



The report received favorable comments from Commissioners. Next steps were discussed. Commissioner Loftus suggested that the report would make a good presentation to the Village Board in May during Historic Preservation Month.

**B. Discussion and presentations regarding turf and lights at Duchon Field**

Chairman Marks opened the discussion on the proposed artificial turf and lights at Duchon Field and Memorial Park by noting the historical aspects of Lake Ellyn and Lake Ellyn Park.

Followed by Chairman Marks' introduction were speakers both in favor of and in opposition to the artificial turf and lights. Speaking first as proponents of the proposed turf and lights were: Gain Ground at West representatives Paul Murphy and Marty Detmer. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Detmer described the initiative as one to keep Glenbard West High School (GWHS) students on campus for athletic activities, as the students are currently bused to other locations for these activities. They stated that all other Glenbard high schools have more green space for athletic fields than GWHS. Mr. Murphy stressed that artificial turf is not currently proposed for Duchon Field. Also noted was that the project would be funded through vendor contributions, annual bus savings, intergovernmental partnerships and private funds. As to the aesthetics of the field, Mr. Murphy reported that it is difficult to discern artificial turf from grass.

Chairman Marks asked if any resident adjacent to Memorial Field was in favor of the project and Mr. Detmer indicated that some residents are in favor of the project. Chairman Marks reported that he had just recently learned of this proposal and he suggested that there may still be some residents who are unaware. Chairman Marks pointed out that GWHS is land locked and that historic preservation elements need to be considered with the proposal. Commissioner Ford then suggested that more information is needed to make an informed decision. Chairman Marks remarked that there are some wonderful new sods on the market. Commissioner Ford responded that these sods need to be replaced almost annually. Commissioner Manak commented on the how far sound travels from outdoor speakers.

At 8:35, Commissioner Janninck was excused from the meeting.

Several residents in opposition to the artificial turf and lights then spoke. Resident Paul Leak spoke on the finances of School District 87 and the future outlook given the current state of the economy. He questioned if this is the time to be expending money for this initiative. Resident Mary Ellen Walksler discussed the environmental impact of the artificial turf and safety concerns for the children using the field. She specifically discussed: 1) the crumb rubber made from various chemicals used in artificial turf that adheres to skin and clothing; 2) high field temperatures; 3) field sanitation and 4) the environmental impact. Resident John Huston also spoken in opposition to turf and lights and expressed concern for how extensively the field

would be used. Resident Chris Wilson talked about how important Lake Ellyn is to the community.

Following presentations in favor of and in opposition to the proposal, Chairman Marks conducted a straw poll of the commissioners on their stance regarding landmarking GWHS, Duchon Field and Memorial Park, and Lake Ellyn. Commissioner Manak made a motion seconded by Commissioner Buckton to begin the discussion regarding recommending for landmark status (under 2-13-3 B of the Historic Preservation Commission Ordinance) Glenbard West High School and Lake Ellyn. After a lengthy dialogue, the Commission voted unanimously to begin the discussion on recommending for landmark status Glenbard West High School, including the building and property, and Lake Ellyn Park, including the boat house. On a roll call vote Chairman Marks, and Commissioners Buckton, Ford, Loftus, Manak and Wright voted “yes.” Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6 – 0.

**5. Historical Society Business:**

No report.

**6. Chairman’s Report:**

No report.

**7. Trustee Liaison’s Report:**

Trustee Ladesic mentioned that the Village Board is working to fill the vacancy on the HPC commissioner vacancy.

**8. Staff Liaison’s Report:**

Staff Liaison Denney showed the commissioners a sample sign for the proposed sign at Stacy’s Corners.

Commissioner Buckton congratulated Commissioner Loftus on being featured in the volunteer spotlight for the January/February Village Newsletter.

**9. Adjournment:**

At 9:57 p.m., Commissioner Ford motioned and Commissioner Wright seconded that the meeting of the Historic Perseveration Commission be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monica Miller, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,  
Kristen Denney, Staff Liaison