

WOLTERS FIELD LIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL– 2007-08

The Wolters Field Light Advisory Committee met two times during the 2007-08 school year on the following dates: November 8, 2007 and May 8, 2008. The committee members include:

Brigid Ohlwein – Community Member
Kevin Fassett – Community Member
Ross Deutsch – Community Member
Scott Chukerman – Community Member
Judy Schmeuser – Community Member
Marjie Sandlow – District 113 Board Member
Mary Anderson – City of Highland Park Director of Public Works
Jim Kirsch – City of Highland Park Council Member
Barry Bolek – District 113 Assistant Superintendent of Finance
Paul Shafer – City of Highland Park Police Chief
Bobbie Monroe – Highland Park High School Athletic Director

The first meeting in November included a report on the number of lighted events which took place in the fall at Wolters Field and the complaints/concerns that occurred during the fall. On September 12, 2007, because of a malfunction in the lights, they turned on and remained on all night. The district had a repair person out there as soon as possible to fix the problem. We discussed the problem of parents dropping off their kids in the neighborhood so they may attend football games, instead of dropping them off in the drop-off site at the field. The school plans to do a better job of advertising the drop-off site at the field. There was an issue of cars parking illegally along the East side of Athletic Drive in the fall season. In the future, the gate will remain locked until right before the varsity game and when it is opened, a police officer will be staffed there. There was a concern of the band playing too loudly at a week night soccer game. Also, the PA was reported to be too loud. The school will work to position the band strategically when the crowd is smaller and we will turn down the volume on the PA system on those nights also. The school will also post on the website when the band will be playing at soccer games. The band will play at every Friday night home football game throughout the fall.

During Round table discussion on that evening, it was reported that wheelchairs have a difficult time wheeling through the gravel on the visitor's side. The AD will alert other schools that our handi-capped parking is located on the West Side. The portable toilets will be located farther to the north on the East side next fall. Also, the school will look into the events on Homecoming afternoon after school for next fall.

During the May meeting, a report on the lighted events indicated that 23 dates had been used this past school year. The Fall, 2008 schedule of lighted events was passed out and will be revised later next school year in include the spring of 2009 dates.

Barry Bolek gave a presentation on the proposed renovations to the stadium field at Wolters Field. Construction began on May 12 and will continue throughout the summer.

The 2008-09 meeting dates for this group will be November 6, 2008 and May 7, 2009.

In round table discussions, Sgt. O'Neill from the HP Police Department reported some traffic concerns for Park Avenue over the summer of 2008. He also reported that the 2008-09 Operational Plan for Wolters Field has been revised. An addition to the plan is an Emergency Evacuation Plan worked out between the school district and the Police Department. Kevin Fassett reported a post protruding from the ground at the end of the Centerfield Court block and Sgt. O'Neill will have the Public Works Department remove the post.

Respectfully submitted:

Bobbie Monroe
Athletic Director
HPHS