. Board members said they would elect a new secretary after Arndt leaves the district. He will retire when a new superintendent is hired.

The board changed its committee structure back to an original system of two members serving on each committee.

Last year the system was for each board member to serve on all committees.

COMMITTEE appointments made by Mrs. Lark were:

Finance Committee — Robert Ross, chairman, and Gene Sackett, member.

Buildings and Grounds Committee — Gene Sackett, chairman, and Alf Wilson, member.

Recreation Committee — Gus Nizzi, chairman, and Robert Ross, member.

Public Relations Committee — Alf Wilson, chairman, and Gus Nizzi, member.

Two letters praising Arndt for his work with the district were read aloud. The letters were from Wheeling High School principal Thomas Shirley and High School Dist. 214 Superintendent Edward Gilbert.

In other business the board approved spending \$400 to install a culvert and driveway for a new exit from the parking lot at Heritage Park.

The district will blacktop the parking lot once the stone has been compressed by traffic.

Once the new exit is built cars will enter the parking lot by the north driveway and leave by the new south driveway.

BEFORE THE regular meeting began the board members toured various park sites, including Chamber of Commerce Park on N. Wolf Road, North Side Park adjacent to Nathaniel Hawthorne School and Husky Park, adjacent to Jack London Junior High School.

At the meeting Sackett asked each the board members to write up a report on observations from the tour and suggestions for developing each of the three park sites.

Sackett asked the members to have their reports in to Arndt by May 15.

A new lawnmower purchase for \$400 was approved by the board.

A report from Arndt to the board suggesting caution in reviewing proposals for the new ice rink sports complex was referred to the buildings and grounds committee for further study.

THE BOARD approved sending a resolution to honor Ray Kittendorf for his work as aquatics director for the district. Kittendorf left last month after his post was consolidated into the recreation director's job.

The board also approved spending \$2,000 to \$4,000 to repair the cracks in the community pool. Board members noted that a leak in the pool resulted in a \$4,200 water bill last summer. Arndt told the board an alternative measure of buying an aluminum liner for the pool would cost \$74,000.

Drainage Ditch

Cleaned, Widened

Wheeling village officials have been making progress with their flood control program.

Trustee Bill Hein reported to the village board Monday night that the Wheeling Drainage Ditch was cleaned and widened after the flooding in the Dunhurst area last month. According to Hein, workers found a swimming pool liner and several other obstructions in the ditch, which blocked drainage during the heavy rains.

As a result of an informal meeting on flooding problems in Wheeling last month, Hein said the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) is going to provide

Wheeling with an "as-built" survey of the Heritage Park retention basin. There has been some question whether the basin was built according to specifications, and Hein said the village has been trying to get the survey for some time.

A meeting of the MSD and village trustees has been tentatively scheduled for the second Monday in September. At that time MSD representatives will inform the village of their findings.

IN AN EFFORT to improve the park district retention basins, the village asked the North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District to recommend special seeding for the area.

District representatives recommended that Heritage Park West's retention basin be seeded with Reed Canary grass before Sept. 1. The grass, which can grow as high as 15 inches, will grow even if underwater, and can be mowed.

Because Heritage Park East is used as a skating pond in the winter, district representatives recommended that the area be seeded with a combination of fescue and oats between April 15 and May 15. If this grass does not flourish because of the winter freezing, they suggested that the park area be annually seeded with perennial rye.

For the Husky Park retention basin, the district suggested using fescue. Also recommended was a flared-in section of corrugated tile to prevent soil erosion for one part of the basin.



8-9-72

PLANS TO IMPROVE areas of the Heritage Park retention ponds included a recent cleaning of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch. A swimming pool liner and other debris

was pulled from the ditch. The village is also considering special seeding of the ponds' banks.

8/1/72

Informal Meeting May Lead To Flood Control Programs

Several definite flood control programs may be established as the result of an informal meeting last week on flooding and further development of the Wheeling Drainage Ditch and Buffalo Creek.

More than 40 persons, including several village trustees, attended the meeting to discuss their flooding problems with Richard Lanyon, representative of the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD).

"He was not aware until this meeting that we were still having flooding in this area," said Mrs. Esther Davis, one of the organizers of the meeting.

According to Mrs. Davis, of the Meadowbrook West area, all the residents at the meeting agreed that their flooding problems occurred before Buffalo Creek overflowed. She said this meant that flooding comes from run-off instead of from the creek itself.

SEVERAL PROPOSALS were discussed at the meeting, including the enlargement of the Heritage Park retention basin. Mrs. Lorraine Lark, president of the park board, said the park district might be willing to donate three acres of land to the retention basin if this would allow for the deepening of the basin so it could be used for recreational purposes.

Lanyon said he would study the proposal to see if it was possible and would report back to village officials within two weeks.

A tentative meeting was scheduled for the second Monday in September for the water and sewage committee, village trustees, the president of the park board and the public.

Those in attendance also discussed participating in the meetings of the Des Plaines Steering Committee in North-

lake, which deals with flooding along the Des Plaines River.

Lanyon suggested that Wheeling residents might start their own steering committee to coordinate efforts with the surrounding communities in Buffalo Grove, Long Grove and Lake Zurich.



8-29-72

NANCY McCARTY masks the stripes at the bottom of Neptune's Pool to

since Aug. 11, allowing workers to redo it, the pool decks and the locker room. It will open again on Sept. 5, in plenty of time for high school physical education classes in the fall.

Little Progress ^{8/29/72} On Bicycle Routes

Sparse attendance by park district representatives held up progress on area bicycle trail hookups yesterday. Five of the ten park districts in the informal coalition showed up to exchange maps of their proposed routes.

A move to coordinate local bike trails began this spring. While each park district is responsible for planning its own route, the meetings are attempting to get the community trails to meet at municipal boundaries.

Railroad tracks and multi-lane highways are barriers between communities, such as Buffalo Grove and Wheeling. Other districts in the original group are

Palatine, Arlington Heights, Salt Creek, Elk Grove, Des Plaines, Mount Prospect, Rolling Meadows and Prospect Heights.

Many park district trails are still on the drawing boards. Others, like Elk Grove Village, are in use. The Palatine Park District has all plans set pending passage of an October referendum to fund the trail.

The goal of the group is one continuous bicycle trail throughout the Northwest suburbs. Some of the more grandiose plans call for blacktopped routes through Commonwealth Edison or forest preserve rights-of-way. Other districts are relying upon existing streets and parks for their

trails.

Edison rights-of-way may be the answer to routes in Wheeling, Buffalo Grove and other communities whose plans are not yet firm. A recent lease arrangement between the utility company and Palatine could set a precedent for other park districts, Atty. Roger Bjorvik told representatives at the last meeting.

Much of the land for Palatine's proposed trail is a 185-foot swath through the right-of-way. The actual trail is the middle 85 feet, with 50 feet on either side licensed to residents along the path. Upkeep, formerly the responsibility of Edi-

son, goes to the park district and the residents.

Bjorvik has been active in organizing the districts and is considering other possible lease arrangements with the utility company for bicycle trails.

With half the districts at yesterday's meeting, the representatives could only rehash their current plans. Wheeling, Buffalo Grove, Arlington Heights and Salt Creek trails are still in their infancy, but park district workers are coordinating possible joining points with each other.

When park representatives couldn't move ahead on trail plans, they turned to general problems of bicycle safety.

"I know police have enough to do, but until people start getting stopped for offenses, the problem won't improve. You don't go driving down State Street at 90 miles an hour because you know a police car is sitting there waiting. The same goes for bicyclists," Salt Creek representative Jim DeVos said.

Another meeting was set for Sept. 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the Olympic Park administrative offices, Arlington Heights.

THE HERALD

Monday, July 24, 1977



8/31/72

Park District Hires Consultant For Bond Issue

by LYNN ASINOF

The Wheeling Park District has hired a consultant firm to do referendum guidance work for a proposed bond issue for a comprehensive program of park improvements.

The park board hired the Winnetka firm of McFadzean and Everly Ltd., after listening to presentations Tuesday night by two companies specializing in park district design and referendum work.

"We've got the ideas, but we need the professionals to help us lay it out," said Mrs. Lorraine Lark, president of the park board.

She explained that the board has been working on plans for the bond issue for some time. At present, the board is considering improvements for the parks in every area of Wheeling, including the possible acquisition of new park land.

"Every area is getting something,"

Mrs. Lark said. "Every area needs improvement. We are aware of it, but the resources haven't been there."

AS A CONSULTING firm, McFadzean and Everly will help the district design a program for the proposed park improvements. They will prepare cost estimates, review improvement plans and compile data on what the bond issue would mean to the Wheeling resident.

