

**BARRINGTON COUNTRYSIDE PARK DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1393
BARRINGTON, IL 60011
Park Board Meeting Minutes August 11, 2010**

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

Commissioners present were:

Richard Lamkey, President	Jean Maddrell, Vice President
Fred McMorris, Treasurer	John Rosene, Secretary
Maureen Crump, Communications	

Also present: Rosemary Nero, Administrative Assistant

Residents: Monica Gully, Stew Gully, Mike Zachar, Laureen Foos, Jeryl Olson, Vicki Kelly, Nancy Mesic, Tedd Gagen, Laura Clarke, Kathy Zachar, Dennis Kelly, Douglas Foos, Shirley Mitchell, Nancy Hennelly, Arnold Cernik, Lisa Scott, Karen Rosene, Megan West, Renale Thornton, Elaine Ramesh, Mary Beth Holsteeen, Karen Selman, Diane Wamberg

Motions:

Motion to accept the August 4 Park Board Special Meeting minutes was made by Maureen and seconded by Fred.

5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

Motion to approve parking option #2, parking south of the indoor arena, was made by Jean and seconded by John.

Roll call vote: Ayes – John, Fred
Nays – Richard, Jean, Maureen
Absent -

Motion to discuss allowing public input at this Park Board meeting and to determine when the public will be allowed to speak was made by Maureen and seconded by Jean.

5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent

Motion to allow the public to provide their comments and/or questions after the Commissioners complete their discussion and to limit each person's comments to three to five minutes, then to have final discussion by the Park Board was made by Jean and seconded by Maureen.

Roll call vote: Ayes - Richard, Jean, John, Fred, Maureen
Nays –
Absent –

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 was made by John and seconded by Fred.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Fred, John
Nays – Richard, Jean, Maureen
Absent –

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Motion to have Gary lay out the cul de sac parking area, schedule a parking demonstration/test and special park board meeting was made by Fred and seconded by John.

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 was made by John and seconded by Fred

Roll call vote: Ayes – Richard, Jean, John, Fred, Maureen
 Nays –
 Absent -

Commissioners Discussion:

The Commissioners had a general discussion about the August 4 special meeting minutes.

It was reported that the rental house has some plumbing problems and had hired a plumber to inspect and make a repair recommendation. The plumber did make a video of the pipe. The Park Board instructed Rosemary to contact Freedom Plumbing with instructions for Steve to examine the plumbing at the rental house and report back to the Park Board with his recommendations.

It was reported that Gary Blandford met with John, Stew Gully and Paddy McKeivitt and was instructed to draw the cul de sac concept with a couple of changes.

John reported that the cul de sac concept was not drawn to his specifications and that the drawing was not correct. Gary acknowledged that changes were made without authorization and that without those unauthorized changes, either the number of spaces might increase or the cost of each parking space would decrease.

John reported that Gary Blanford's quotes showed that each parking space provided by the ring road option was more than double the cost of each parking space provided by the cul de sac option: \$10,965 vs \$5,002.

Richard began by reviewing parking option #2, parking south of the indoor arena.

Each Commissioner provided their personal comments on parking option #2. Three of the Commissioners were against option #2 and two commissioners were in favor of keeping this option open for consideration.

Richard asked the Commissioners to discuss the two remaining concepts. Each option will be discussed one at a time.

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Jean and John provided general comment to the Board.

Jean stated that she has not made up her mind, and she has a lot of questions that need to be answered before she can form an opinion and vote for an option.

John stated that he felt that the Board has not explored all of the options and/or combinations of the various options.

Fred, Maureen and Richard did not provide a general comment.

Richard provided the Park Board with a three page handout, reflecting his opinions on the ring road and the cul de sac parking options. See attachment in minutes. John said he felt the document was "self-serving" in favor of the ring road. Fred pointed out that the document unfairly listed untypical dates to show how many truck trailers were on site to overstate the need for additional parking spaces.

The ring road option was reviewed and discussed. Commissioners provided general comments on this option. Each Commissioner discussed why they were in favor of or against the ring road concept.

Audience members asked for an opportunity to provide public comment.

The Park Board members discussed if, when, and the time allowed for public comment. Commissioners agreed to allow 3-5 minutes comments from each individual. Public comments will be conducted after the Commissioners discussions.

Commissioners had a general discussion about the winter parking and the overall parking needs of the Riding Center as well as the parking needs of the community.