The firm also will help the park district present the bond issue referendum to the public. This will include news releases, diagrams of park improvements, fact sheets, and brochures explaining the referendum.

If the park district succeeds in getting the referendum passed, McFadzean and Everly also would be able to provide architectural, design and landscaping services to the park district if desired.

The firm will charge the district a flat rate, possibly an hourly rate not to exceed a predetermined figure. McFadzean and Everly has previously done work for the park district, including a study on the cost of upgrading the outdoor swimming pool in 1969.

The last park district referendum was held in 1969, when the community approved funds for the construction of Neptune's Pool and acquisition of the outdoor swimming pool.

CARL F. FUERST, executive vice president of McFadzean and Everly, said his firm would work closely with many community groups in developing plans for the bond issue referendum. "The content of the referendum becomes all-important in today's contest for the tax dollar," he told the board.

In addition, he stressed that the timing of a referendum also is important. He said the voting date for the referendum should be carefully chosen and that the presentation to the public should not be too long.

"I don't believe in long-range planning," Fuerst said. "The people want these things now."

Members of the park board agreed, saying that once the park board referendum was passed they wanted to begin work on the improvements immediately.

The board members said they would like to hold a referendum as soon as possible in order to be eligible for funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Some of the proposed improvements are eligible for HUD funds, while others are not.



THESE JUNIOR FISHERMEN drop their lines in hopes of catching one of the 200 pounds of rainbow trout that filled the Wheeling outdoor swimming pool Saturday and Sunday. The boys paid 25

cents for 15 minutes of fishing time. Mark Tadvchick of 631 Highland Ave. won Blackhawk hockey tickets for his 21-ounce fish, the largest

caught at the derby. Joe Sl hockey tickets for catching the last fish of the derby. 9-12-72

Pool Stocked With 200 Rainbow Trout 9-72

Avid anglers of all ages will be able to fish for 200 pounds of rainbow this weekend when the Wheeling Park District stocks the outdoor swimming pool for its annual Fall Trout Fishing.

From 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, fishermen will get 15 minutes of fishing for 25 cents. Each person should bring his own pole, bait and hook.

For safety reasons, casting will not be allowed. Fishermen will just drop their lines and wait for the fish to bite.

Prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish caught and for the last fish caught.

THE FISHING derby will be the first of a series of special events offered by the park district this year. Also scheduled for September are the home games of the Chicago Bears, which will be shown on closed-circuit television at Heritage Park. Later in the year, the park district will offer the televised home games of the Chicago Black Hawks.

Several tournaments are scheduled for the coming year. A chess tournament will be Sept. 23, and the Wheeling Invitational Women's Competitive Volleyball Tournament will be Nov. 26. Snowmobile races are scheduled for the winter months and a weightlifting contest will be in March.

Special events for children will highlight the changing seasons. In the fall there will be a Halloween party and a Turkey Trot. Winter events include a snow sculpture contest, a speed skating contest and a free throw contest. The flying contest will accompany the coming of spring.



PHILLIPS, recreation director of the Wheeling Park District, chats with Mrs. Crisanne Irmyer about programs for the park district. Phillips is go-

ing from house to house throughout Wheeling to find out what residents would like the park district

to offer in the way of programs. Programs for the fall will be open for registration Sept. 1.

2 Halloween Parties For Wheeling Kids

10-7-72

Halloween activities will get an early start for Wheeling children with two parties Saturday.

The Wheeling Jaycees will kick off the seasonal festivities with a Halloween party at Jack London Junior High School Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon.

Cartoons will be shown, and there will be costume judging for children through eighth grade. Free treats and candy will be given to the party-goers.

Saturday night the Wheeling children will have another chance to show off their costumes at the Wheeling Park District's Boo Ball from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Heritage Park recreation building.

Part of the park building will be turned into a haunted house, complete with spooks and goblins. There will be hobbing for apples and other games, along with a costume parade and judging. Prizes for the evening are being donated by local merchants.

Saturday afternoon, B. J. and the Dirty Dragon will be at Wheeling High School. The Wheeling Community Scholarship Foundation, which is sponsoring the event, is asking a \$1 admission for children and \$1.50 for adults. The program will begin at 1 p.m.

Park District Begins Work On Proposed Bond Issue

The Wheeling Park District began planning for its proposed bond issue Wednesday night with a preliminary presentation by McFadzean and Everly Ltd., the firm hired to do referendum guidance work for the district.

In its presentation, the firm outlined services it can offer the park district. These services include referendum guidance, site planning, preliminary design studies for buildings and master planning.

Referendum guidance includes putting together all the facts and figures needed to design the bond issue, as well as creating a program to present the bond referendum to the public. The public presentation includes brochures, fact sheets, news releases and meetings with civic organizations.

SITE PLANNING would involve preliminary design studies of proposed park improvements. Studies of possible construction costs and sketches of the park sites are part of this service.

Preliminary design study for buildings would only be necessary if the park district plans to build park centers.

Master planning, offered by the firm, would cover all of the other possible services, as well as establishing an overall design for the park district in the future.

Members of the park board discussed the alternative services offered by the firm. Dave Phillips, park superintendent, said he expected the board would review the plans at the next meeting and decide what kind of services the district requires.

Parks Retain Firm To Prepare Master Plan

After much discussion, the Wheeling Park District voted Thursday night to have McFadzean and Everly, Ltd., prepare a comprehensive master plan for the district.

The members of the park board had already hired the Winnetka firm to do referendum guidance for a bond issue the district is preparing. The board decided in favor of the master plan after reviewing the relative benefits of using the consulting firm to provide less complete planning services.

McFADZEAN AND EVERLY, which specializes in park district design and referendum guidance, offered the district

a choice of four different services in conjunction with the proposed referendum. The services included referendum guidance at \$1,500, site planning and preliminary design studies at \$4,500, preliminary building design studies at varying prices, and master planning at \$7,500.

The master plan will include referendum guidance and site planning. Although master plans for park districts usually cost about \$5,500, in this package the master plan will add only \$1,500 to the bill. Preliminary building designs will cost extra if the park district decides it needs them.

At present, the park district does not have its own master plan, although one is mentioned in the plan prepared for the entire village in 1968.

"I THINK THIS is a relatively inexpensive cost for updating what we have," said Roger Bjorvik, attorney for the park district. "Rather than being a chapter in the book, we will be our own book."

Other members of the park board agreed, saying the board had been considering a master plan for some years. "To proceed in an orderly growth, we must have a master plan," said Lorraine Lark, board president.

The master plan will provide an examination of the park district now, and growth trends in the community, to make recommendations for the best use of park land and equipment. Studies will include park land and the joint school-park sites as well.

When completed, the master plan will be printed and bound into a book. It will take approximately four months before the plan is completed.

REFERENDUM WORK, however, will be completed in 75 days. At that time, all the data on the bond issue will be ready for public presentation. Mrs. Lark said the projects financed by the referendum would benefit every section of town.

Although definite plans for these projects have not been formulated, the board members are talking of improving existing park sites as well as obtaining land for a new park.

Park Upgrading Reports Received

11/7/78
by LYNN ASINOF

Reports on this summer's park recreation and pool programs, compiled by Wheeling Park Supt. Dave Phillips, were approved by the park board Thursday night.

In the reports, Phillips made a series of recommendations for improving park program operations. He said his office would implement recommendations that did not involve policy changes, and would ask the board to approve the other recommendations.

The reports were compiled from staff evaluations and recommendations submitted at the end of the summer. The evaluations were designed to aid in improving park district programs and service to the community.

In general, Phillips said the summer's activities were "a big success." He said

they were particularly helpful to him because he is new to his job.

PHILLIPS' major recommendation for the playground programs was that the park district return to the practice of registering all children in the programs and charging a minimal activity fee.

In the past, children participating in the playground program were registered. This year, however, the fee was dropped and the children were allowed to attend the program on a drop-in basis. Phillips said as a result, many parents did not know where their children were and the playground supervisors could not keep track of all the children.

Phillips also recommended dropping Walt Whitman School from the playground program because it is located close to Heritage Park, which also has a playground program. He recommended that the Mark Twain School site, which was dropped from the program after two weeks' operation, be used again next year.

This would mean four playground sites providing half-day programs for Wheeling children. Phillips suggested that a \$4 fee be charged any child participating in the playground programs.

PHILLIPS also urged that special events and field trips be increased to expand the recreational programs for children next summer. This year there were eight such events.

According to Phillips, pool operations this summer went smoothly. Cold weather, however, did reduce the attendance at the outdoor pool and closed the pool on 17 of the 80 days of possible use.

During the 1972 pool season the park district lost about \$8,000 on pool operations. Phillips said this loss was partially due to poor weather the year before, and he made several recommendations

to improve pool operations.

To facilitate the use of pool passes, Phillips recommended that a picture pool pass system of checking swimmers be initiated. He said the picture pass would prevent swimmers from sharing pool passes with their friends.

PHILLIPS also urged that a better system of checking people into the pool be studied. He suggested that the traffic be guided to the cashier's booth by railings.

To improve staff operations at the outdoor pool, he suggested the park district continue to use Neighborhood Youth Corps (NYC) workers, who are paid by the state. Each NYC worker is allowed to work up to 25 hours per week. This year three NYC workers assisted in the locker rooms and as concession attendant helpers.

Phillips also suggested paying pool guards an hourly wage instead of a weekly salary. He said that by adopting this pay scale, the park district would also guarantee that the guards would work an average of 25 hours per week during the summer.

In reviewing the reports, the park board decided to investigate the possibility of reducing the fee for pool passes for people living outside the Wheeling Park District. Presently the park doubles the regular rate of \$35 per year for these people.

At the park board meeting, Phillips also suggested establishing a higher rental fee for the use of the Chamber of Commerce Park community building. He recommended that the park district charge \$10 during the week, \$15 on Saturdays and \$25 on Sundays. Phillips also asked that the park district charge a \$5 rental fee for extra chairs at the building.

"Lollipop Lane", Highlight Of The Yuletide Season



MEMBERS OF the Wheeling Historical Society have gotten an early start on decorations for Santa's Lollipop Lane, to be set up in the community building in Chamber of Commerce Park. Wheeling Park Supt. Dave Phillips and Irene Dattilo of the society

look over some of the larger-than-life lollipops that will decorate the building for Santa and Mrs. Claus. The center will be open Dec. 15-21 for local children. It is expected to become an annual event in the village.

11-14-72

Wheeling community leaders put the finishing touches on "Santa's Castle" and "Lollipop Lane" that will be open to all Wheeling residents from December 15 to December 22. In the photo are (left to right) Wheeling Park District Supt. David Phillips and Wheeling Historical Society members, Mrs. John Koepfen and Mrs. Lorraine Lark.



4-27-72

Local Officials Testify Against Tax Freeze

by LYNN ASINOF

Five representatives of local park and library districts will continue their fight against Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie's proposed property tax freeze by testifying in Springfield next week before a joint Senate-House committee.

The group, which includes Dave Phillips, Wheeling park superintendent was in Springfield Sunday and Monday to tell state legislators how the proposed tax freeze would seriously damage special-interest taxing bodies. Members of the group will return to Springfield at staggered times next week to testify against the proposal.

PHILLIPS WAS accompanied by park representatives from Palatine, Salt Creek and Mundelein districts and Rose McDonald, Prospect Heights library director.

The freeze is designed to compensate for funds that local governments will receive from federal revenue sharing. It would immediately freeze the amount of property tax money that could be collected during the next five years.

Phillips said that while special interest taxing bodies would be bound by the freeze, they do not receive any benefit from the revenue-sharing program.

According to Phillips, the purpose of the trip to Springfield was to make sure the special session of the legislature did not suspend the rules and vote on the matter without holding hearings.

TO ACCOMPLISH this, the group met with local representatives and spoke with other legislators Sunday before the special session began. Phillips said those he talked to were aware of the problem facing the special districts.

The proposal has now been referred to the joint Senate-House committee, which has been directed to report on the matter Dec. 11. During the interim, the committee will hold public hearings on the proposed freeze.

The local group is now organizing so

that at least one member will be in Springfield to testify when the hearings are called. They are also planning to muster support for their position by writing to local representatives and newspapers.

Phillips said the tax freeze would drastically affect all growing districts in the state, and might even mean the end of special interest taxing bodies.

HE EXPLAINED that plans for the growth of districts are based on expected expansion of revenues from growth in the districts' tax bases. If the revenue is frozen at present levels, it would mean the districts could not provide needed services as the communities expand.

"If the freeze passes, it's not feasible that districts could continue to operate and provide the services which we are obligated to provide," Phillips said.

For example, Phillips roughly estimated the Wheeling Park District would lose \$420,000 in the next five years if it is not allowed to take advantage of new development in the community.

He said his group favors amendments to the bill that will be introduced by Rep. Eugene F. Schlickman, R-Arlington Heights. The first amendment would be exempt from special interest taxing bodies from the tax freeze.

THE SECOND amendment would make the freeze apply to the tax rate instead of the total tax dollar amount. This would allow developing districts to increase their tax revenues as they grow without raising the taxes of individual property owners.

"Either one of those would be more acceptable than the dollar freeze," Phillips said.

Phillips also said that legislators should take into account whether the taxpayers want to raise their taxes to improve services. "If the people say yes, we want these services and yes, we're willing to pay for these services, the legislators have no right to say that they can't," he said.

Village Being Canvassed On Referendum Reaction

by LYNN ASINOF

Wheeling neighborhoods are being canvassed today to get community reaction to park improvements proposed in a \$700,000 referendum. Results of the canvass will be included in discussion of the referendum at a community meeting tonight.

The meeting, designed to bring community input into the park improvement plans, is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce Park community building. The park district has invited representatives of about 30 community organizations to attend. It is hoped that response at the meeting and community feeling gathered by the area coordinators will result in suggestions for improving tentative referendum plans.

At the meeting, proposed plans for the parks will be presented by representatives of McFadzean and Everly, Ltd., the firm hired by the park district for referendum guidance and master planning.

THE PRESENTATION will include proposed site drawings as well as an analysis of projected cost, current problems and anticipated benefits for each park and school-park site. The plans will be based on research done by McFadzean and Everly in conjunction with the park district board.

The park board has drawn up the tentative referendum plans to provide the community with a basic framework for what is possible for the park district to

do. Park Supt. Dave Phillips said the plans will be modified after the meeting according to suggestions made by those attending.

The tentative plans now emphasize development of the neighborhood concept of park planning. With the acquisition of land for a new park site, the park district will offer recreation areas within walking distance of all village residents.

BASIC PARK improvements include extensive grading, seeding and landscaping to improve the usability of land presently owned by the park district. Several new tot lots are also planned. Special projects are planned for Husky, Heritage and Chamber of Commerce parks. These improvements are:

— Husky Park: two tennis courts, tot lot, landscaping in conjunction with the village.

— Chamber of Commerce Park: to be geared toward the senior citizen, with horseshoe pit, shuffleboard, asphalt walks, benches, safety lighting and landscaping. Also resurfacing of parking lot, and new playground apparatus.

— Heritage Park: four lighted tennis courts, handball court, walks, roadway, pavillion, new maintenance garage, locker rooms for gym, conversion of present garage into meeting room, and grading and landscaping. Outside sources are being investigated for work on the Heritage Park West retention basin.

— Walt Whitman site: tot lot, grading,

seeding, increased basketball facilities, landscaping.

— MARK TWAIN site: volleyball, tot lot, more basketball facilities, grading and seeding.

— Nathaniel Hawthorn site: tot lot, park walks, neighborhood athletic field, grading, landscaping.

— Carl Sandburg and Booth Tarkington sites: grading and seeding to correct drainage problems.

— Eugene Field site: tot lot, grading, seeding, landscaping.

— Oliver Wendell Holmes site: grading, seeding, correction of drainage problem.

— JACK LONDON site: possibility of federal money for an asphalt surfaced playground.

— Wheeling High School site: lighting for three more tennis courts and a ball diamond.

— indoor pool: new tiling.

— outdoor pool: roofing, new entrance to cashier's booth.

Included in the proposed plans is a new park site that would have an athletic field, walks and a blacktopped tot lot.

Park board members, School Dist. 21 officials, representatives of McFadzean and Everly, the park district attorney and treasurer will all be present to answer questions at the meeting.

AFTER THE presentation, the meeting will break into seminar groups to discuss various aspects of the proposed park improvements. Members of the park board will sit in on these sessions to gather feedback.

If the response to the plans presented at the meeting is positive, the park board will approve them and set a referendum date at their regular park board meeting Thursday night.

Phillips said that while the tentative figure for the referendum is now \$700,000, the park district does not presently have bonding power for that amount. He said that while the park district can now only bond for \$550,000, estimated growth with the park district's boundaries will raise this figure to \$700,000 by May, 1973.

If the bonding power does not reach \$700,000, Phillips said the park district would go for the highest amount allowed according to assessed valuation figures.

PHILLIPS SAID the park district is also expecting to get substantial funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for land acquisition and site development. "We are confident that our needs have been spelled out and that the government will come through with the funds," he said.

Phillips said if the referendum is approved, park improvement plans would be arranged on a priority list with those plans not implemented in the last referendum coming first.

"This is by no way a firm commitment as to what will be done," Phillips said of the proposed improvements. He said the actual improvements resulting from the referendum would depend on the park district's bonding power as well as actual cost at the time of development.