Commissioners had a general discussion about the costs associated with the parking options.

John read and presented a statement to the Commissioners about why the "ring road" was a poor option, see statement attached to minutes. Please note that John's statement indicated that neither Maureen nor Dick rode in the grass field that might be converted to parking and that neither rode on the trails. Maureen said she did indeed ride in the north grass field adjacent to the field in question and Dick said he has, years ago, ridden on the Forest Preserve trails. John accepted those statements.

Every member of the audience was given the opportunity to provide comments on the ring road option. The majority of the audience was against the ring road concept, and cited their personal reasons why they were against this option. One person stated she "had no objections" to the ring road option. Nancy Hennelly spoke in favor of the ring road option

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It was reported that the Advisory Committee was against the ring road concept.

A general discussion took place about the results of the May 12 Public Input meeting. It was reported that the overall consensus of the people that attended and responded was against the ring road concept. It was also reported that over 2,000 post cards were mailed out, but only a small group, about fifty people attended, and that the majority of people that did attend and respond were members of the Fox River Valley Pony Club, the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, or both.

The Park Board acknowledged that they were disappointed in the number of people that responded to the public input survey.

A general discussion took place about the IGA and the Grant.

A general discussion took place about the parking regulations and restrictions imposed by FPDCC.

It was reported that the Park District will be required to maintain any parking area that is constructed on the Forest Preserve property.

A general discussion took place about adjourning the meeting.

The Commissioners agreed to continue the meeting and began discussing the cul de sac option.

A brief description and discussion took place about the cul de sac parking option.

Each Commissioner expressed their thoughts and concerns about the cul de sac parking option.

Commissioners agreed that the cul de sac option should be laid out by Gary and invite the public to bring their trucks and trailers to test this parking option.

Respectfully submitted,
John Rosene

Equestrian Trail Head parking for spring Creek Ring Road Concept per
Intergovernmental Agreement

- 2005 Dave Kircher CCPPD Landscape Architect Designs Environmentally friendly parking area alternating between grass and gravel
- 2007 Submittal of Design to IDNR for \$150,000 grant. Approval for \$138,000 grant
- 2009 Gary Blanford contracted to provide plans
- 2010 Public hearings, internet survey and submittal of alternate options

Ring Road

- 1. Meets need for parking trucks and trailers on North /South axis as is traditional
 - 2. The Ring Road can act as an all weather method of servicing the horse show Stalls as they count 198 stalls.2010 proves that they fit comfortably see attached from pony club recommendation
 - 3. Width of Roads are sufficient to park on the right and exit on the left. With Horses attached to trailers on the grass side
 - 4. Adequate Parking for 20 trucks and trailers without being crowded see attached
 - 5. Flow pattern allows for safety in line of vision parking and driving
-
- 1. Cul de sac is 490' long bringing it too close to mini event start gates and Interferes with mini event warm up area
 - 2. Cul De Sac encroaches on roots of Burr Oak Trees on South side next to line of Trees
 - 3. Allows for only 9 Parking spaces 2 in winter parking area
 - 4. No room for error in parking by less experienced drivers
 - 5. Does not meet minimum requirements for turning radius