He added, however, that the park district would follow the guidelines set forth by the community as closely as possible.

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*Serving Your Community
the*

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT

URGES YOU TO

VOTE!

for

A Sound, Realistic Park
Development Program
for Wheeling on this
Saturday, December 16
THINK PARKS



Will Rogers once said, "The Good Lord is makin' more people, but He ain't makin' more land."

FUNDS DONATED BY
"FRIENDS OF THE PARK"
CHAIRMAN HANS REHDERS

WE HAVE THE PLAN AND NEED THE LAND

Phone: (312) 537-2222



Wheeling Park District

222 South Wolf Road

Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Dear Park District Residents,

Over the last 12 months, your Park Board has researched the need for, and feasibility of, expanding our services by improving dramatically Park and School land presently in our district, by acquiring more land to better meet your needs, and by providing additional recreational facilities for year-round recreational use.

The improvements as described in this brochure can immediately become a reality in our community. The 10 park and school sites shown on the inside of this brochure are now available for park and recreation improvement. The Park District is now prepared to embark upon its next community-wide neighborhood development program.

On Saturday, December 16th, 1972, the Wheeling Park District will submit a comprehensive program for growth and development of parks and open space to YOU, the residents of our District. The program is a direct reflection of those suggestions and priorities which you have expressed as being necessary to meet the Park and Recreation needs of your community. The need for park and recreation facilities is becoming more and more critical in view of the tremendous residential growth in the Wheeling area.

We have a responsibility to our families and our community to provide open space lands while it still exists. The time to act is NOW. Our Parks and Recreational facilities can be our communities greatest asset.

Your consideration of this dynamic community improvement program and subsequent YES vote on December 16th is needed.

Lorraine E. Lark

Lorraine E. Lark
President
Board of Commissioners
Wheeling Park District

Affiliated with I.P.R.A.

**VOTE YES
ON DEC. 16**

• FOR BEAUTIFUL
PARK & SCHOOL
LAND

• FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY

• FOR WHOLESOME RECREATION
FOR OUR CHILDREN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Lorraine Lark President
Gus Nizzi Vice-President
Robert E. Ross Commissioner
Eugene Sackett Commissioner
Alf Wilson Commissioner
William F. Blank Treasurer
Roger A. Bjorvik Attorney

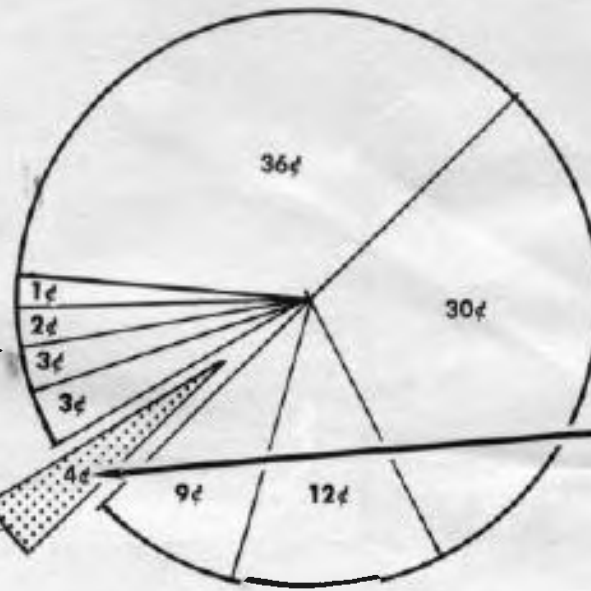
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

David F. Phillips Superintendent of Parks
and Recreation
Robert Ruley Director of Maintenance
Richard Haddock Recreation Supervisor
Patricia Hancock Secretary

Help YOUR Park District Help YOU!

HOW YOUR LOCAL
TAX DOLLAR
SERVES YOU

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT



- 36¢ School District #21
- 30¢ High School District #214
- 12¢ County, Metro, Government
- 9¢ Wheeling Village
- 4¢ WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
- 3¢ Wheeling Library
- 3¢ Township Fire Protection
- 2¢ Junior College District #512
- 1¢ Wheeling Township

(The Wheeling Park
District receives
4c out of
your tax \$1.00)

HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST?

The total value of all development in the program — is approximately \$1.2 million of which \$700,000 is raised locally with \$500,000 Federal Grant monies.

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT REAL ESTATE TAXES ON YOUR PROPERTY?

The average cost per homeowner will be about 7.0 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Or, to consider the relative value of the program, recognize that this program will increase your total tax bill by less than 1%.

If Your Equalized Assessed Valuation is	The Annual Tax Increase will be
4,000.....	2.80
7,000.....	4.90
10,000.....	7.00

As the Park District continues to grow and the total assessed valuation of the District increases—your tax bill will be **lower**. In other words, each new industry and each new home will share the cost of the program, and your share will be less. You can see that the total cost to you will be only a few pennies a day. In return, you and your family will enjoy all the priceless advantages of having recreational facilities designed to meet your needs—now and in the years to come. With continually increasing costs of construction, this is an opportunity that can never again be available at a price so low.

HOURS TO VOTE:

6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. — SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1972

Absentee Ballots may be obtained at Heritage Park after December 1, 1972

POLLING PLACES:

1. Heritage Park, 222 South Wolf Road, Wheeling, Illinois
(Homes east of the Soo Line Railroad Tracks)
2. Jack London Junior High, 1001 W. Dundee Road, Wheeling, Illinois
(Homes west of the Soo Line Railroad Tracks)
3. Buffalo Grove residents - 872 Sussex Court, Buffalo Grove.

Your Park Board now asks your approval to acquire and develop these park and recreation facilities.
For further information call 537-2222.

THE MASTER PLAN

VOTE **YES** **X**
DECEMBER 16th
ON THE PROPOSED
PARK DISTRICT
BOND ISSUE.

WHAT IS NEEDED AND PROPOSED?

Our Master Plan points out the need for:

1. Neighborhood Park-School Development to serve as many residents as possible.
2. A Maintenance Garage
3. Land Acquisition — for a community park on the west side of Route #83.
4. Pool Improvements.
5. Heritage Recreation Center improvements.

WHY NOW? The Wheeling Park District is proposing the comprehensive park program to the people on Saturday, December 16th because:

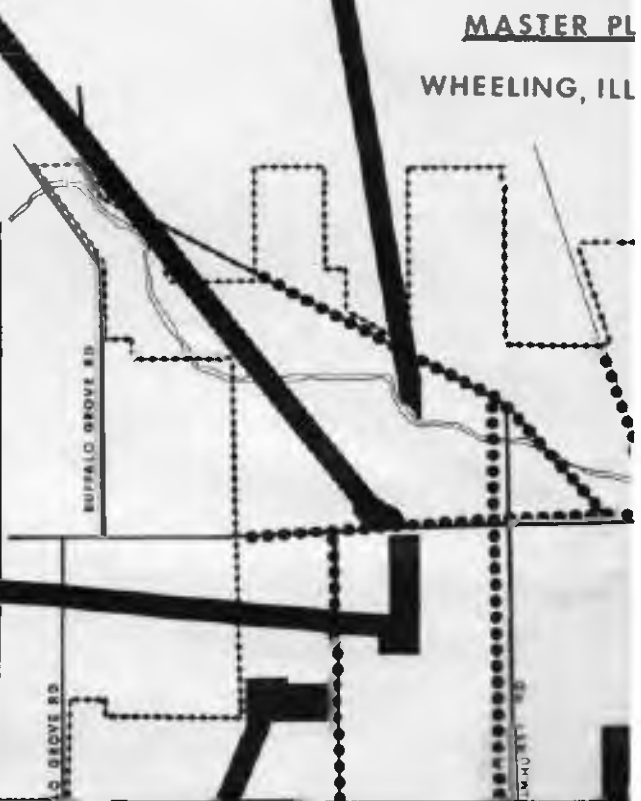
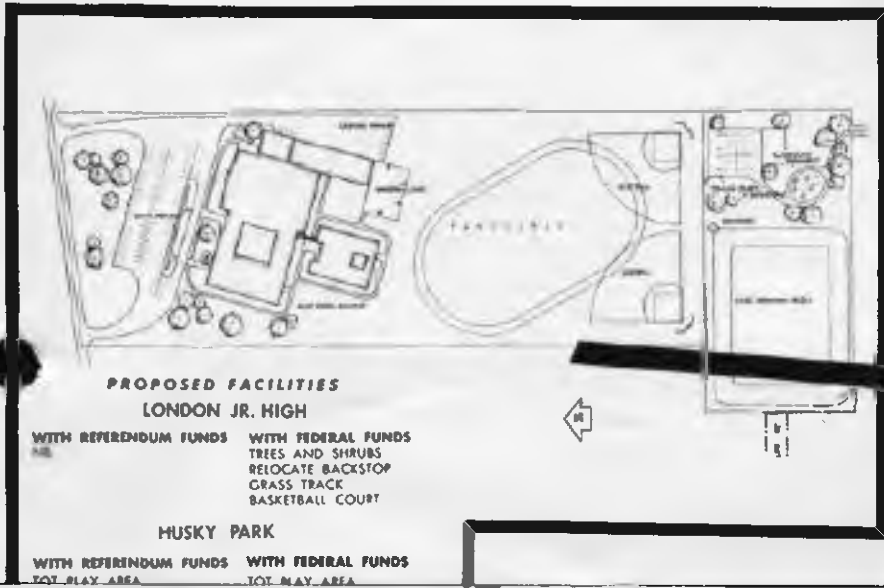
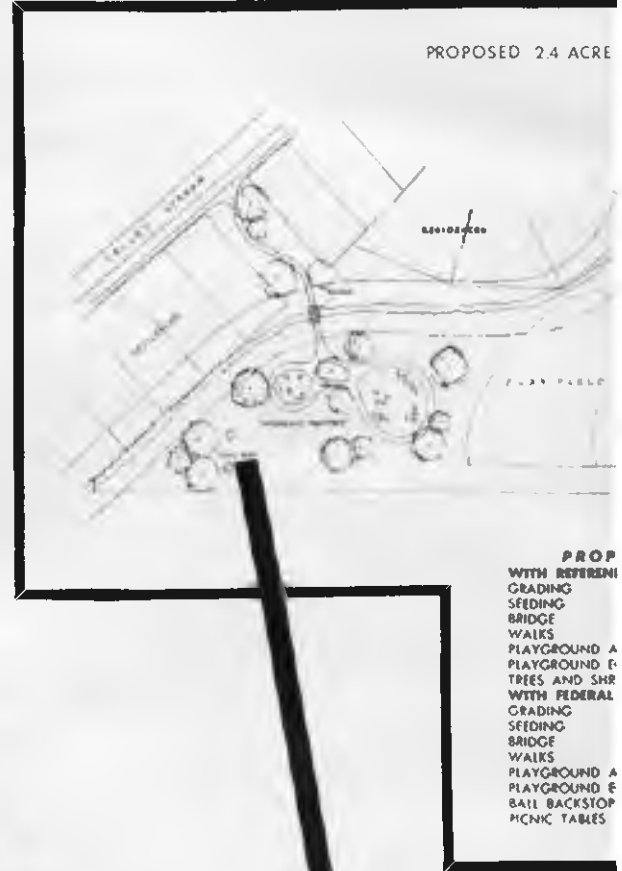
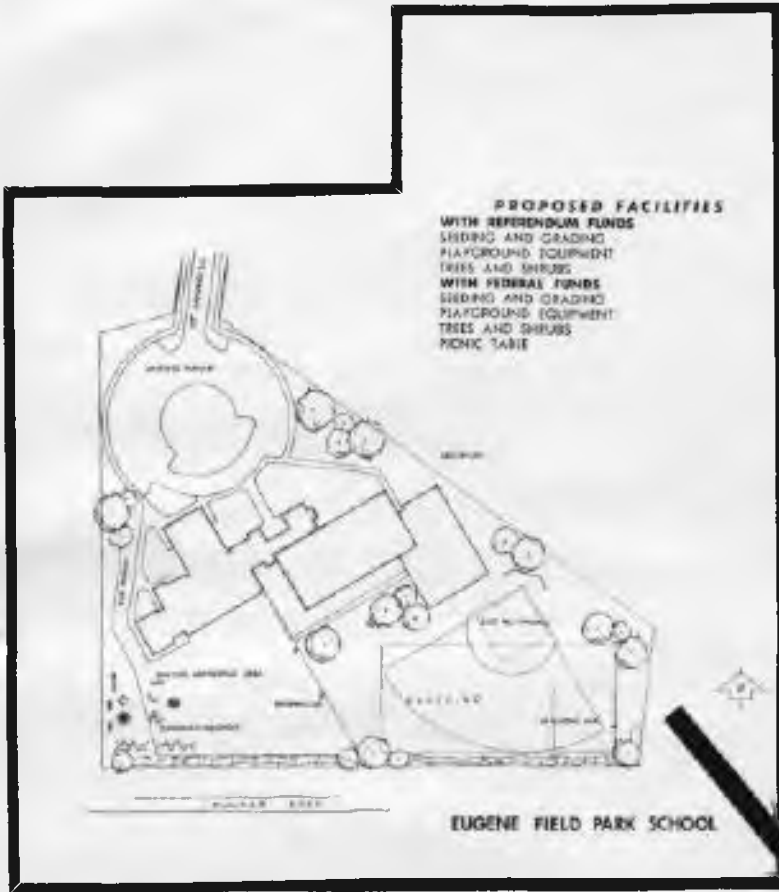
1. Open space land is rapidly diminishing in the Wheeling area.
2. Construction costs are increasing at the rate of 1% per month, making the proposed facilities only more expensive if we wait.
3. The total assessed valuation is increasing each year with new residential and industrial development, the obligations to the homeowner will be reduced over the next few years.
4. The facilities will provide a wide range of programs and activities to satisfy the recreational demands of the residents.
5. Federal funds may not be available after January 1, 1973.

YOU, the residents of the Wheeling Park District will be given the opportunity to provide these needed facilities on December 16th.

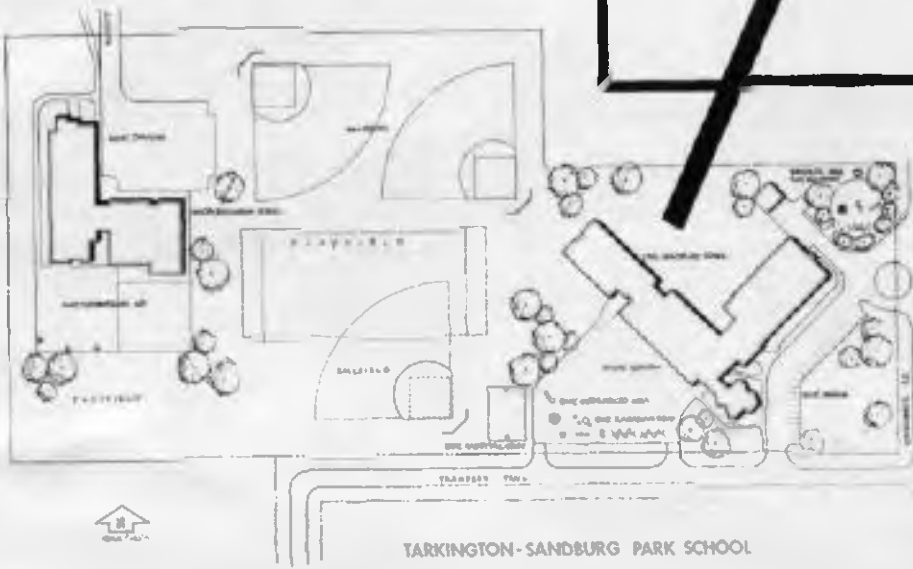
YOUR PARK BOARD URGES YOU TO CAST A VOTE FOR THE FUTURE

	YES	NO
PARK AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS FOR A BETTER WHEELING COMMUNITY	X	

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT



**PROPOSED FACILITIES
WITH REFERENDUM FUNDS**
VOLLEYBALL POSTS
SEEDING AND GRADING
WITH FEDERAL FUNDS
TREES AND SHRUBS
VOLLEYBALL POSTS
SEEDING AND GRADING
MONIC TABLE