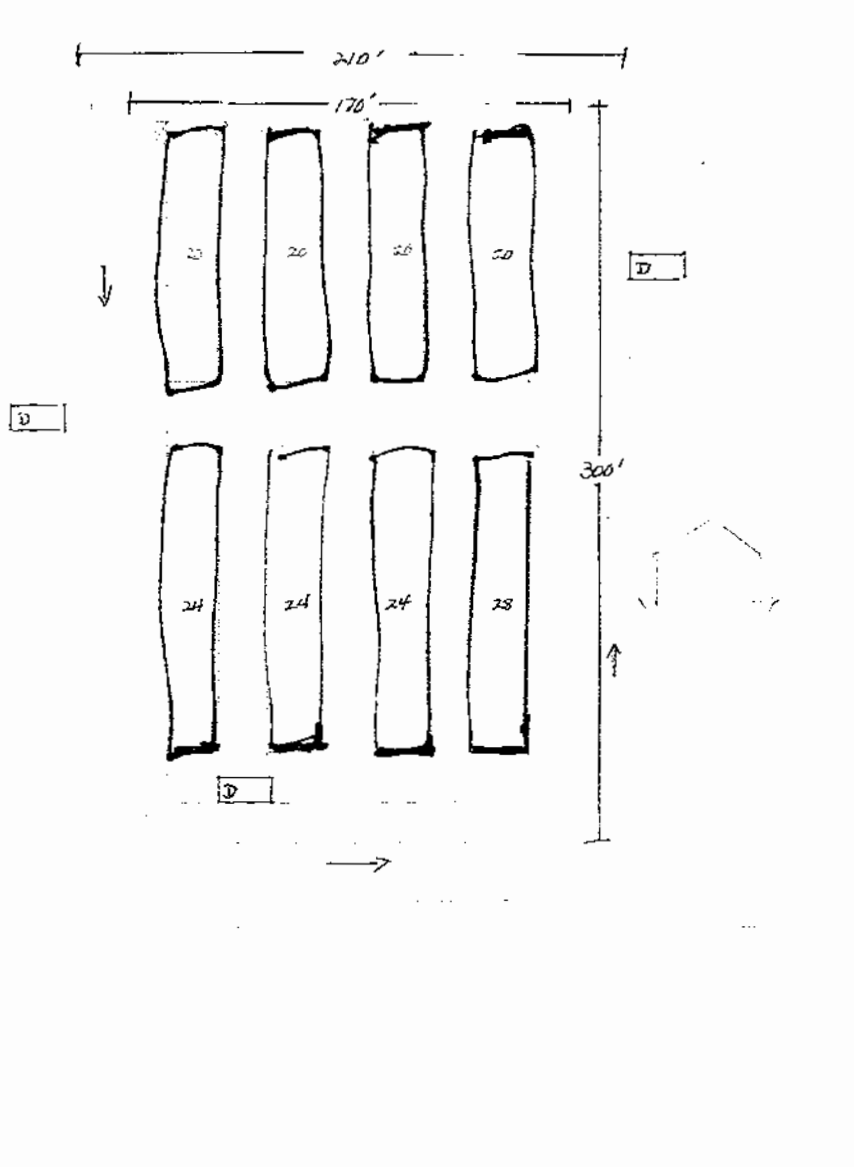
According to the United States Department of Agriculture / Forest Service Division, when choosing surface materials for a trail head parking area, consideration should be given to how comfortable and safe the surface is for the users and how well the material will stand up. For equestrian use, it is suggested that the surface material should compact to a firm, slip-resistant surface that can withstand the impact of horseshoes and a material that produces minimal dust. The Forest Service suggests that as surface material, natural native soil and turf is excellent in appearance and horse comfort.

Gravel is neither an equine nor an environmentally friendly surface. Even if limestone screenings were to be spread on top of the gravel, the larger gravel will become displaced and work its way up to the surface and create a problem for horses' feet. In addition, gravel is extremely dusty and requires a great deal of maintenance. Time, use and weather will result in the graveled area developing ruts and become a "washboard road".

More consideration should be given to the needs of equestrians before construction materials are selected.

The proposed concept precludes other uses of the otherwise open, 2 acre grassy area, including its historical use for FRVPC Mini-Event and Horse Trials.

Historically, this open grassy area has been used by the FRVPC for its 2 major events -- Mini-Event and Horse Trials (HT). During the Mini-Event the area is used for parking and for warm-up for the cross country course. During the HT the area proposed to be converted into a parking lot is where temporary stabling has been placed for that event. The diagram below shows the HT temporary stabling for 2008 and 2009:



The temporary stabling layout has historically consisted of rows of back-to-back 10 ft x 10 ft stalls which are covered by a tent set in 4 banks of stalls (therefore, with a capacity of 192 temporary stalls). The minimum clearance for anchors, chains and allowing stall doors to be safely opened plus allowing an approximate 10 foot walkway between rows is 18 – 20 feet. In addition there is the need for at least a 20 foot one-way drive around the temporary stabling area. Finally, there is a need to have dumpsters (indicated by “D” in the drawing above) which are

Saturday May 1, 2010	17 Trailers & Trucks practice for mini event and Ken Diercik clinic
Sunday May 2, 2010	24 Trailers& Trucks
Saturday May 8, 2010	10 Trailers & Trucks
Sunday May 9, 2010	4 Trailers & Trucks
Friday May 14, 2010	27 Trailers & Trucks
Saturday May 15, 2010	26 Trailers & Trucks and 13 along Forest
Sunday May 16, 2010	44 Trailers & Trucks 16 along Forest
Sunday July 4, 2010	17 Trailers & Trucks
Monday July 5, 2010	12 Trailers & Trucks

DATE: August 11, 2010

TO: THE BARRINGTON COUNTRYSIDE PARK DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS

FROM: JOHN ROSENE, COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: **An Urgent Plea to Reject the “Ring Road” Solution**

On June 30th, I read a statement about the trailhead parking lot we are required to build by our Intergovernmental Agreement with the Cook County Forest Preserve.