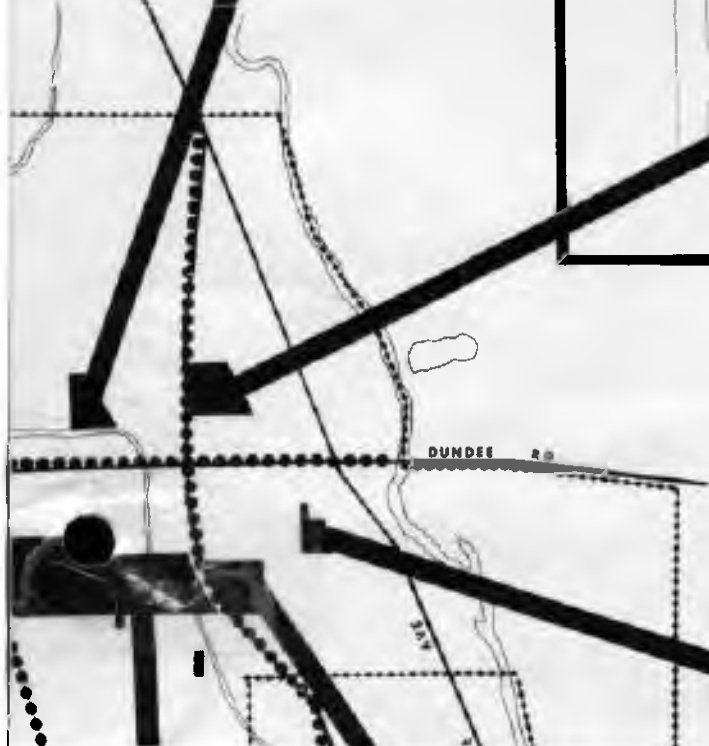
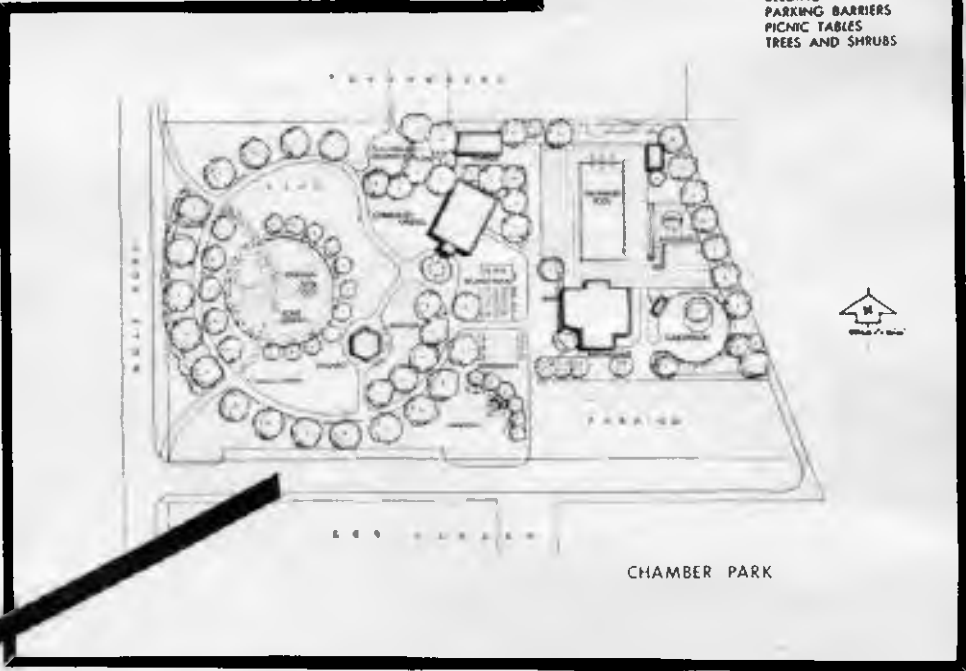
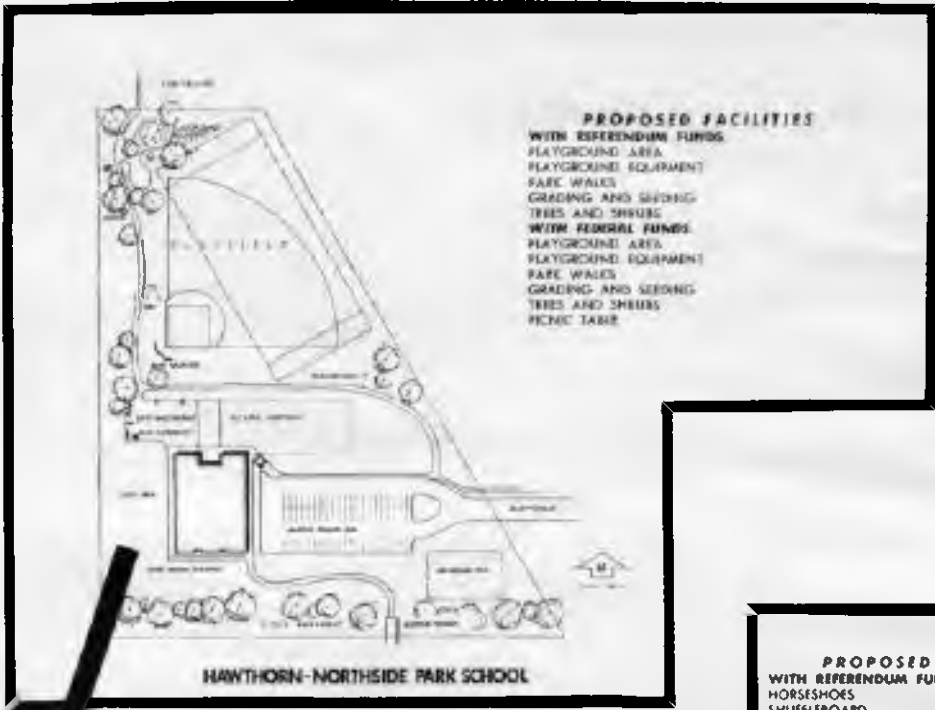


KEY

----- park dist.
●●●● neighbor

**PROPOSED FACILITIES
WITH REFERENDUM FUNDS**
GRADING AND SEEDING
PRE-SCHOOL AREA
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
VOLLEYBALL POST
BASKETBALL STANDARD
WITH FEDERAL FUNDS
TREES AND SHRUBS
GRADING AND SEEDING
PRE-SCHOOL AREA
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
VOLLEYBALL POST
SECURITY LIGHT
RELOCATE BALL DIAMOND
BASKETBALL STANDARD
MONIC TABLE







WHITMAN PARK SCHOOL

PROPOSED FACILITIES
 WITH REFERENDUM FUNDS
 TREES AND SHRUBS
 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
 PRESCHOOL AREA
 SEEDING AND GRADING
 BASKETBALL STANDARD
 WITH FEDERAL FUNDS
 TREES AND SHRUBS
 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
 PRESCHOOL AREA
 SEEDING AND GRADING
 BASKETBALL STANDARD

HOLMES JR. HIGH

PROPOSED FACILITIES
 WITH REFERENDUM FUNDS
 ADDITIONAL DRAINAGE
 GRADING AND SEEDING
 WITH FEDERAL FUNDS
 ADDITIONAL DRAINAGE
 GRADING AND SEEDING
 TREES AND SHRUBS

HERITAGE PARK

<p>PROPOSED FACILITIES</p> <p>WITH REFERENDUM FUNDS LIGHTED TENNIS COURTS BASKETBALL COURT HANDBALL COURT TOT PLAYGROUND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PARK WALKS PARK ROAD WITH PARKING BOAT PAMP TREES AND SHRUBS</p>	<p>WITH FEDERAL FUNDS LIGHTED TENNIS COURTS BASKETBALL COURT HANDBALL COURT TOT PLAYGROUND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT BICYCLE TRAIL PARK WALKS PARK ROAD WITH PARKING BOAT PAMP PICNIC TABLES REGRAIDING TREES AND SHRUBS</p>
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PLANS FOR YOUR LEISURE

Park District Has Shown Good Referendum Record

by LYNN ASINOF

A News Analysis 12/5/72

The Wheeling Park District has a good record on referenda. In its 12 years of existence, the park district has had three referenda and all three have been approved by the voters.

With the funds approved in these elections, the park district has realized its promises, except for three minor items — tennis courts at Husky Park and tennis and handball courts at Heritage Park were promised in 1964.

They were not built at that time because extensive grading and seeding at Jack London Junior High School proved more expensive than anticipated. The park district has remembered its promise, however, and these courts are priority items in Saturday's \$700,000 park improvement referendum.

The bond referenda in 1964 and 1969 provided for major park district acquisitions, including Heritage Park and the indoor and outdoor swimming pools. At that time, sites such as Chamber of Commerce Park received preliminary planning and design work.

THE UPCOMING referendum is designed to improve the park district's present facilities, to add more land to the district in under-serviced areas, and to continue park development that has already begun.

Despite the large number of public meetings and coffees held by the park district on the upcoming referendum, not one village resident has publicly opposed the proposed park improvements.

Park district officials feel this is an indication of good communication with their community. They say the referendum is sorely needed to provide residents with good recreational facilities.

The cost of the referendum to individual taxpayers can presently only be estimated. The park district, now assessed at \$68 million, is expecting growth in the community to increase its tax base.

PARK SUPT. Dave Phillips said conservative growth estimates would mean a \$70 million assessed valuation at the end of the fiscal year. Translated into tax rates, this would mean the referendum would cost taxpayers seven cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

If the park district's growth reaches \$73 million, this tax rate would drop to 6.1 cents per \$100 assessed valuation for the taxpayer.

Currently the park district's tax rate is 33.6 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. It has grown rather steadily from the 1961

figure of nine cents per \$100 valuation. Part of the present figure is a recreation tax approved by voters in the 1967 referendum.

The current tax rate is roughly comparable to the park district tax rates in Arlington Heights, Palatine, Schaumburg and Hoffman Estates. It is lower than the tax rate in Buffalo Grove and Rolling Meadows. !

FOR THE past few years, increased growth in the community has caused a strain on the park district's finances. Several times park district officials have taken out tax anticipation warrants to cover expenses before tax money was collected.

At this point the district has paid off all of its tax anticipation warrants. Under the direction of Phillips, the park district is working with the department of local government affairs to develop a program to keep the district from borrowing this money in the future.

Phillips explained that while finances are still tight, the park district is now "seeing the light at the end of the tunnel."

Several community groups have officially endorsed the park district's upcoming referendum. They include the School Dist. 21 administrative board, the PTC board of Nathaniel Hawthorne School, the PTO board of the Eugene Field School and the Chamber of Commerce.

125172



With extensive grading, seeding and landscaping, Husky Park may soon become an attractive and usable play area.

Husky Park Only Good As Short Cut To School

12-5-72

Editor's note: This is the second in a series examining the condition of the parks in the Wheeling Park District, and the improvements planned in a \$700,000 referendum Dec. 16.

by LYNN ASINOF

When children come to Husky Park, they usually don't stop to play. They have found that the soggy, barren five-acre tract is only good for a short cut to Jack London Junior High School.

Wheeling residents are sometimes thankful that the park has a three-acre retention basin. But they don't use the park land either, even though play space is scarce in the central western part of the village.

In its present state, Husky Park has little to offer village residents in the way of recreation. Sixty per cent of the park is a retention basin that can only be used in the winter months as a skating rink.

THE OTHER TWO acres of Husky Park are undeveloped. In rainy weather, it also becomes unusable because of the retention basin. In dry times, the remaining land becomes a patch of sparse grass cover.

"Really, it doesn't look like a park and it doesn't act like a park either," said Park Supt. Dave Phillips. "It definitely has to be the least used area in the park system."

Although little work has been done on Husky Park in the past, the Wheeling Park District is now planning to renovate the park site with funds from the upcoming referendum.

Approximately \$44,000 of the \$700,000 referendum has been set aside for work

on Husky Park. This figure would include the construction of two tennis courts, basketball courts, park walks and playground equipment.

Phillips said he expected matching federal funds to add another \$24,200 to the amount being spent on Husky Park.

The basic improvements for the park site call for extensive grading, seeding and landscaping that would make the park more pleasing to the eye and more usable as a play area. Because the village is responsible for the maintenance of the retention basin, the cost of the basic landscaping work would be shared with the village.

PHILLIPS SAID these basic improvements would change the atmosphere of the park as well as residents' attitudes towards the park.

"It definitely will become usable or we wouldn't put any money into it in the first place," he said.

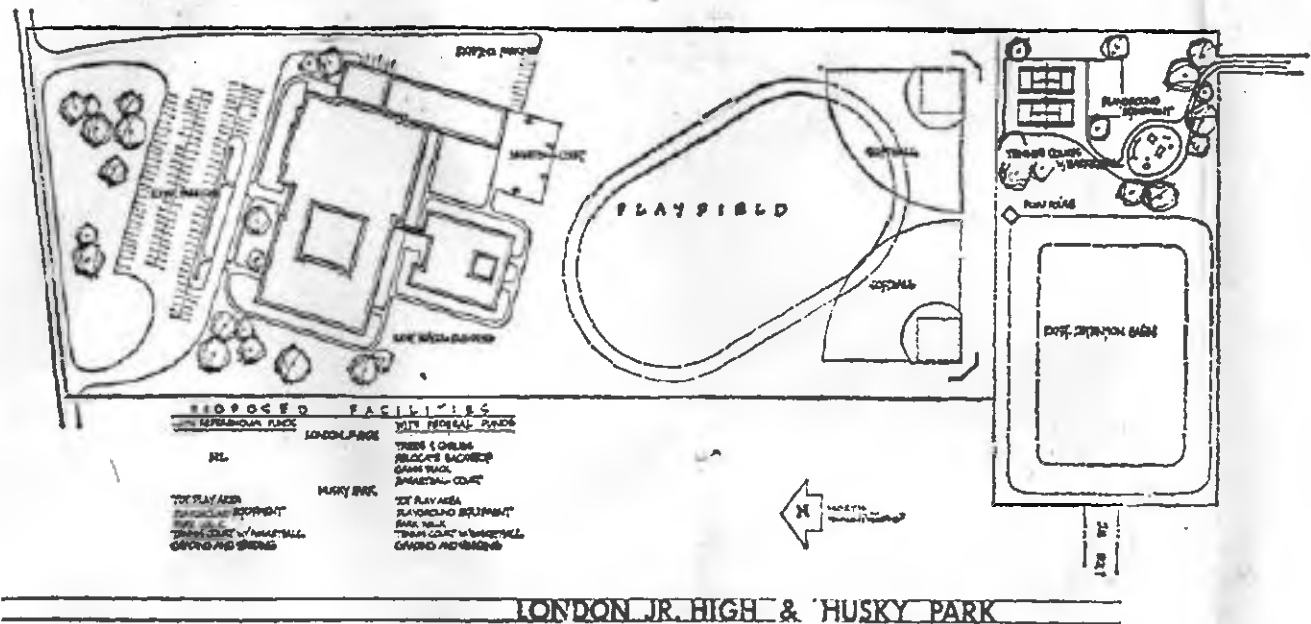
The tennis courts were first proposed as part of a park district referendum in 1964. They were not built at that time

because grading and seeding at Jack London Junior High School was more expensive than anticipated.

Because they were previously promised, the tennis courts will head the list

of park district priority items to be constructed with referendum funds. Phillips said the rising popularity of tennis would make the courts at Husky Park a popular place.

The tot lot planned for the site is also considered an important part of the park's improvement as there is presently no other preschool play area in the immediate neighborhood.



LONDON JR. HIGH & HUSKY PARK

A Herald Editorial

We Urge 'Yes' Vote On Park District Referendum

The promise of beautiful and useful parks in the near future is a good reason the Wheeling Park District improvement referendum should be passed Saturday.

The \$700,000 bond issue would provide needed funds to turn existing, but relatively underdeveloped, park land into recreational oases in a growing sea of development. Cost to taxpayers is estimated at a maximum of seven cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The financially troubled park district has adequate park land at Husky and Heritage, but it remains unusable to a great extent because of the high cost of improvements. Money spent now for basic, long-range improvements outlined in the referendum would be money well-spent. Beautiful parks can be used indefinitely, and are an asset to any community.

The park board plans to use its funds to continue its all-season format, with winter as well as summer recreation. The money will also be spread to almost every area of the village, because the school parks also are in line for some of the improvements.

The district is offering improvements necessary for a sound park foundation. There are no glamorous gimmicks and luxuries in the plans.

Certain parts of the overall plans by the park district will depend on federal funds, and those parts have been clearly defined by the district.

But federal assistance grants are on a matching basis, and the referendum is an essential step. Without referendum funds, the grants cannot be approved. This gives the referendum double importance to the village.

Once the improvements are under way, cooperation to further develop the Heritage Park West retention basin should follow. That would include efforts by the Metropolitan Sanitary District and local industries to make the basin a usable and attractive recreation lake.

It has also been said by district spokesmen that this may be the last chance to get additional land in desirable locations at a reasonable price. Nationwide trends show that acquisition of recreation land is a high priority of the American public, and Wheeling should be no exception.

The park district is now in promising shape, with a more than adequate supervisor in David Phillips. The district has no history of misuse of funds, and there is every reason to believe this referendum deserves your support.

Community Aid Sought For Park District Vote

11-6-72

by LYNN ASINOF

Plans for the Wheeling Park District referendum will be presented Nov. 15 at a community meeting designed to bring community input to the park improvement plans.

Letters have been sent to about 25 community organizations inviting representatives to attend the meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. at the community building at Chamber of Commerce Park.

At the meeting, proposed plans for improving park sites will be presented by McFadzean and Everly, Ltd., the consulting firm hired by the park district for referendum guidance and master planning.

The presentation will include proposed site drawings as well as an analysis of projected cost, current problems and anticipated benefits for each park and school-park site. The plans will be based on research done by McFadzean and Everly in conjunction with the park district board.

AFTER THE PRESENTATION, the meeting will break into seminar groups to discuss the various proposals. Mem-

bers of the park board will sit in on these discussions for feedback on the proposed referendum.