In considering designs for this trailhead parking lot, I urged the Park Board to focus on the needs of Riding Center users and the needs of local trail riders rather than public parking at large or the needs of the Pony Club for its events. I also urged this board to recognize that these needs required only a very limited number of additional truck-trailer parking spots.

Most important, I expressed my opposition to the “ring road” parking lot design.

In my opinion, this design is a waste of space and far more ambitious than what is actually required.

This ring road design has now morphed into a form which I find even more objectionable than when I made my June 30th statement. In fact, it is almost identical to the original design proposed by Dick Lamkey a year or so ago. At that time, this concept was rejected by many members of the community including Maureen Crump and myself. This ring road design would convert between four and six acres of grassy Forest Preserve meadow into graveled parking lanes surrounded by a graveled ingress/egress roadway.

Today, Dick and Maureen seem to favor the ring road. I believe Jean remains undecided, and I believe Fred joins me in opposition to this plan.

As such, I wish to try persuading Dick, Maureen and Jean that the ring road plan should be abandoned for a variety of reasons.

First, the ring road plan has been officially rejected by our own Advisory Board. Second, both the Pony Club and the Riding Club have objected to this concept. Furthermore, horse people from across the community are on record opposing this plan, many of whom are here tonight. Doesn't that carry any weight?

Maureen? I expect some people have told you they favor the ring road plan. But are any of them here tonight? Are any of them likely to use this trailhead facility when it's finally built? Are they intimidated by all the people here to oppose the ring road? If they aren't willing to stand up, I suggest they don't carry much weight.

I don't know how to say this tactfully, but I think it has to be said: I think the Board should consider giving greater weight to my opinions and to Fred's. Why? Because our opinions are based in knowledge, experience and usage.

When this board discusses projects concerning Riding Center buildings and maintenance, I pretty much always defer to Dick and Maureen because of their knowledge and experience. When it comes to computer issues, I pretty much always defer to Maureen. When it comes to grounds keeping issues, I pretty much always defer to Dick. You are both more qualified than I am on many issues.

But when we talk about truck-trailer parking, I think Fred and I have stronger qualifications, and this board should consider that when deciding on a parking lot plan.

Dick and Maureen? Neither of you ride the Forest Preserve trails, so you aren't ever likely to use this parking lot. Fred and I both ride these trails and park back there all the time. Both of us will be using the parking lot whichever form it takes.

Dick and Maureen? Neither of you have ever ridden horses across the meadow in question. I gallop across it almost every time I ride the trails. Fred rides across it all the time. And so do many of the people in this room tonight. None of us will ever enjoy that thrill again, once this field is covered with gravel. That's why we want to preserve this field.

Maureen? You've referred to this field as a weedy wasteland, but if that's true, shame on us. It can and should be restored. I believe it's the combined responsibility of the Pony Club and the Park District to remediate this area.

Now what about parking lot experience?

Dick? I know your business involves truck and trailer parking, but not for horses. Maureen? You've never designed or managed a parking lot that I'm aware of. I, on the other hand, as polo club president, have managed parking for big horse rigs for the past 20 years, and I know how to accommodate more rigs in far less space than is proposed by the ring road solution. Further, I actually designed a 200-plus automobile parking lot for a Glenview office building in the mid-seventies and carried it through ZBA approvals. For years, Fred has managed the parking challenges of the Pony Club events on the very property we're talking about. Shouldn't the board give some weight to our qualifications?

Ultimately, we will have to take our trailhead parking plan to the Forest Preserve for approval. Shouldn't this plan be endorsed by the people and the organizations that actually have to use it? I'm sure we don't want them opposing it. The commissioners supporting the ring road are responsible people. The commissioners opposing the ring road are responsible people. So are the people here tonight. And the Pony Club. And the Riding Club. And our own Advisory Committee. Not to give credence to these people and these groups would, in my opinion, be grossly irresponsible.