If the response to the referendum is positive, the board will finalize its plans at a meeting the following night and set a date to vote. The board also expects to incorporate suggestions from the community into its park improvement plans.

According to Park Supt. Dave Phillips, plans for the referendum are approximately 60 per cent complete. He said the park board would meet Nov. 7 to make final decisions on land acquisition and the referendum presentation. He added, however, that plans would not be complete until the community had the opportunity to contribute to the planning.

The park site proposals are based on research done by McFadzean and Everly. The firm divided Wheeling into neighborhoods and determined the present and projected park needs for each neighborhood. The park plans emphasize development of the school-park site concept, and planners have already met with representatives of School Dist. 21.

OTHER FACTORS considered in the planning include present and projected population figures, the amount of open space remaining in the village, suggested guidelines for open space, project growth patterns, village zoning and finances.

Phillips said the park proposals will include improvements for every area in the village. He said the idea behind the referendum is to get maximum use out of the land the park district owns by making basic improvements to the sites.

First Step Taken To Get Federal Funds For Parks

The Wheeling Park District has taken the first step toward applying for federal grants for its park improvement program. The district board authorized Recreation Planning Associates of Skokie to do preliminary research for the applications.

The preliminary work, prepared free of charge, will be a type of marketing report that will give the park district an indication of its chances for receiving federal money. If the district's chances are good, the board will have the option of retaining the firm to prepare the applications.

David Greenberg, representative of the firm, told the board Thursday that the cost of filing would include a \$500 to \$1,000 retainer and a percentage of the federal money received by the park district. He said if the grants were not approved, the park district would only be charged the retainer fee.

Greenberg said, however, that his firm has a good average in obtaining approval of federal grants. He said they have only failed to get approval two times, and in both cases they knew beforehand that the applications would not be approved. The firm has done work for 19 Chicago-area park districts, including River Trails and Prospect Heights.

THE PARK district now is planning to apply for \$890,000 in federal grants for land acquisition and site development in conjunction with improvements financed by the recent \$700,000 park referendum.

Greenberg explained that his firm's preliminary work includes informal contacts with various federal agencies to test their reaction to the proposed grant programs. "If we strike out the first agency or two, then we have to go deeper into a project," he said.

Greenberg said the preliminary work should take between two and three weeks, once the park district supplies his firm with background information. It was estimated that this background information would be available in three or four days.

The park board decided to use Greenberg's firm instead of its own attorney, partially because of the firm's experience and good record in getting approval for federal grants.

1-8-73

Park District Bond Sale Has Been Delayed

Preparations for the Wheeling Park District's bond sale authorized by the recent \$700,000 referendum have been delayed by the Christmas holidays.

Park Atty. Roger Bjorvik said information needed to prepare for the bond sale has been slow in arriving, pushing back the bond sale schedule two weeks. Bjorvik originally estimated that bond bids would be let at last week's park board meeting.

The park district is now waiting for a debt survey to be completed and for updating of its current official credit rating. Bjorvik said it would be "premature" to seek bids without having this information.

The park board Thursday night authorized Bjorvik to have the rating updated. The park district presently has a BAA rating, the same rating held by School Dist. 21 and the Village of Wheeling.

BJORVIK SAID there is a possibility the park district's rating could be raised to an A rating, which would allow the district to get lower interest rates. There is a \$600 fee for updating the rating and this will be paid with referendum funds.

"If you do get up to an A rating, your \$600 comes back to you again and again and again," Bjorvik said.

The attorney estimated the needed information would be available in two weeks, allowing the park board to announce the bond sale at the Jan. 18 park board meeting. Bjorvik said the board would probably be able to open bond bids on Feb. 1.

\$700,000 Park

Referendum OK'd

By 2-To-1 Margin

12-18-72

Residents in the Wheeling Park District approved a \$700,000 park improvements referendum Saturday by better than a two-to-one margin. The vote was 353 in favor of the referendum, 152 against the referendum with 7 spoiled ballots.

Park Board Pres. Lorraine Lark said she was happy with the voter turnout of 512 considering the results of the election. She estimated, however, that there were approximately 8,000 people in the district who were eligible to vote.

"I'm glad it's over. I'm glad the people have confidence in the park district, and I'm anxious to begin working on these programs," Mrs. Lark said.

She said the park board would meet Thursday night to organize the bond sale approved by the referendum. She said work on the promised referendum improvements would begin shortly thereafter. She added that the park board is going to investigate ways of beginning

park improvements even before the bond sale is held.

THE PASSAGE of the referendum means the park district will be able to buy two new park sites, one 2.4-acre site on Valley Stream Drive and a 15-20 acre site in the central western section of the village. Money from the referendum also will finance improvements to Husky, Heritage and Chamber of Commerce parks as well as the grading, seeding and landscaping of the school-park sites.

Park district officials expect the referendum money will qualify the district for an additional \$890,000 in matching federal funds. This money would be used for the acquisition of land and for additional park site development.

The referendum was the fourth held by the 12-year-old park district. All four have been approved by park district s-ier dents.

The cost of the referendum to individual taxpayers can presently only be estimated because the park district expects growth in its tax base.

PARK SUPT. Dave Phillips said conservative growth estimates would mean the referendum would cost the taxpayer a maximum of 7 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Currently the park district's tax rate is 33.6 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

Vote tallies from the three park district polling places showed equal support for the referendum throughout the district. Voters at Heritage Park cast 179 votes for the referendum, 66 against the referendum and three spoiled ballots.

At Jack London Junior High School the vote was 170 for the referendum, 85 against and three spoiled ballots. Buffalo Grove voters cast 14 ballots for the referendum, 1 vote against it with 1 spoiled ballot.

In Arlington Heights, voters defeated their \$2.55 million park referendum Saturday by nearly a four-to-one vote.

Coffees promote Wheeling park vote

Neighborhood meetings and coffees sponsored by the Wheeling Park District to discuss the referendum scheduled for Saturday on park improvements have been productive, according to district Supt. David Phillips.

He said several major changes in plans have resulted from suggestions made by residents at these meetings.

The district includes Wheeling, the Cambridge Subdivision of Buffalo Grove, and a small portion of land directly north of Wheeling.

The referendum issue, if approved, would provide bonding power to fund the improvement of nine park sites and the acquisition of

two new sites—a 15-acre plot on the west side of the village and a 2.4-acre tract on Valley Stream Drive in the Hollywood Ridge Subdivision.

Phillips said he did not want to be more specific about the location of the 15-acre site because publicity might raise the price of the property. However, the district has obtained an option to buy the 2.4-acre site for \$53,500.

Improvements would involve extensive grading, seeding, and landscaping, and the addition of several hot lots.

According to Phillips, \$270,000 of the funds would be used for site development and \$205,000 for land acquisition. The district

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hopes to apply for matching funds from the federal government for these projects.

Also budgeted are a \$50,000 proposed maintenance garage at Heritage Park, as well as a \$40,000 locker room and a \$10,000 meeting room in the recreation center. The rest of the funds would be used for floor covering for the indoor pool at Chamber of Commerce Park at a cost of \$12,500 and another \$42,500 for an outdoor pool.

The average cost per homeowner, if the proposal passes, will be about 7 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, Phillips said.

12/30/72

Park District Asks Developers For Donations

The Wheeling Park District has decided to follow the lead of other communities by negotiating with developers for donations from housing projects built in the village.

The park board announced last Thursday night that they have received pledges from four proposed developments totaling \$10,500. The donations include \$2,000 each from the Foxboro apartments, Shadow Bend townhouses, and the six-story high-rise on McHenry Road. The Harmony Village townhouse development south of Manchester Drive has pledged \$20 for each of their 258 units.

"As a park district we have to take a firm stand to preserve open space," said Park Supt. Dave Phillips. He said the donations were one way for the park district to handle increased growth in the village while continuing to provide enough land for recreational use.

Phillips recommended that developers be asked to set aside 10 per cent of their land for a community park site or make a cash donation to be used for park land acquisition. He said developers who are providing their own recreational facilities would be asked for a smaller contribution.

WHILE DEVELOPERS are not legally

required to donate to either the school or park systems, there has been an informal policy of negotiating with the school district.

Developers coming before the village zoning board and plan commission are always asked if there has been any communication with the local school district. Members of both boards take the school district recommendations into consideration before approving any development.

Phillips said he hopes to establish the same procedure for the park district. "Developers realize they have a commitment to preserve open space in the community," he said. "It's a moral thing more than a legal thing."

The money raised by the donations will be set aside for future land acquisition and site development by the park district. The park board has received a donation from one other village development, Tekton's Cedar Run.

In approving the donations, the park board also voted to waive their public land designation for property in the Harmony Village townhouse development. The land, south of Manchester Drive and east of Wolf Road, had been designated for a school-park site.